

# Absolutism in Europe:

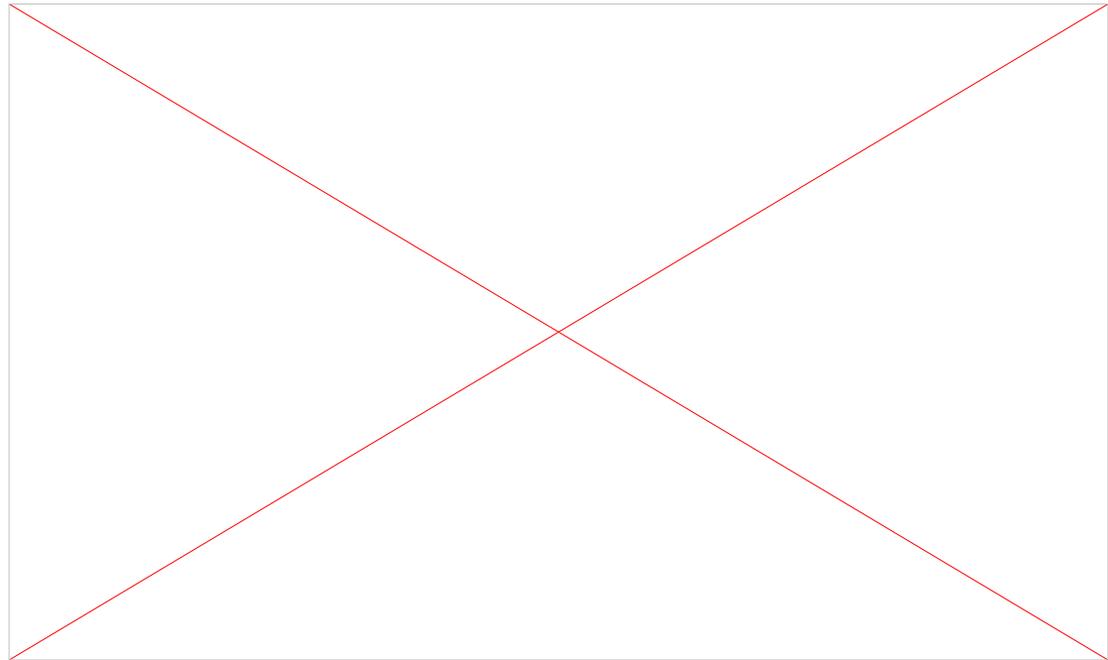
[Absolutism in Europe](#)

- The political, social, and religious turmoil of the 17th century led to an increase of a monarch's power
- Theory of Absolutism:
  - Rulers want complete power and total control
    - Make laws
    - Levy taxes
    - Administer justice
    - Control state officials
    - Determine foreign policy



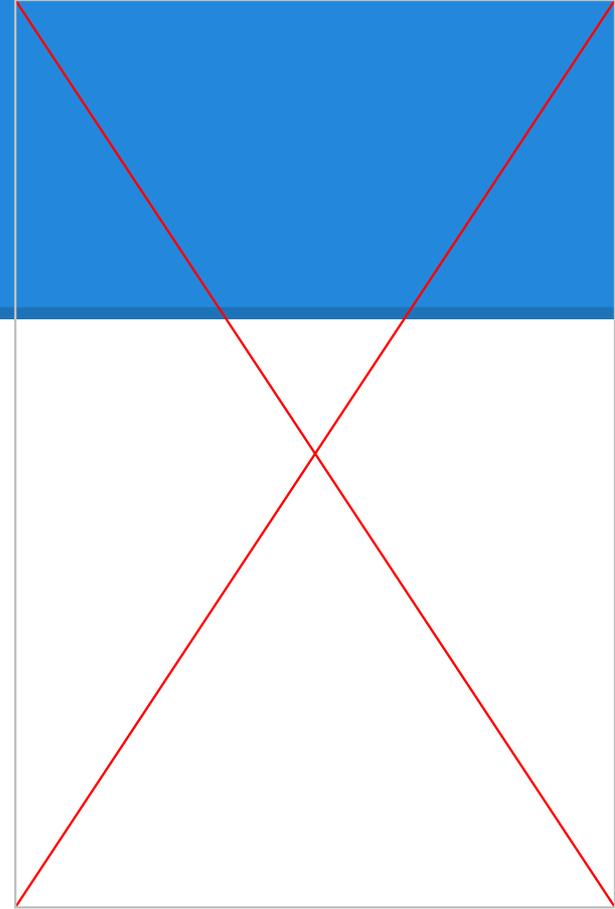
# Spain's Empire and Absolutism:

- Philip II attempts to consolidate his power and rule the Spanish Empire with a strong hand
- Philip II ruled the Spanish Empire from 1556-1598
- Major goals:
  - Consolidate his power
  - Save Catholicism
  - Promote Spanish culture



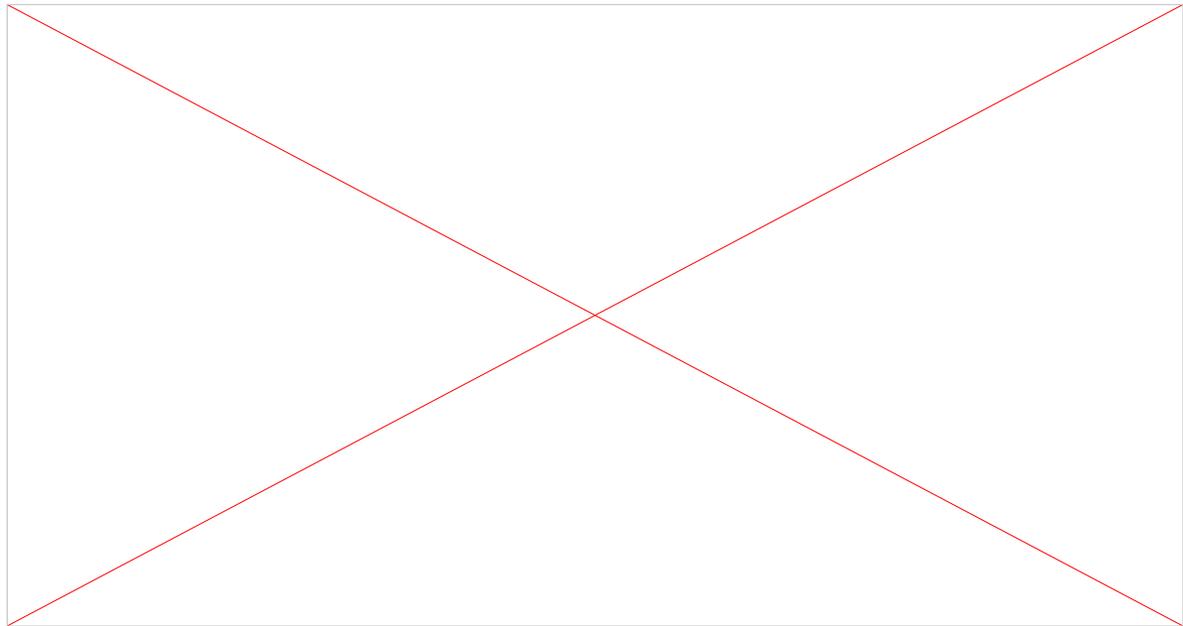
# Philip II:

- Greatest supporter of militant Catholicism in the second half of the sixteenth century
- He was the son of Charles V
- He ushered in an age of Spanish greatness, both politically and culturally
- He wanted to consolidate his power in Spain, the Netherlands, and possessions in Italy and the Americas
- To strengthen his control, he insisted strict conformity to Catholicism and strong monarchical authority



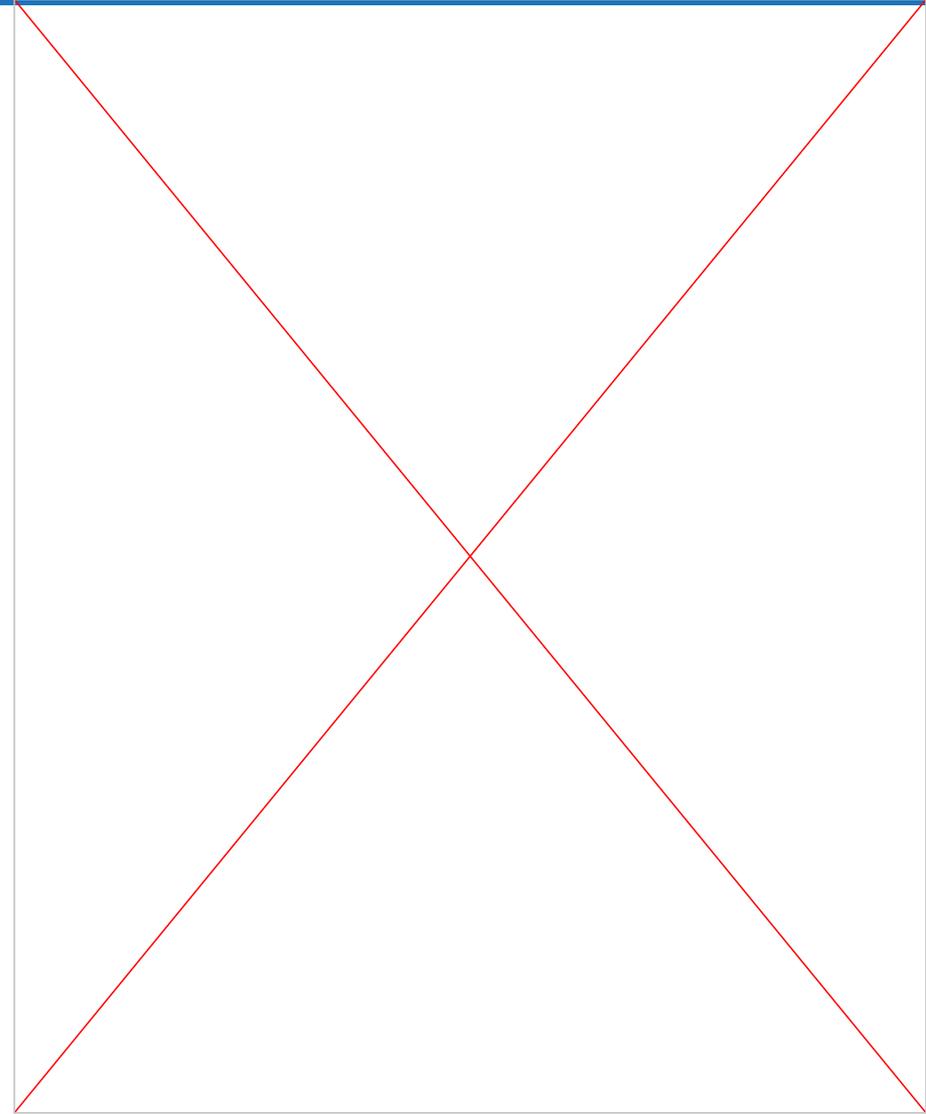
# Defender of Catholicism:

- The Catholic faith was important to Philip and the Spanish people
- Spain saw itself as a nation of people chosen by God to save Catholicism from the Protestant heretics
- Philip became the “Most Catholic King” becoming a champion of Catholic causes, a role that led to spectacular victories
- Philip forms the Holy League and defeats the Turks in the naval battle of Lepanto in 1571
- Philip was not so fortunate in the battles with England and the Netherlands

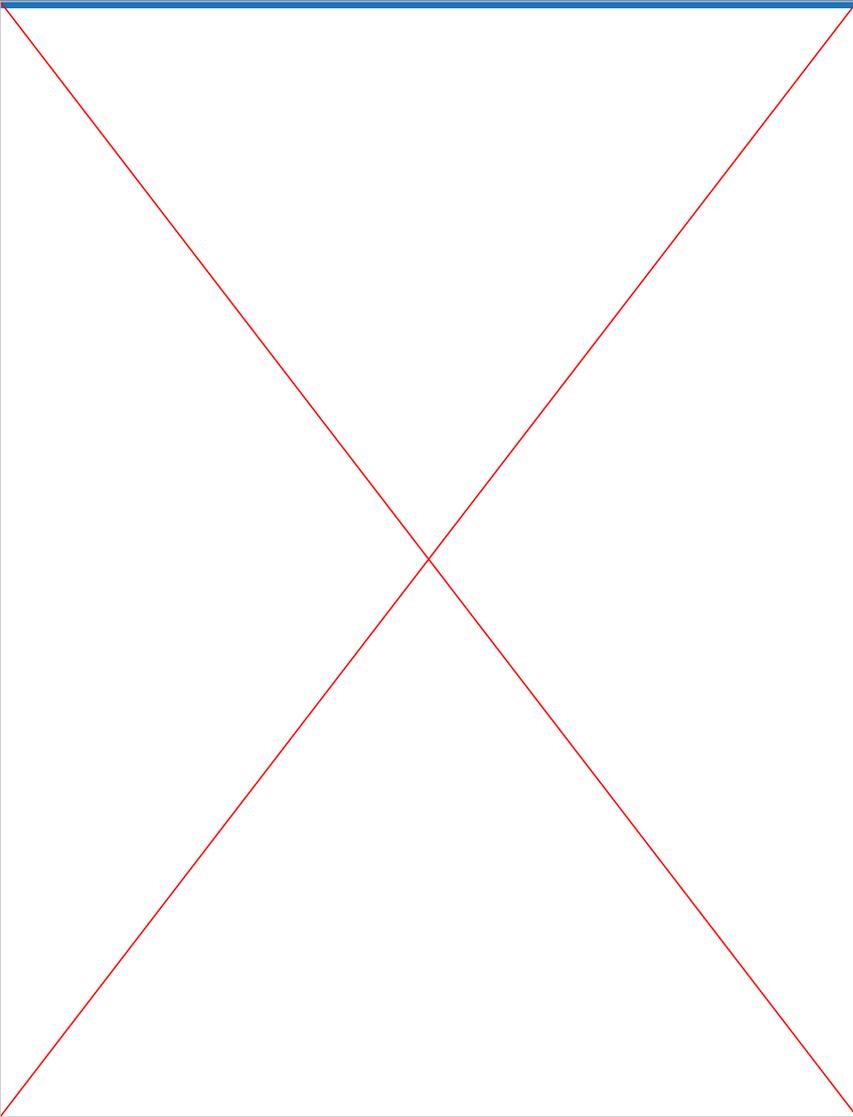


# The Dutch Revolt:

- The Spanish Netherlands was the richest part of the empire
- Philip attempted to strengthen his control in this region by crushing the Calvinists in the region
- Violence erupted when the Calvinists began to destroy statues in Catholic churches
- Philip sent 10,000 troops to crush the rebellion



# The Dutch Revolt Cont.:



- In the Northern Provinces, the Dutch under the leadership of William the Silent, the prince of Orange, offered growing resistance
- The struggle dragged on for 12 years until a truce ended the war
- The Northern Provinces began to call themselves the United Provinces of the Netherlands- became the core of the Dutch state

# The Spanish Armada:

## Spanish Armada



Route of the Spanish Armada

Major Battles



## Causes:

- Queen Elizabeth replaced the laws of Mary I favoring Catholics
- She refused to marry Philip II
- England's fleet threatened Spain's world economy
- Elizabeth supported the Dutch protestants in the Dutch revolt against Spain

## Results:

- Sir Francis Drake of England defeats the Spanish Invasion
- England's world power increases

# The Spanish Empire Weakens:

- Inflation and taxes prevent development of a middle class
- Unfavorable balance of trade-- Spain's desire for foreign goods makes Spain's enemies rich
- Philip II declares bankruptcy three times due to a weak economy and many wars
- Philip II lacked an heir

# Exit-slip:

- **What was the significance of England's defeat of the Spanish Armada?**
- **Why did the Dutch revolt against Spain?  
Who was the Dutch leader?**