**MISSOURI COMPROMISE 1820**

**Historical Background:**  After acquiring the Louisiana Territory, thousands of people would move west to seek land.  Eventually, new states would be added to the Union which would affect the number of seats in the US Congress.

**Issue:**  If the number of free states outnumbered the slaves states, would the free states make laws against slavery?

Up until 1820 the number of free states and slave states were even and so was political power in Congress.

**WHAT WAS STATED IN THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE?**

This compromise established the rule that if a free state was entering the Union, then a slave state must also be added to keep political power even.

1. Maine was admitted as "free" state

2. Missouri was admitted as a "slave" state

3. The Louisiana Territory would be divided at the 36'30 line; above this line slavery was not allowed, and below this line slavery was allowed.

\*Note that the Missouri Compromise line at 36'30 only mattered in the Louisiana Territory, not the states.

**MONROE DOCTRINE 1823** (an example of foreign policy)

Definition of "doctrine" is a statement of beliefs by a person/president

**What is foreign policy?**

The president of the US is in charge of making foreign policies for the nation. Their job is to determine what is best for the US at that time.

**Historical Background:**

All of Spain's colonies had won independence by the early 1820's. The Quadruple Alliance of France, Austria, Russia, and Prussia were planning to help Spain regain her colonies in the Americas.

Problem for the United States - If Spain took back its colonies, it would disrupt free trade in the Americas … This is not good news for the US.

**Monroe Doctrine: 1823**

In a speech to Congress, James Madison (5th President) outlined what would become the foundation of US foreign policy.  It stated:

1. The US would resist any new colonies by Europeans

2. The US would not interfere with existing colonies.

3. The US would not interfere in European interests.

4. The US would consider any attempt by Europeans to disrupt the Americas as a threat to US security.

It is important to remember that in 1823, the US is still a young nation and not a power yet.  This doctrine therefore was militarily defended by the British navy because they also wanted free trade in the Americas.  This doctrine is still used by modern presidents.