The European Balance of Power System
Circa: 1648-1914

**Purpose:** The Survival of Individual States

**Operative Principles:**

1. group consciousness and group action
2. vigilance
3. alliances
4. intervention
5. holding the balance
6. preservation of the components (member states) of the system
7. amoral and non-ideological
8. limited number of players (member states)

What forces subverted this system for managing the relations among states?