

### The Age of the Democratic Revolution: A Political History of Europe and America, 1760-1800 (Princeton Classics)

By R. R. Palmer



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For the Western world, the period from 1760 to 1800 was the great revolutionary era in which the outlines of the modern democratic state came into being. Here for the first time in one volume is R. R. Palmer's magisterial account of this incendiary age. Palmer argues that the American, French, and Polish revolutions--and the movements for political change in Britain, Ireland, Holland, and elsewhere--were manifestations of similar political ideas, needs, and conflicts. Palmer traces the clash between an older form of society, marked by legalized social rank and hereditary or self-perpetuating elites, and a new form of society that placed a greater value on social mobility and legal equality.

Featuring a new foreword by David Armitage, this Princeton Classics edition of The Age of the Democratic Revolution introduces a new generation of readers to this enduring work of political history.



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#### Review

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Praise for the previous Volume 2 edition: "... This is the most important book on the Europe of the French Revolution published in English for more than a generation. It marks the turn of the tide, demonstrating as it does the hollowness of the current conservative interpretation of the Revolution and it will discredit for the future all sloppy generalizations about Jacobins, demagogues, and revolutionary mobs. . . . [Professor Palmer's] knowledge of printed sources is exceptionally thorough, ancient as well as modern, and his judgment of what is good and reliable seems unerring."--J. H. Plumb, New York Review of Books

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Praise for the previous Volume 2 edition: ". . . A work of historical synthesis that has no equal."--Maurice **Dolbier,** *New York Herald Tribune* 

#### About the Author

**R. R. Palmer** (1909-2002) was professor emeritus of history at Yale University and a guest scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. His books include *Twelve Who Ruled: The Year of the Terror in the French Revolution* (Princeton). The first volume of *The Age of the Democratic Revolution* won the Bancroft Prize in 1960. **David Armitage** is the Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History at Harvard University.

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