

### SOURCE 1

Adapted from the *Report on the Situation of the Empire for 1811–12*, by the comte de Montalivet, Minister of the Interior. This report was delivered to the Legislative Body on 25 February 1813.

Gentlemen,

His Majesty has commanded me to make known to you the situation of the interior of the Empire in the years 1811 and 1812. You will see with satisfaction that notwithstanding the great armies which a maritime and continental war obliges us to keep on foot, the population has continued to increase; that our industry has made fresh progress; that our fields were never better cultivated, nor our manufactures more flourishing; that at no period of our history was wealth more widely diffused among the various classes of society. The amount of corn grown in France has increased by one-tenth. The export of brandies, formerly 13 million, is now 30 million. Our iron mines have been augmented by more than half; our coal mines likewise produce five times the value of what was raised in 1790. Until 1811, the financial course had been regular; the receipts and expenses were equal in amount; everything had been reduced to order. From 1812, every calculation has been baffled by the disasters of war.

### SOURCE 2

Adapted from a letter from Napoleon to his stepson, Prince Eugène de Beauharnais, Viceroy of Italy in August 1810.

My son,

I have received your letter of 14 August. All the raw silk from the Kingdom of Italy goes to England; therefore it is quite natural that I should wish to divert it from this route to the advantage of my French manufacturers; otherwise my silk factories, which constitute a principal source of French commerce, would suffer substantial losses. My principle is France first. You must never lose sight of the fact that, if English commerce triumphs at sea, it is because the English are strongest there; it is therefore to be expected that, as France is strongest on land, she should claim commercial supremacy there; otherwise all is lost. Isn't it better for Italy to come to the aid of France in such an important matter as this? Italy cannot make calculations that leave French prosperity out of the account; she must recognise that the interests of the two countries are the same; above all she must take care not to give France any reason for annexing her; for if this was in the interest of France, who could stop her? So make this your motto too – France first.

### SOURCE 3

Adapted from a police bulletin sent by Joseph Fouché, Minister of Police, to Napoleon, 28 October 1809.

In a letter dated 25th of this month, the Prefect of the Seine reports that, on the night of the 5th of this month, 15 *fraudeurs*, men and women, forced the tollgate at La Villette in spite of the resistance of the agents and two *gendarmes* who were requested to assist them. A great number of men and women went through, with bladders full of alcohol, insulting and threatening the employees, who were too few in number to be able to stop them. Some of the words of the individuals in the crowds give rise to suspicion. 'We only want to earn a living. Our profession is to be smugglers when there is no work for our trades. You've got to live and feed the children.' The agents who opposed them were called rogues. The Prefect of Police has been instructed to get information on the circumstances, to investigate the individuals involved in the *fraude* and to indicate the way to stop these disorders. Two police officers have been posted at the tollgates.