The image features a central green oval with a white border and a black outline, set against a background of diagonal stripes in shades of green, blue, and yellow. Inside the oval, the text "Causes of" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the words "WORLD" and "WAR I" are written in a large, light blue, outlined, sans-serif font, stacked on two separate lines.

Causes of  
WORLD  
WAR I

## STANDARDS:

### **SS6H3 Explain conflict and change in Europe.**

- a. Describe the **aftermath of World War I**: the rise of communism, **the Treaty of Versailles**, the rise of Nazism, and **worldwide depression**.

# Let's Review

## Government Types – how do citizens participate?

- **Autocracy** - One person possesses unlimited power and citizens have a limited role in government.
- **Democracy** – the people hold the ultimate power and vote to elect government representatives.



# Let's Review

## Two Types of Democratic Governments:

- **Parliamentary**— citizens elect members of Parliament, and then the members select the leader
  - Leader works with or through the legislature
- **Presidential**--system of government in which the leader is constitutionally independent of the legislature; citizens directly elect leader
  - Leader works separate from legislature

# European Governments

## • **Democracy**

- United Kingdom/Great Britain
- France
- United States of America

## • **Autocracy**

- Germany
- Austria-Hungary
- Russia
- Ottoman Empire

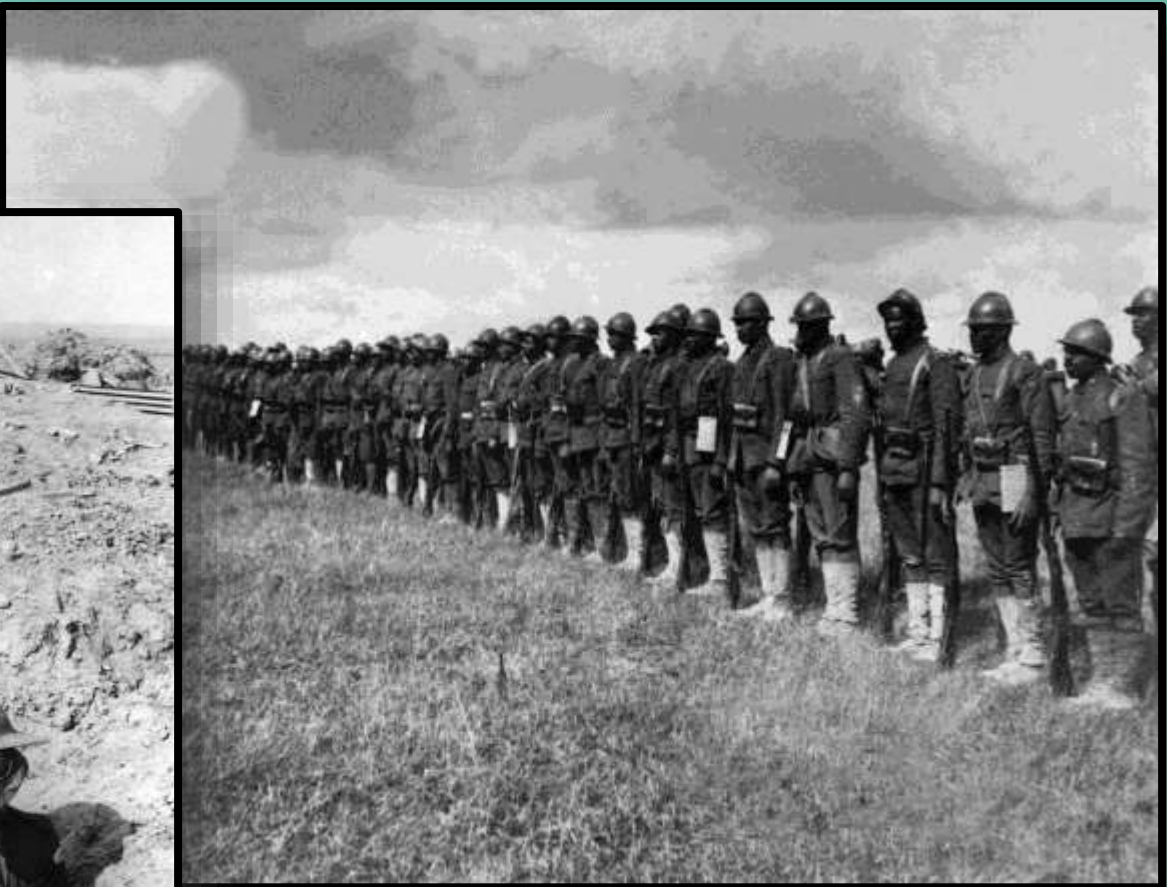
# Europe Pre-World War I





# World War I

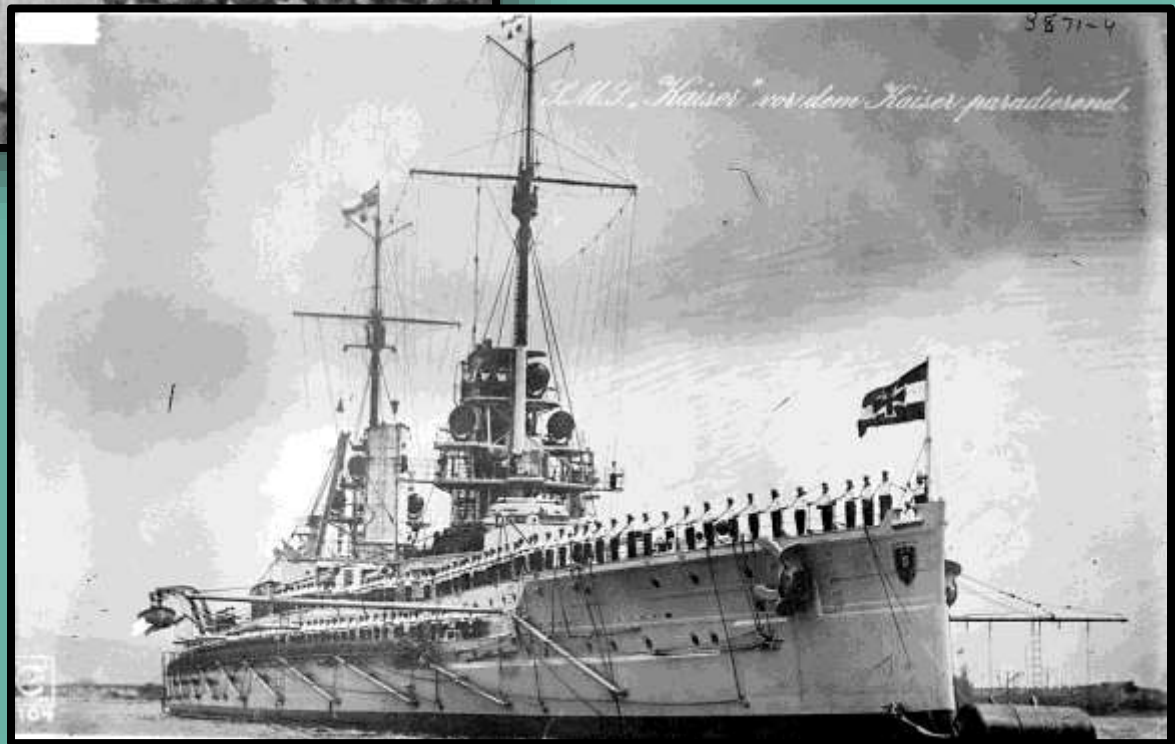
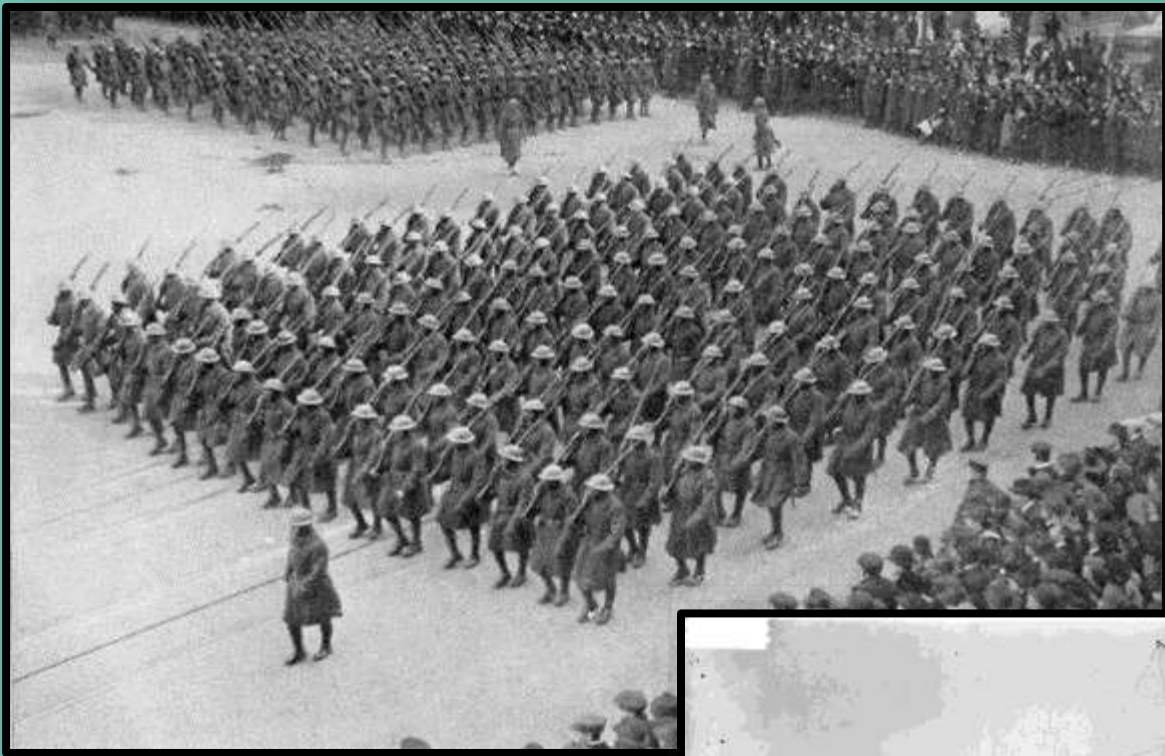
- World War I began in June 1914 and the fighting ended in November 1918.
- Even though the event that sparked the war is easy to pinpoint, the actual causes of WWI are complicated and intertwined with the histories of the countries involved.
- There are four M.A.I.N. causes of World War I...





# Militarism

- Countries had built strong militaries to protect themselves and their colonies, and militarism increased as countries competed with each other to build up their armies and navies.
- During this time, the military was given top priority with the countries' politics and economics.
- Between 1870 and 1914, Germany and France doubled the size of their armies, while Great Britain and Germany used their navies to compete for dominance of the seas.
- Tensions rose as countries watched each other build up military power.



# Alliances

- European countries made agreements with each other to better protect themselves.
- If one member was attacked, the others were obligated to help.
- When the war began, on one side were the Allies: Great Britain, France, Russia, Serbia, and Belgium.
- The other side were the Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire.



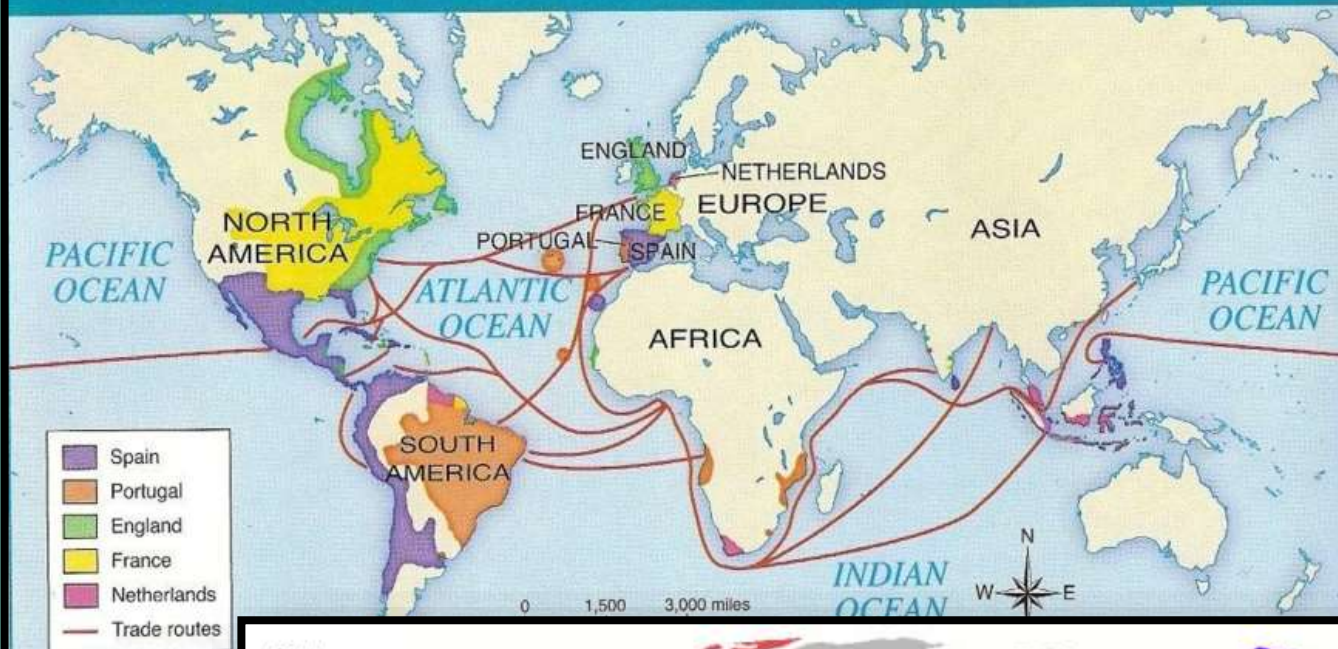
# EUROPE AT THE BEGINNING OF WORLD WAR I



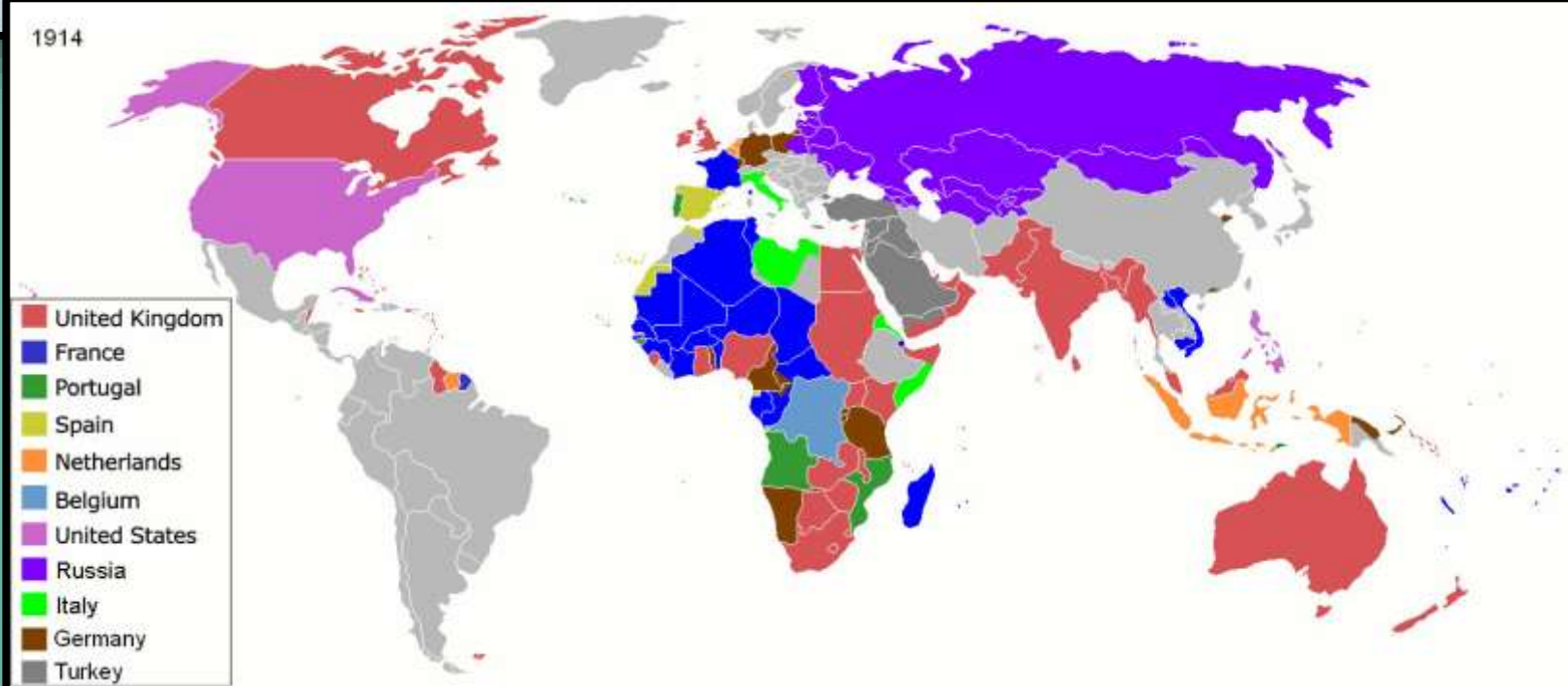
# Imperialism

- Imperialism is when a country increases its power and wealth by acquiring new lands under its control.
- Rivalries developed as countries tried to grab more and more colonies throughout Africa and Asia.
- The rush for land acquisition caused many European countries to resent and distrust one another.

## Major European Trade Routes, About 1750



1914





# Nationalism

- Nationalism is when citizens feel fierce pride in their home country.
- As countries expanded their empires, a strong sense of nationalism emerged.
- Many Europeans began to feel that their nation was superior to all others.

# Nationalism

- Nationalism was exceptionally high in Serbia, a small nation south of Austria-Hungary, and in Bosnia, a region located in southern Austria-Hungary.
- A large Slavic population lived in both Serbia and Bosnia, and the ethnic group strongly desired their own country, free from Austria-Hungary's control.
- These nationalistic feelings led to the actual event that sparked World War I.

# Outbreak of War

- On June 28, 1914, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, was assassinated.
- The assassin was a Bosnian Serb who wanted to free Bosnia from the Austro-Hungarian Empire and unite it with Serbia.
- 48 hours after the assassination, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, which set off a chain reaction of European countries joining the war.





Archduke Franz Ferdinand with his  
Wife, Sophie, and 3 Children  
1910

# WWI Ends

- Both sides of the war believed it would be over in less than a year; unfortunately, it lasted over four years.
- Europe suffered terrible destruction and over 22 million soldiers and civilians died.
- America's entry into the war gave the Allies the extra power they needed to defeat the Central Powers.
- In November 11, 1918, the Central Powers surrendered to the Allies and signed an armistice that ended the war.

# Celebrating the End of WWI





# In Conclusion

- European empire building in Asia and Africa helped lead to World War I because:
- Europeans felt fierce pride in their countries.
- They had developed strong militaries to protect their colonies.
- European countries had built up resentments towards one another and had joined alliances to protect themselves.



The  
Treaty of  
Versailles

# What Next?

- When fighting ended in 1918, the Allied Powers were victorious, but all of Europe had suffered terrible destruction.
- One by one, the Central Powers signed treaties with the Allies.
- Germany's treaty was the last one to be signed, and it forced Germany to accept the blame for the war.
- The Treaty of Versailles was signed in Versailles, France on June 28, 1919 and officially ended WWI.

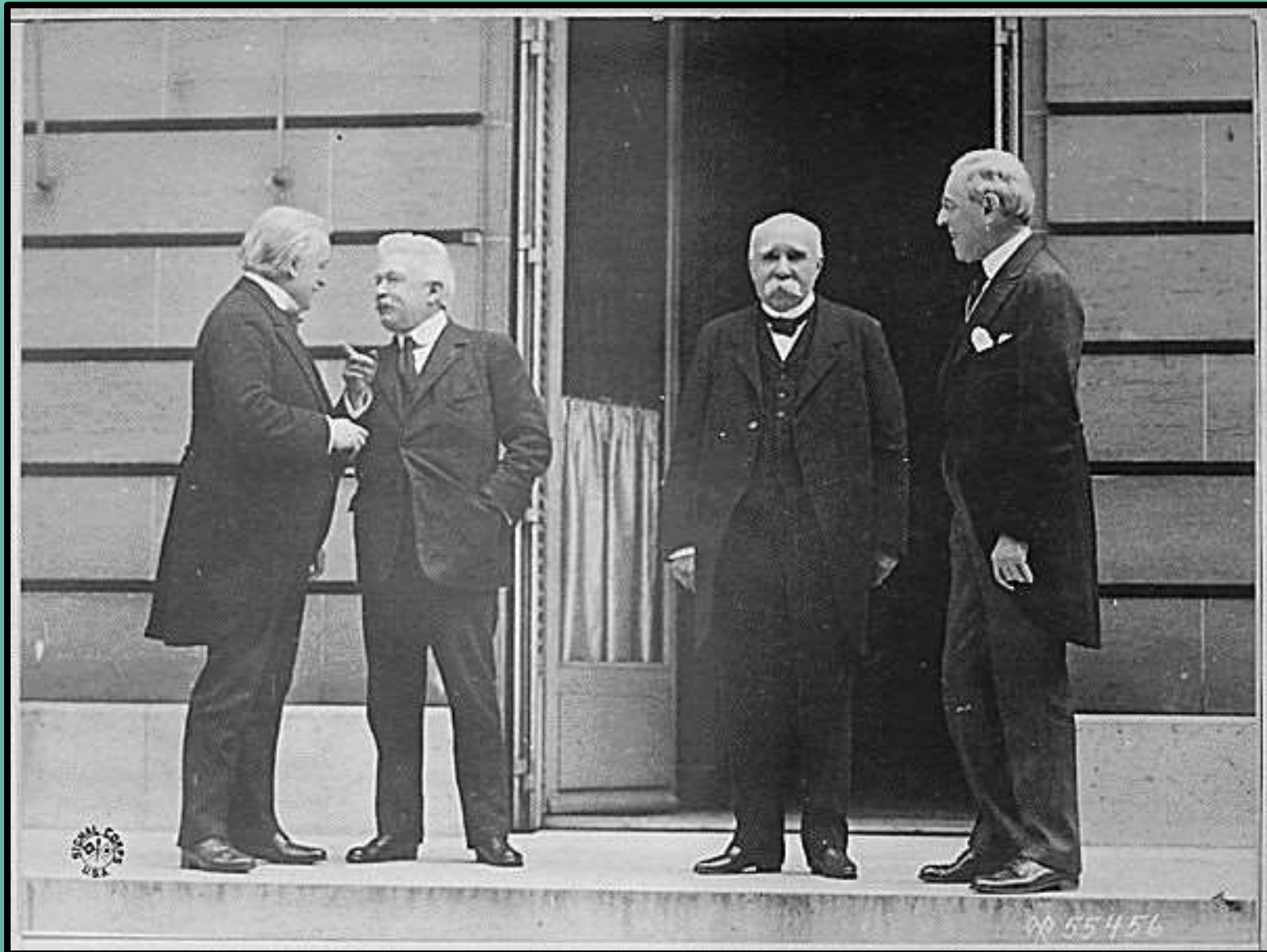




# Punishment

- The Treaty of Versailles was mainly negotiated and written by the leaders of the Allies, with little input from Germany.
- France's Prime Minister, Georges Clemenceau, pushed for harsh punishment for Germany.
  - France had been devastated when Germany had invaded, and Clemenceau didn't want Germany to ever be strong enough to start another war.
- US President Woodrow Wilson and UK Prime Minister David Lloyd George were concerned a severe punishment would start another war, but the concerns were ignored.

# The Big Four





# Land

- In signing the treaty, Germany had to give up one million square miles of land, some of which had been seized by Germany prior to WWI.
- The majority of the land that was lost was rich in natural resources and could have been used to boost Germany's poor economy.
- Germany also lost all of its colonies.



# Reparations

- In addition to accepting the blame for starting the war, Germany had to pay reparations to other countries for the damages they had suffered as a result of the war.
- Germany owed \$33 billion in reparations.
- This was difficult for Germany to pay because it also had to rebuild its own economy and infrastructure.



# Military

- In order to keep Germany weak, the treaty forced Germany to limit its military and stop production of nearly all war materials.
- Germany was also prohibited from joining with Austria.

# Resentment

- The majority of Germans strongly resented the harsh restrictions put in place by the Treaty of Versailles.
- As economic conditions throughout the country worsened, many Germans began protesting.
- Germany had become isolated and was distrusted by other countries.
- Even though the Treaty of Versailles ended World War I, the severe consequences given to Germany set events in motion that would eventually lead to World War II.

# Excerpt from a German newspaper on the day the treaty was signed...

“Today in the Hall of Mirrors of Versailles the disgraceful Treaty is being signed.

Do not forget it. The German people will press forward to reconquer the place among nations to which we deserve. Then will come revenge for the shame of 1919.”





Massendemonstration gegen den Gewaltfrieden am 15. Mai 1919, vordem Reichstagsgebäude. (83.) nicht der neue 1918

# League of Nations

- The Treaty of Versailles also created the League of Nations, a group of countries that promised to work together to make sure that another world war would not occur.
- Germany was not allowed to join until 1926.
- The US Senate refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles and never became a member of the League of Nations.
- The League had no enforcement powers and turned out to be too weak.

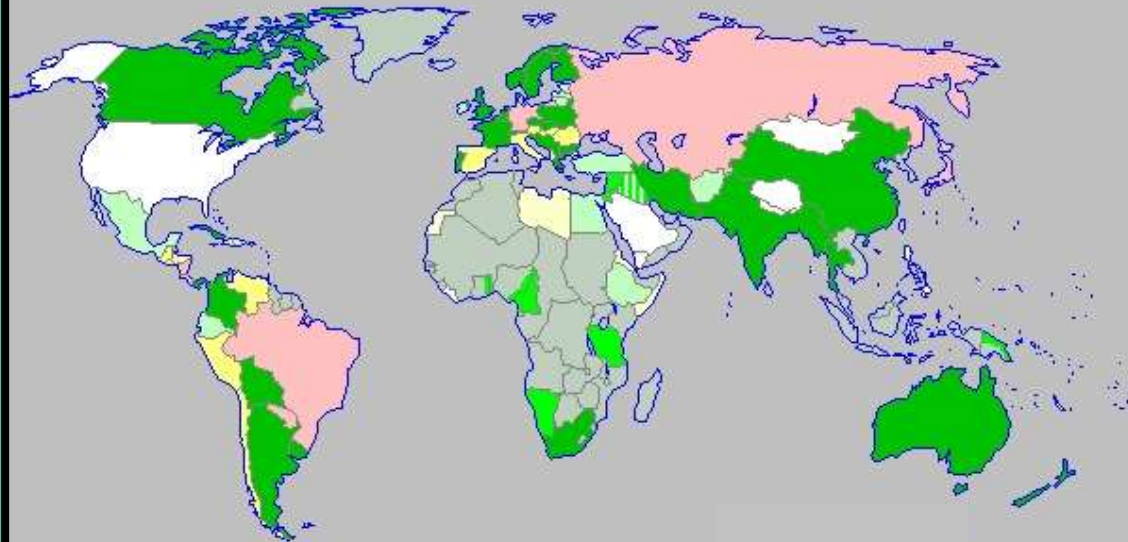








# The League of Nations






1920-1946



## The League of Nations:

-  Members for the duration of the League (1920-46)
-  Late joiners who remained in the League until the end (1946)
-  Colonies of League members (1946)
-  League of Nations Mandates

## Members who were expelled or otherwise left early:

-  Membership lasted more than 15 years
-  Membership lasted less than 15 years
-  Colonies





# Worldwide Depression

# Germany

- The war had left Germany almost bankrupt.
- As its people starved and the country lay in chaos, the Allies gave them a bill that they simply could not afford to pay.
- The Treaty of Versailles caused Germany to go through an economic depression.

# Depression

- Germany wasn't the only country who suffered.
- Countries around the world fell into a worldwide depression following World War I.
- European economies were in terrible shape because they had suffered property damage and severe loss of life.
- These countries had borrowed money during the war, but now had no money to repay those debts.
- They also experienced inflation, a condition where prices rise and money loses purchasing power.







# U.S.

- The United States suffered from the Great Depression beginning in October 1929 when the stock market crashed.
- Value of stocks began to drop so stockholders began to sell their stocks as fast as they could.
- Businesses could no longer sell their goods because people had less money to spend, so many had to close & workers lost their jobs.
- People couldn't repay their loans to the bank, so they lost everything (homes, farms, etc.).



# Worldwide

- Businesses around the world traded with the US.
- When the US stopped buying goods, it hurt businesses in other countries.
- When US banks closed, banks in other countries were hurt, too.
- Stockholders in other countries could no longer sell their stocks to American companies
- As businesses and factories around the world closed one by one, buying and selling almost stopped.