

## The Gain, Reign, Wane and Reclaim of Western Europe

Class #3. Wane and Pain (1914-49)  
WW I & II and End of European Age

Website  
[Coffeynotes.com](http://Coffeynotes.com)

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*The assassination of the Austrian Archduke ... in Sarajevo in 1914, unleashed a catastrophic war that lasted four years, cost ten million lives, changed the face of European continent, and set the stage for an even more global and destructive war a generation later. By the end of World War I, Europe no longer dominated the globe, and by the end of World War II, Europe itself was dominated by two powers outside the core of the Continent, the United States and the Soviet Union.* - David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, p 103

## Great Decisions 2020

Understanding the greatest foreign policy challenges facing America  
By Joe Coffey

- Dates: Wednesdays: January 15, 22 and 29; February 5, 12, 19, 26 & March 4
- Description: Great Decisions nonpartisan education program on foreign policy challenges currently facing Americans. Each class will consist of an introductory presentation and background, showing a video of commentary by experts, and class discussion.
- Topics:
  1. Climate Change and the Global Order
  2. India and Pakistan
  3. Red Sea Security and global oil trade
  4. Combatting Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
  5. U.S. Relations with Central America and illegal immigration
  6. China's growing influence in Latin America
  7. The Philippines pivot to China and away from US
  8. Artificial Intelligence boom and Data security
- Participants are encouraged to purchase the Great Decisions 2020 book (about \$35). Copies of lecture notes will be available at [coffeynotes.com](http://coffeynotes.com).

**Review: "Long 19th century" rise of Western Europe" [Before short 20<sup>th</sup> century's self-destruction and unification]**



- French Revolution and Industrialization eased grip of monarchy, feudalism and Catholic Church
- Despite easing, after Napoleonic wars, at 1815 Congress of Vienna, many Enlightenment gains reversed and monarchs restored old order and relative peace - no, continent-wide wars for a century
- But French Revolution had unleashed forces that reshaped Europe and world – Pax Britannica, Russian Empire, Unification of Germany & Italy, and colonialism
- By 1900 Europe, thanks to industrialization, was most successful ever existed and dominated rest of globe

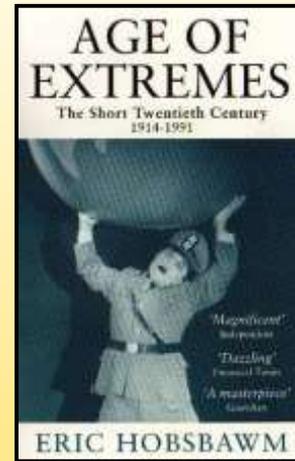
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**Review: "Long 19th century" rise of Western Europe" [Before short 20<sup>th</sup> century's self-destruction and unification]**

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## Europe's Short 20<sup>th</sup> Century with 2 Halves

- I. First Half (1914-49) – World Wars
  - I. 1914-18: WW I – 20 million deaths
  - II. 1920-29: Roaring 20s
  - III. 1929-32: Great Depression
  - IV. 1940-46: WW II – 60 million deaths
  - V. 1945: A-bombs end WW II in Japan
  - VI. 1946: Decolonization
- II. Second Half (1950-89) – Recovery, Cold War and Collapse Soviet Union
  - I. 1946: Iron Curtain splits Europe
  - II. 1960s: W Europe miracle recovery
  - III. 1989: Fall of Berlin Wall and Soviet Union



## Timeline (1914-49): WW I & II End of European Age

1. 1914: Archduke of Austria assassinated, WWI begins
2. 1918: WW I ends with defeat of Germany; collapse of Russian, German, Austrian, and Ottoman empires
3. 1919: Treaty of Versailles' harsh conditions on Germany
4. 1920: British become largest empire - quarter of world
5. 1922: Mussolini and Fascists take power in Italy
6. 1929: Roaring Twenties prosperity and partying
7. 1929: Great Depression – Economies & democracy collapse
8. 1930: Authoritarians in Germany, Portugal, Italy and Spain
9. 1939: Hitler launches WW II by attacking Poland
10. 1945: WW II ends divided – Soviet East vs NATO West

# Economic Ups and downs (1900-46)

Per capita real GDP growth/yr. of US and Big 4 (France, Germany, Italy, & UK)

Era	Years	Per capita real GDP Growth/Yr		
		US	Big 4	
New Century	1900-13	2.1%	1.5%	Growth
WW I	1914-19	1.4%	-1.7%	WWI -damage
Roaring 20s	1920-29	2.0%	2.9%	Strong WWI Recovery
Depression	1930-32	-10.7%	-3.9%	Great Depression
Recovery	1933-39	4.4%	3.8%	Depression recovery
WW II	1940-46	5.9%	-3.6%	WW II damage

Data calculated from Angus Maddison and are the simple average (not weighted average) of each year.  
Some years, not estimated by Maddison, have been interpolated)

## Military buildup and nationalism prior to WW I



- By 1914, most European states had largest armies ever maintained in peacetime
- Naval arms race England vs. Germany
- Strong support for improving militaries and warfare widespread
- Nationalism in Balkans - tinderbox seeking to create a single Slavic nation that eventually materialized as Yugoslavia

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## Support for warfare and military buildup prior to World War I, page 105

- My 1914, most Europeans states that the largest armies it ever maintained in peacetime and there was a major naval arms race between England and Germany
- There was strong support for improving militaries and warfare. The Prussian Field Marshal Helmuth von Moltke wrote: "perpetual peace is a dream, and not even a beautiful dream. War is a part of God's order. Without war, the world would stagnate and lose itself in materialism. In it, man's most noble virtues are displayed-courage and self-denial, devotion to duty, willingness to sacrifice oneself, and to risk life itself" –page 105
- These sentiments were widespread at the outset of the war in August 1914
- Nationalism in the Balkans was a tinderbox who sought to escape from the Austrians, Hungarians or Ottomans and to create a single Slavic nation that eventually did materialize as Yugoslav-page 105
- At its height the Ottoman Empire controlled almost all of the Balkan Peninsula reaching even to the gates of Vienna but since the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century had been in retreat back toward its core now Turkey
- During 1912 and the team several regional wars erupted in the Balkans involved with the dismemberment of Turkey

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe: Liberty, Equality, Solidarity*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019, Fourth Edition, Page 104

## Spark of WW I: assassination of Austrian Archduke in Serbia



- 1914 - Tinderbox of rivalries, huge armies, nationalism, and collapsing Ottoman Empire
- Austrian Emperor saw as an attack on European monarchs
- Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm, gave "blank check" to Austria to make military retribution against Serbia
- Impossible Austrian ultimatum, war declared, Belgrade bombed
- Austria, thinking support from Germany to deter Russia, but Russia and then Germany mobilized
- **Thus: incident in Balkans became Europe-wide war with Germany and Austria confronting England, France and Russia**

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## Spark of WW I: assassination of Austrian Archduke in Serbia

- 1914 was a tinderbox of growing rivalries among major powers, huge armies prepared for war, insurgent nationalism, and a collapsing Ottoman Empire
- A young Bosnian Serb, murdered the heir to Hapsburg throne and his wife in Sarajevo
- Austrian Emperor was horrified and concerned that the assassination was in effect an attack on all European monarchs
- Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm, close friend of the murdered Archduke and ally of Austria, gave "a blank check" to Austria to make military retribution against Serbia
- Austrian ultimatum was designed to be almost impossible to comply with, Serbia's concessions deemed insufficient, so war declared and began bombing Belgrade, Serbian capital
- But due to the web of alliances Austria, expected potential support from Germany would keep Russia out of the conflict, but Russia mobilized hoping Austria would back down
- When Russia did not stop its mobilization, Germany began his own mobilization
- The incident in Balkans become a Europe-wide war with Germany and Austria confronting England, France and Russia

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, pages 106-107

## WW I: Not glorious and deaths unprecedented



- 1916 Battle of Somme - 1.1 mil. lives and nothing gained
- Germans sinking Lusitania and Zimmerman telegram to Mexico inflamed US
- US entered war Apr 2017 after German subs sank several American ships
- When Russia quit, Germany turned West, but US had entered war
- US tipped balance, forcing German surrender in Nov. 1918

End of war came not so much from any military battlefield success but from general exhaustion and to 1917 Russian Revolution which took Russia out of the war and entry of US into the war. - Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*

## WW I: Not glorious and deaths unprecedented

- 1916 Battle of the Somme lasting for months of 1916 cost the Germans 500,000 men, the British 400,000, and the French 200,000 and nothing of value was gained by either side-page 108
- The Germans sinking of the Lusitania in 1915 with the loss of 1200 lives including hundred and 18 Americans, inflamed US sentiment and help draw the US into the war
- Zimmermann Telegram - secret diplomatic note from Germany, Jan. 1917, proposing military alliance between Germany and Mexico. If US entered WW I against Germany, Mexico would recover Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico. Telegram intercepted by British and given to US which enraged population.
- End of the war came not so much from any particular military success on the battlefield but from general exhaustion and to key events of 1917-the Russian Revolution which took Russia out of the war and the entry of the US into the war
- With the withdrawal of Russia the Germans turned their forces toward the West, but by that time the US it entered the war
- The Americans entered the war after Germans resumed unrestricted submarine warfare and sank several American ships President Wilson entered the war in April 1917 "to make the world safe for democracy"-page 111
- The US intervention tip the balance and force the Germans to sue for peace in November 1918

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe, pages 107-111*

## Treaty of Versailles, League of Nations and humiliated Germany



- Pres. Wilson 14 points: democracy, self-determination, borders based on nationality and League of Nations
- League of Nations flopped - rejected by US Senate
- Versailles Treaty harsh and humiliating for Germany
  - All blame for war and burdensome reparations
  - Alsace-Lorraine returned to France
  - Steel producing areas put under French
  - Stripped of colonies
  - Military strictly limited

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## Treaty of Versailles, League of Nations and humiliated Germany

- President Wilson 14 points trumpeted democracy and national self-determination, redrawing borders along national lines and a League of Nations
- League of Nations never lived up to its potential - was rejected by the U.S. Senate by one vote, Russia didn't join, Germany forbidden to join
- Versailles Treaty harsh and humiliating for Germany:
  - All blame for the war
  - Reduced - Alsace-Lorraine returned to France
  - Steel producing areas put under French
  - Stripped of colonies
  - Military strictly limited

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe: Liberty, Equality, Solidarity*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019, Fourth Edition, page 111

## Versailles' new geography



- 7 new states: Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia
- Austria and Hungary separate states
- Romania enlarged & Greece added area from Turkey
- Breakup of Ottoman Empire, Turkey independent
- Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Iraq given as mandates to France or Britain

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## Treaty of Versailles – New Geography

- New geography was created-out of defunct empires
- 7 new independent states: Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia
- Austria and Hungary now separate states
- Romania enlarged and Greece got territory from Turkey
- With breakup of Ottoman Empire, Turkey became an independent republic
- Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Iraq were given as mandates to France or Britain

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe: Liberty, Equality, Solidarity*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019, Fourth Edition, page 111

## WWI aftermath on fates of nations

British PM Neville Chamberlain greeted by Hitler, 1938



- **Russia:** 1917 Russian Revolution
- **Ottoman Empire:** Dismembered; Atatürk founded Turkey
- **Germany:** Abdication of Kaiser, rise of Hitler
- **UK:** Economic burden and war fright ("the bomber will always get through") led to appeasement & retrenchment
- **France:** Turned from liberalism to social democracy
- **Italy:** Unrest, dictatorship and fascism

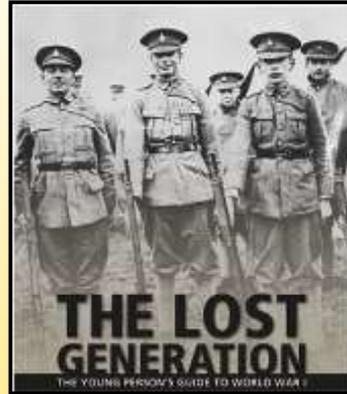
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## WWI aftermath on fates of nations

- **Russia:** Privations led to 1917 Russian Revolution, 5.5 million dead and a socialist and communist revolutionary wave in Europe
- **Ottoman Empire:** Dismembered and Atatürk founded Turkey
- **Germany:** Socialist revolution, abdication of Kaiser, creation of Weimar Republic, and rise of Hitler
- **UK:** Economic burden, assertiveness of Commonwealth nations, and the fear "the bomber will always get through" led to appeasement & retrenchment
- **France:** Turned from classical liberalism towards social democracy
- **Italy:** Political unrest, dictatorship and fascism

## WWI aftermath souls of people

- Optimism extinguished - leaving a "Lost Generation"
- Sacrifices of WW I deemed meaningless by tragedies of Great Depression and Nazism
- Spirits and liberties crushed by disastrous dictators (Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, Lenin)



One day President Roosevelt told me that he was asking publicly for suggestions about what the war should be called. I said at once 'The Unnecessary War'. Churchill

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## WWI aftermath on souls of people

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## Fascism and authoritarianism aftermath of WW I



Gallery of dictators: Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, & Lenin

- Emerging liberal order challenged by Russia's Revolution and Civil War
- Mussolini's fascism in Italy became model for Hitler
- Authoritarians in 1930s in Germany, Portugal, Austria, Poland, Greece, Baltics and Spain
- By 1940, only 4 democracies: France, Finland, Switzerland and Sweden

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### **Fascism and authoritarianism aftermath of WW I**

- Emerging liberal order was being challenged by Russian Revolution and Civil War
- Mussolini's fascism in Italy in 1922 became model for Hitler
- Authoritarians established in 1930s in Germany, Portugal, Austria, Poland, Greece, Baltic countries and Spain
- By 1940, there were only 4 democracies: France, Finland, Switzerland and Sweden.

## Czarist, backward, humiliated Russia adopted Communism



- In 1900 backward peasant economy ruled a czar
- Emancipation of serfs in 1861 stimulated changes
- Population gained: 73 mil. (1861) to 170 mil. (1914)
- Weak military - humiliating loss in 1905 Russo-Japanese War
- Upshot: Communism and WW I toppled Empire
- Ironical that communism revived not in an advanced capitalist state but in backward Russia

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### **Autocratic, backward, humiliated Russia adopted Communism**

- Russia in 1900 was behind the other European powers and remained a rigid and autocracy headed by the czar
- Peasants made up 90% of the population and two thirds of the population were illiterate
- But czar Alexander II (reign 1855-81) launch some liberalizing reforms most importantly the emancipation of the serfs in 1861 which stimulated enormous social and economic changes in Russia
- Russian population grew from 73 million in 1861 to 170 million in 1914
- Despite stagnation, experienced a cultural renaissance with Tolstoy, Dostoevsky and others
- In 1905, humiliating loss in Russo-Japanese War
- Communism and WW I toppled the Empire
- Ironical that communism revived not in the advanced capitalist state but in backward Russia
- But communism appealed to those seeking fundamental change in the Russian Empire and was largely led by Russian radicals living outside a Russia such as Lenin

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe: Liberty, Equality, Solidarity*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019, Fourth Edition, Chapter 10

## 1917 Communist Revolution



- Revolution took Russia out of WW I
- US distrusted and hoped fail; refused recognition until 1933
- Since 1789 Czarist Russia remained autocratic, backward, and isolated from rest of Europe
- Yet huge and diverse empire covering 1/6 of earth
- Moscow touted "Third Rome" (after Constantinople)

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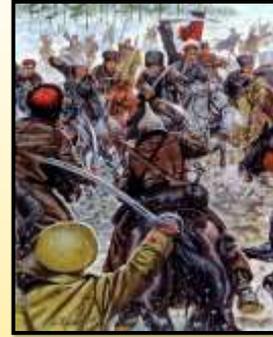
## Russia and 1917 Communist Revolution

- Revolution took Russia out of WW I and essentially out of Europe
- US distrusted, hoped and expected it would fail, and refused recognition until 1933
- Czarist Russia was last great despotism in Europe and most conservative great power
- Since 1789 Russia remained autocratic, backward, and isolated from the rest of Europe
- Yet it was a huge and diverse empire covering 1/6 of the earth
- Moscow claimed title of the "third Rome" (after Constantinople) – center of (Orthodox) Christianity
- Romanoff's the last dynasty of the czars ruled from for 300 years-from 1613 until the 1917 revolution

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe: Liberty, Equality, Solidarity*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019, Fourth Edition, Chapter 10

## Russia exits WW I and begins totalitarianism under Stalin

- Disaster of Russian-Japanese War and turmoil led to pact with Germany, ending participation in WW I
- Treaty provoked a civil war of white vs. red Russians won by Communists in 1921
- Suffered 8 years of revolution, terror, Civil War and famine



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### **Russia exits WW I and begins ruthless Stalinism**

- Disaster of Russian-Japanese War and turmoil led to pact between Germany and Russia to end Russia's participation in World War I with the signing of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in March 1918
- Russia conceded to Germany's territorial demands and lost  $\frac{1}{4}$  of its prewar population and three quarters of its iron and steel producing areas, but Vladimir Lenin believed that these were incidental and temporary, and that the revolution would ultimately take in Germany
- The treaty with Germany removed Russia from WW I but provoked a civil war among the white and red Russians which the Communists won by 1921
- But Russia's suffered eight years of revolution, terror, Civil War and famine

Stalin's brutal industrialization, collectivization & totalitarianism



- Lenin died in 1921 & Stalin took over
- Decision-making was centralized
- Heavy human cost of life and liberty
- Goal was closing economic gap with West

14 mil. victims of Stalin, denounced by Khrushchev, yet now more popular even than Putin!

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### Post WW II reconstruction

- Ruined by WW II, there followed harsh, bleak and starving conditions
- Stalinism wrought forced collectivism, industrialization, centralization, repression...
- Deaths of perhaps 14 million victims of repression during Stalinism
- Stalin (1878-1953) had cult of personality: called the "Builder of Socialism", "Architect of Communism", "Leader of Progressive Humanity" and "Gardner of Happiness"
- But after his death, his successor Nikita Khrushchev in his 1956 "secret speech" denounced Stalin and eased the totalitarianism
- Astonishing, to me, at least, 2019 polls in Russia indicate Stalin at a 70% rating is even higher than Putin's 66%

## Legacy of Russian Revolution



- 1939 industry exceeded only by US and Germany
- Orthodox Church subordinated; churches closed
- Forced from poor rural into major power
- Disastrous costs in lives and human rights
- Influential all over third world
- Consolation: If hadn't developed, couldn't have repelled Nazi's of WW II

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### Legacy of Russian Revolution

- By 1939 Soviet industrial output - exceeded only by US and Germany
- Russian Orthodox Church subordinated to state and most churches closed
- Russia forcibly transformed from a rural underdeveloped country into a major economic and military power
- If had not developed, wouldn't not been able to repel Nazi's of WW II
- Heavy costs in millions of lives and human rights during forced collectivization and Ukraine "murder by starvation"
- USSR became increasingly powerful and influential model for leftists and revolutionaries all over the third world

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, p 129-130

## Roaring Twenties – Letting off steam after WW I

- 1920s in West - prosperity and cultural dynamism
- New technologies - autos, movies, and radio brought "modernity"
- Women suffrage, flappers, Jazz and dancing rose in popularity, in opposition to mood of WW I
- 1929 Wall Street Crash ended the party



"Famous Flapper, Barbara Stanwick (1907–1990)

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### The Roaring Twenties

- Decade of 1920s in Western society and Western culture of economic prosperity with a distinctive social, artistic and cultural dynamism.
- Jazz blossomed, the flapper redefined the modern look for women
- Nations saw rapid industrial and economic growth, accelerated consumer demand, and introduced significantly new changes in lifestyle and culture.
- Media focused on celebrities - sports heroes and movie stars
- Women won the right to vote. The right to vote made a huge impact on society.
- Spread widely in the aftermath of World War I and US gained dominance in world finance.
- Under Dawes Plan, Wall Street invested heavily in Germany, which paid its reparations to countries that, in turn, used the dollars to pay off their war debts to Washington.
- Second half of the decade known, especially in Germany, as the "Golden Twenties"
- Roaring Twenties was marked by a feeling of novelty associated with modernity and a break with tradition
- Everything seemed to be feasible through modern technology.
- The Wall Street Crash of 1929 ended the era, as the Great Depression brought years of hardship worldwide.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## Versailles reparations plus Great Depression hardships



- Versailles imposed large reparation payments
- Germany hyper-inflated to diminish impact
- But situation stabilized under triangular Dawes Plan loans and Germany began to grow
- Then, Great Depression hit in 1929-32
- Newly formed democracies withered
- Economic hardship led to militarism and fascism in Germany and Italy

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## Versailles reparations plus Great Depression devastated Europe

- The Versailles treaty assigned Germany responsibility for World War I and impose large reparation payments, reduce the size of the country and placed the German colonies under the league of Nations and limited German army and armaments-page 132
- Germany inflated the value of their currency in order to diminish the impact of the massive reparations, but the situation was stabilized when the Dawes plan reduced reparations and stabilize German finances and German began to grow
- Then the Great Depression hit in between 1929 in 1932 world output declined by 38% in world trade by two thirds-Germany was especially hard-hit in the newly formed democracies withered under the strain
- This economic hardship led to the rise of militarism and fascism in both Germany and Italy
- Hitler's rise was preceded by that of Mussolini leaning (1883-1945) who seized power in Italy in 1922 and established the first dictatorship in Europe
- Fascism was anti-Communist and antisocial is, militantly nationalist, and in favor of economic security and law and order and dictatorial rule-page 133
- The Italian King intimidated by Mussolini appointed him prime minister and then the parliament ratted him emergency powers and he eventually became a dictator

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, 132-133

## Consequences of WW I in Europe: Death, weak new nations, mad Germany



- 10 million killed and 20 million wounded
- Old empires carved into weak new states
- Russian Revolution inspired left-wing
- Germany's bitterness and hyper-inflation (from 4 Marks to 4 trillion per \$)
- Perhaps under good economic circumstances new order would have succeeded, but Great Depression dashed hopes and stage was set for rise of Hitler

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## Consequences of WW I in Europe

- Altered Europe, 10 million killed and another 20 million wounded
- Ended absolute monarchies
- Autocrats of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Ottomans were banished
- After 1917 Russian revolution the czar executed
- Out of old empires, new states were weak, poor and unaccustomed to democracy
- Russian Revolution inspired unsuccessful left-wing revolutions in Germany, Austria and Hungary polarizing those populations between left and right
- Germany chafed under terms of Versailles Treaty
- Perhaps in good economic circumstances the new order would have succeeded, but the great depression dashed hopes and the stage was set for the rise of Hitler

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, p 113-114

## Great Depression: Change 1929–32

Indicator	US	UK	France	Germany
Industrial production	-46%	-23%	-24%	-41%
Wholesale prices	-32%	-33%	-34%	-29%
Foreign trade	-70%	-60%	-54%	-61%
Unemployment	607%	129%	214%	232%

Source: [wikipedia.org/wiki/Great\\_Depression](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression)

- Great Depression discredited liberalism and democracy
- Turn to dictators – Mussolini (1922) & Hitler (1933)
- League of Nations failed to resolve any major crises
- Spanish Civil War (1936–1939) dictator Francisco Franco
- Decline in pacifism and sense of another world war coming

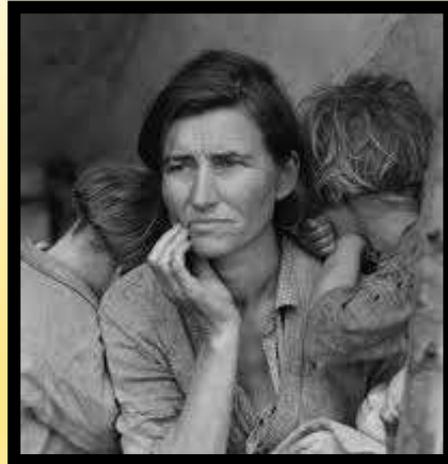
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### Great Depression (1929-39)

- Severe worldwide economic depression during the 1930s
- Started in US after stock market crash of October 29, 1929, (Black Tuesday)
- Between 1929 and 1932, world GDP fell 15% vs. less than 1% from 2008 to 2009 during the Great Recession
- Devastating effects - income, tax revenue, profits and prices dropped, while international trade plunged by more than 50%.
- Unemployment in U.S. rose to 25% and elsewhere rose as high as 33%.
- Cities around the world were hit hard - Construction was virtually halted
- Farmers and rural areas suffered as crop prices fell 60%
- Germany was hard hit – US banks ended new loans that had been funding the repayments financial crisis escalated out of control
- Germany, was already in political turmoil of Nazi and communist movements
- Moratorium on war reparations slowed the crisis
- Unemployment reached 30% in 1932, bolstering support for the Nazi (NSDAP) and Communist (KPD) parties, causing the collapse of the politically centrist Social Democratic Party.
- Hitler ran for Presidency in 1932, and lost but got Legislative majority

## Great Depression: Deep and prolonged serious consequences

- World trade did not recover fully until after WW II
- World industrial output did not recover pre-crisis peak for nearly 7 years
- Suffered a second set-back in late 1930s
- Prolonged because policy responses were pro-cyclical - made things worse



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## Great Depression: Deep and prolonged serious consequences

- Had not only for serious consequences, economic and political, but also for longevity.
- World trade did not recover fully until after the Second World War
- World industrial output did not reach its pre-crisis peak until after nearly seven years and suffered a second set-back at the end of the 1930s
- Great Depression policy responses were pro-cyclical - made things worse

Source: Persson, Karl Gunnar. *An Economic History of Europe* (p. 224). Kindle Edition.

## Prelude to WW II: Isolationism, economic distress and Hitler



- After WW I, US and Europe retreated into isolationism and neutrality
- However, storm clouds on horizon - economic distress, inflation, anger in Germany and Communist Russia
- 1930s Great Depression weakened governments
- Mussolini and Hitler seized power
- Hitler's move to conquer Europe led to WW II

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### **Prelude to WW II: Isolationism, economic distress and Hitler**

- After World War I the US and many European governments retreated into isolationism, neutrality or pacifism and a sense of calm and relief spread throughout much of Europe
- However storm clouds were on the horizon with economic distress and inflation anger in Germany and the new communist state and Russian
- By the 1930s the great depression weekend governments everywhere in the newly established European democracies that
- In Germany Adolf Hitler (1889-1945) and seized absolute power and moved to reclaim German territory and then conquer all of Europe which led to World War II

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe, Chapter, 11*

## Spanish Civil War (1936-39) ~2 mil deaths



Hitler and Franco

### • **Republicans:**

- Loyal to left-leaning 2<sup>nd</sup> Republic allied with Anarchists & Communists
- Aided by Soviets & Mexico
- UK, France & US recognized but didn't aid

### • **Nationalists:**

- Franco-led alliance of Monarchists & Catholics
- Aided by Fascist Italy & Nazi Germany

**Upshot: 40-year dictatorship General Franco 1936-74**

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### **Spanish Civil War (1936-39)**

- Republicans supported by: Soviet Union, Mexico, & France
- Nationalists supported by Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany
- 500,000 - 2,000,000 dead as result
- Republicans loyal to left-leaning 2<sup>nd</sup> Spanish Republic, in alliance with the Anarchists and Communists, fought against the Nationalists, an alliance of Monarchists and Catholics, led by General Franco
- Multifaceted: class struggle, war of religion, struggle between dictatorship and democracy, between revolution and counterrevolution, between fascism and anarchism
- Nationalist received support from Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, while the Republican side received support from the Soviet Union and Mexico.
- UK, France, and US, continued to recognize the Republican government, but followed an official policy of non-intervention.
- War notable for the passion and political division it inspired and the many atrocities and purges
- Result: Rule of dictator Francisco Franco 41 years 1936-75

## Mussolini's Fascism subjugated Italy



- Hitler's rise preceded and patterned after Mussolini
- Mussolini seized power in Italy in 1922 and established the first dictatorship in Europe
- Fascism - anti-Communist, anti-socialist, nationalist, strict law and order and dictatorial
- Intimidated Italian King appointed Mussolini PM
- Given Mussolini emergency powers, became dictator

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### **Mussolini and Fascism subjugated Italy**

- Economic hardship led to the rise of militarism and fascism in both Germany and Italy
- Hitler's rise was preceded by Mussolini (1883-1945) who seized power in Italy in 1922 and established the first dictatorship in Europe
- Fascism was:
  - Anti-Communist and anti-socialist
  - militantly nationalist
  - favored economic security and law and order
  - and dictatorial rule-page 133
- The Italian King intimidated by Mussolini appointed him prime minister and then the parliament granted him emergency powers and he eventually became a dictator

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*,  
132-133

## Hitler's rise and aggression



- Notoriety from *Mein Kampf*, condemning Versailles, and insisting on restoration of German territories
- Signed defense pact with Mussolini's Italy and Japan
- Hitler and Mussolini practiced in Franco's Spanish Civil War
- In 1938, invaded Austria and merged with Germany
- Next, took Sudetenland
- After appeasement by France & UK, took rest of

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### Hitler's rise and aggression

- Hitler imitated Mussolini and while in prison published *Mein Kampf*
- Gained notoriety by condemning Versailles Treaty and insisting on restoration of German honor and territories
- Signed a mutual defense agreement with Mussolini's Italy and Japan-page 136
- Hitler and Mussolini cooperated in assisting Franco during the Spanish Civil War which provided them a testing ground for their troops and weapons
- For example in 1937 Germany in support of Franco bomb the little basket village of Guernica killing more than 1600 –the world's first aerial bombing of civilians which shocked the world and prompted Pablo Picasso's famous painting of Guernica which became a global antiwar icon symbolizing the suffering of innocent civilians-page 137
- In 1938 Hitler took troops into Austria and announced the merger of Austria with Germany
- Next, he took Sudetenland after the appeasement by France and UK and then annexed the rest of Czechoslovakia
- Alarmed at this militarism by the Nazis, Stalin bought some time by signing a nonaggression Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact with Hitler in August 1939 in which they had a secret protocol whereby they agreed to divide Poland between them and sanction Soviet influence in the Baltics

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, p 136-138

## Hitler invades Poland; Britain & France declare war, but Hitler conquers Europe



- Alarmed, Stalin made pact with Hitler, with secret to share Poland and give Baltics to Soviet's
- Week after Nazi-Soviet pact Nazis invaded Poland
- Britain and France declared war
- Nazis blitzkrieg invaded Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France forcing surrender
- Only England left to fight Germany

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### **Hitler invades Poland; Britain & France declare war, but Hitler conquers Europe**

- A week after signing the Nazi-Soviet pact the Germans invaded Poland with over a million troops in Britain and France immediately declared war on Germany
- Hitler saw Poland because the acquisition of Leavitt strong (living space) for his expanding "master race" and he used the new military tactic of blitzkrieg in the spring of 1940, Nazis invaded Norway and Denmark then Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg and into France forcing a French surrender
- With stunning speed and ease Hitler had taken over most of Europe

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, page 138-141

## Hitler can't subdue England and fails in Stalingrad



- Churchill's inspiration and Royal Air Force prevented Hitler from invading England
- Hitler shifted to Soviet Union with Operation Barbarossa - 3 million men along 2,000-mile front
- Failure to conquer Stalingrad (St. Petersburg) in 1942-43 was turning point
- After Stalingrad, Soviets pushed Germans out and headed to Berlin

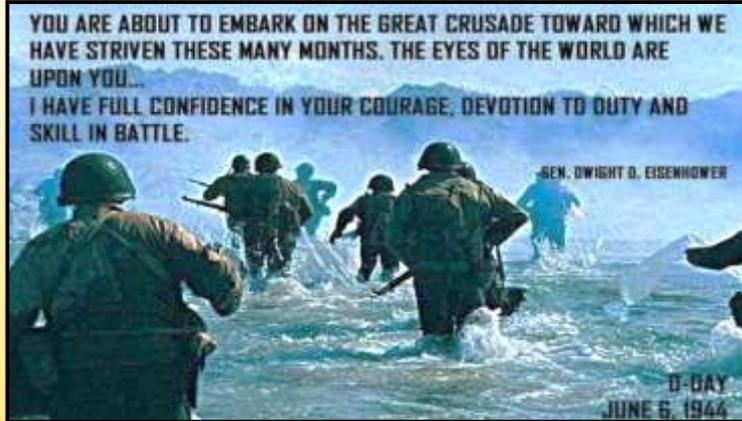
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### **Hitler can't subdue England, fails in Soviet Union, then US and Soviets defeat**

- England was the only country that remained at war with Germany but Hitler was unable Churchill's leadership and Royal Air Force prevented Hitler from his full-scale invasion
- Hitler shifted attention to the Soviet Union
- Operation Barbarossa was launched against Soviet Union with 3 million men along a 2000-mile front
- This became the site of most casualties of WW II
- Nazis tried to conquer Stalingrad (St. Petersburg) but were unable to
- The winter of 1942-43 was a turning point in the victory over the Germans
- After Stalingrad, the Soviets made steady gains pushing the Germans out of the Soviet republics and then headed toward Berlin

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, page 138-141

## D-Day, June 6, 1944, Normandy invasion



- June 6, 1944, Normandy invasion (D-Day) landed 130,000 British, US and Canadian forces
- Within a month, million had landed and by May 1945 Hitler committed suicide and war was over in Europe<sup>31</sup>

### D-Day, June 6, 1944 Normandy invasion

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- Within a month, a million had landed month and by May 1945 Hitler committed suicide and the war was over in Europe

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, page 138-141

## Horror of Holocaust: 6 million Jews dead



- For Hitler, Jews were principal enemies and responsible for Germany's defeat in WW I
- Holocaust began 1941 in occupied Soviet territory
- 6 million Jews perished ~ two-thirds of Jews in Europe
- Auschwitz in Poland - worst Nazi death camps - 1.5 mil.

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### Horror of Holocaust -6 million Jews dead

- For Hitler, "Jewish Bolshevism" - Jews and Communists - were the principal enemies and responsible for Germany's defeat in World War I
- Holocaust was not a footnote to WW II. It belonged to the center of that conflict because it was a principal element in the decisions and statements of Hitler.
- The Jews have been persecuted and discriminated against for 2000 years.
- Slaughter of the Jews began with mass killings in German occupied Soviet territory in 1941
- In next three years some 6 million Jews perished - perhaps two thirds of all Jews in Europe
- Auschwitz in Poland was worst Nazi death camps - 1.5 million killed

John Lukacs, *A Short History of the Twentieth Century* and David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, page 138-141

## WW II far worse than WW I



- 15 mil. military and 30 million civilian deaths
- 20 mil. died in Soviet Union -10% of population
- In Europe + Asia, 60 million deaths - so many because civilians targeted
- Deaths of Hitler and Mussolini in 1945 and Stalin in 1953, totalitarianism longer force in Europe
- Major geopolitical shift - emergence of US and Soviet Union as dominant powers

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### Consequences of WW II

- The 10 million deaths of World War I were horrible, but the losses of World War II were far worse-in Europe alone there were probably 15 million military casualties and almost twice as much civilian deaths
- More than 20 million died in the Soviet Union-10% of the entire population
- In total in both Europe and Asia some 60 million-a number so you because this was the first war which the civilians were deliberately targeted
- The Nazi death camps called humanity itself into question
- At the end of the war with the deaths of Hitler and Mussolini in 1945 and Stalin in 1953, totalitarianism was no longer a force in Europe
- The end of the war also signaled a major geopolitical shift in both Europe and the world with the emergence of United States and the Soviet Union as dominant powers in Europe

Source: David S. Mason, *A Concise History of Modern Europe*, p 142

## WW II ended in 1945 but post-war events shaped rest of century



- 1945: US A-bombs, Japan surrenders
- 1945: UN formed
- 1947: British grant independence to India and Pakistan
- 1947: Cold War begins - Europe polarized East vs. West
- 1948-51: Marshall Plan - Europe's recovery & modernization
- 1949: NATO alliance established
- 1949: Russia's A-bomb; Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD)
- 1950: Schuman Declaration begins European integration

*From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent." - Churchill, Mar 1946*

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## WW II fighting ended in 1945 but major events continued which shaped rest of 20<sup>th</sup> century

- 1945: US A-bombs and Japan surrenders
- 1945: United Nations formed
- 1947: British grant independence to India and Pakistan
- 1947: Cold War begins as Europe is polarized East versus West.
- 1948-51: U.S. Marshall Plan aids Europe modernization
- 1949: NATO alliance is established
- 1949: Mao's Communist victory of China
- 1949: Russia tests A-bomb; Mutually Assured Destruction era
- 1950: Schuman Declaration begins European integration
- 1950: Korean War brings China and U.S. into conflict

*From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent." - Churchill, Mar 1946*

## Contrasts of WW I vs. WW II

### **WW I (1,564 days)**

- Deaths – 20 million
- Enemy – Germany
- US & USSR exit post war
- US isolationist
- Empires to weak states
- Germany bitter and broke
- USSR Revolutionary crisis
- Great Depression
- Centered in Europe
- Ended after long battles

### **WW II (2,194 days)**

- Deaths – 60 million
- Enemy – Germany & Japan
- US & USSR post war powers
- US globalist – Marshall Plan
- Divided into East & West
- Germany split; West reborn
- USSR – Stalinist power
- Great Recovery
- Both Europe and Asia
- Ended after A-Bombs

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## WW I & II; End of European Age Summary and Conclusions



- WW I not short, glorious nor end of wars
- Russia turned red and withdrew WW I
- British Empire peaked and shrunk
- Roaring 20's prosperity & partying after WW I
- Party ended in Great Depression
- Great Depression gave Hitler his opening
- Hitler causes WW II and Holocaust
- US & Russia defeat Hitler; Europe split into Cold War
- After decades of wane and pain - Age of Europe ends

Next Class: Regain – Europe recovers, unites democracies,  
and becomes world's top economy

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60 million Military and Civilian Deaths in WW II

Country	Total deaths	% of 1939 population
USSR	22.0	13.1%
India (British)	1.6	0.4%
France	0.6	1.4%
Italy	0.5	1.0%
UK	0.5	0.9%
US	0.4	0.3%
Germany	7.0	10.0%
Austria	0.1	1.8%
Poland	5.6	16.1%
Yugoslavia	1.0	6.7%
Hungary	0.6	6.4%
Czechoslovakia	0.3	2.1%
China	10.0	1.9%
Dutch East Indies	3.0	4.3%
Japan	2.6	3.7%
French Indochina	1.0	4.1%
All others	3.2	0.9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>3.0%</b>

[wikipedia.org/wiki/World\\_War\\_II\\_casualties](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II_casualties)

Consequences WW II

- World War II - deadliest war in history
- 60 million perhaps 80 million, killed - 3% of world population
- 38 to 55 million civilians killed million, including 13 to 20 million from war-related disease and famine
- 22 to 25 million military dead, including deaths in captivity of 5 million prisoners of war

## Appendix of Supplemental Data

### List of war estimates of all deaths either directly or indirectly caused by European war

War	Deaths	Date	Combatants	Location
World War I	23,568,559	1914–1918	Allied Powers vs. Central Powers	Worldwide
Russian Civil War	6,708,204	1917–1922	Red army and allies vs. White army and allies	Russia
Spanish Civil War	707,107	1936–1939	Nationalists vs. Republicans	Spain
Winter War	173,071	1939–1940	Finland vs. Soviet Union	Finland
World War II	69,069,811	1939–1945	Allied powers vs. Axis Powers	Worldwide
Greco-Italian War	27,080	1940–1941	Greece vs. Italy	Southeast Europe
Continuation War	387,333	1941–1944	Finland and Germany vs. Soviet Union	Northern Europe
Greek Civil War	158,000	1946–1949	Greek Government army vs. DSE	Greece
Korean War	3,000,000	1950–1953	South Korea and allies vs. North Korea and allies	Korea
Algerian War	724,569	1954–1962	Algeria vs. France	Algeria
Vietnam War	1,743,560	1955–1975	South Vietnam and allies vs. North Vietnam and allies	Vietnam
War in Afghanistan	1,574,802	1978–present	see War in Afghanistan	Afghanistan
Soviet–Afghan War	1,095,445	1979–1989	Soviet Union and Afghanistan vs. Insurgent groups	Afghanistan
Gulf War	32,091	1990–1991	Iraq vs. Coalition Forces	Iraq
War in Afghanistan	53,949	2001–present	see War in Afghanistan (2001–present)	Afghanistan
Iraq War	190,000	2003–2011	See Iraq War	Iraq
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,213,581</b>			

From Wikipedia. This list of wars by death toll includes death toll estimates of all deaths that are either directly or indirectly caused by war. These numbers usually include the deaths of military personnel which are the direct results of battle or other military wartime actions, as well as the wartime/war-related deaths of soldiers, which are the results of war-induced epidemics, famines, atrocities, genocide, etc.

Appendix of Supplemental Data

WW II vs. WW I: 13 times cost and 4 times death to US

War	Years	Peak Year	Total Military Costs 2011 \$ bil	War Costs % GDP in Peak Year	Total \$/Capita	Deaths	Injuries <sup>1000s</sup>	Total % of Population
WW I	1917-21	1919	\$ 334	13.6%	\$ 3,307	117	204	0.32%
<b>WW II</b>	<b>1941-45</b>	<b>1945</b>	<b>\$ 4,104</b>	<b>35.8%</b>	<b>\$ 29,314</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>0.77%</b>
Korea	1950-53	1952	\$ 341	4.2%	\$ 2,158	37	92	0.08%
Vietnam	1965-75	1968	\$ 738	2.3%	\$ 3,672	58	153	0.10%
Persian Gulf	1990-1	1991	\$ 102	0.3%	\$ 403	0.3	0.9	0.00%
Iraq	2003-10	2008	\$ 784	1.0%	\$ 2,579	5	32	0.01%
Afghanistan	2001-10	2010	\$ 321	0.7%	\$ 1,039	2	19	0.01%
Total post 9/11	2001-10	2008	\$ 1,147	1.2%	\$ 3,773	7	51	0.02%

Source: Costs of Major U.S. Wars, Congressional Research Service, June 29, 2010. In 2011 constant dollars. Only war costs, excludes veteran benefits, aid to allies, and normal military costs in non-war years. Deaths include both combat and non-combat and are from [wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_military\\_casualties\\_of\\_war](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_military_casualties_of_war). Costs are from [fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RS22926.pdf](http://fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RS22926.pdf)

## Background of President Wilson's 14 Points - principles for peace negotiations for end WW I

- Presented in Jan 8, 1918, speech to US Congress
- Wanted to avoid US involvement in nationalistic disputes or ambitions in Europe
- Thought moral aims important as Bolsheviks disclosed secret treaties made between the Allies
- Took domestic progressive ideas and translated them into foreign policy (free trade, open agreements, democracy and self-determination)
- Points based on the research of a team of 150 advisers
- Wilson sought to end causes of war by abolition of secret treaties, reduction in armaments, adjustment in colonial claims, and freedom of the seas.
- Proposed removal of economic barriers between nations, self-determination for national minorities, world organization that would guarantee political independence and territorial integrity - a League of Nations
- Points well received in US and Allied nations and even by Vladimir Lenin
- Wilson subsequently used the Fourteen Points as the basis for negotiating the Treaty of Versailles
- Wilson was awarded the 1919 Nobel Peace Prize for his peace-making efforts

Source: [wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen\\_Points](https://wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen_Points)

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## Appendix of Supplemental Data

### Summary of President Wilson's 14 Points - principles for peace negotiations for end WW I

- I. Open covenants of peace, no private international understandings
- II. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas
- III. Removal of economic barriers and establishment of an equality of trade
- IV. National armaments will be reduced
- V. Impartial adjustment of all colonial claims
- VI. Evacuation of all Russian territory and welcome into the society of free nations under institutions of her own choosing
- VII. Belgium must be evacuated and restored
- VIII. All French territory should be freed, and Alsace-Lorraine restored
- IX. Frontiers of Italy set along lines of nationality
- X. Austria-Hungary accorded opportunity to autonomous development.
- XI. Romania, Serbia, and Montenegro should be evacuated; occupied territories restored, and territorial integrity be agreed to
- XII. Turkey should be assured a secure sovereignty and Dardanelles permanently opened as a free passage
- XIII. An independent Polish state should include territories inhabited by Polish
- XIV. A general association of nations must be formed to guarantee political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.

Source: [wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen\\_Points](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen_Points)

## Appendix of Supplemental Data

### 1914: Wane 1914–1949: Two World Wars

1914: June 28, Archduke Ferdinand of Austria assassinated in Sarajevo and WWI begins  
1915: May 7, sinking of Lusitania by Germany heightens US anger  
1917: October Revolution and creation of Soviet Union (1917–1991) and rise of international communist movement  
1917: April 6, U.S. enters WW I  
1918: World War I ends with defeat of Germany and Central Powers, collapse of Russian, German, Austrian, and Ottoman empires  
1919: June 28, Treaty of Versailles harsh conditions on Germany and recognized many new states  
1920: British Empire peaks to become largest empire of one quarter of world  
1921: Roaring 20s -widespread economic prosperity until Great Depression  
1922: Mussolini and Fascists take power in Italy and Stalin (rule 1922-53) in Russia  
1924: US begins isolationism, curbing immigration and imports  
1925: Oct, Locarno Treaties territorial settlement and normalizing relations with defeated Germany  
1929-39: Great Depression - disastrous decline, trade fell by 2/3, high unemployment, and collapse of democracy  
1930: Authoritarian regimes established in 1930s in Germany, Portugal, Austria, Poland, Greece, Baltics and Spain  
1933: Hitler and Nazis take power in Germany  
1935: Mussolini Italy conquers Ethiopia; League sanctions are ineffective  
1936: Start of Spanish Civil War; ends in 1939 with victory of Nationalists who are aided by Germany and Italy  
1937: League of Nations failed to resolve any major crises and ignored  
1938: Appeasement of Germany by Britain and France; Munich agreement splits Czechoslovakia; Germany seized remainder in 1939  
1939: August, Mussolini's Italy allied with Germany but later was killed and Italy joined allies in 1945  
1939: Sep 1, Hitler launched WW II by attacking Poland  
1939: Hitler and Stalin agree partition of Eastern Europe in Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact  
1940: Only four liberal democracies left in Europe: France, Finland, Switzerland and Sweden  
1941: War tide turns - Germany invades Soviet Union but fails to capture Moscow or Leningrad and US begins large scale aid to allies  
1941: Dec 7, Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, Germans declare war on US; US declares war on Germany & Japan  
1942: Nazi Germany commences Holocaust – a Final Solution, with murder of 6 million Jews  
1943: Allies won in North Africa, invaded Italy in 1943, and recaptured France in 1944  
1945: WW II Ended with division of Europe in East under Soviet Union and West under NATO, UN formed  
1945: Jul 17-Aug 2, "Big Three" Potsdam (Germany) Conference of Churchill, Truman and Stalin of post WW II administration  
1947: British Empire begins dismantling colonies and Cold War begins  
1948: 321 days of Berlin blockade and massive airlift of 287,000 flights (1 every 0.6 seconds!)  
1948: US Marshall Plan aid to for modernization of European industries and reduction of trade restrictions  
1948: British withdrawal from Palestine  
1949: NATO alliance established



Appendix of Supplemental Data

## Hitler: A Towering Figure of 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Controversial cover -Hitler playing a hymn of hate



"Adolf Hitler was a towering figure.... No Hitler: no Second World War. No Hitler-no Soviet occupation of the Eastern half of Europe.... No Hitler-no mass murder of five or 6 million people.... Hitler did not really want a Second World War, especially not with Britain. His fearful simplicity and eventually his undoing was his inclination to hate, and his discovery that propagating hate may be a useful popular asset."

John Lukacs, *A Short History of the Twentieth Century*, Belknap Press of Harvard University, 2013, pages 127-8.

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## Churchill – Man of 20<sup>th</sup> Century



“Churchill ... did not win the Second World War in 1945. But he was the one who, in 1940, did not lose it.... [H]is historical insight and foresight were stunning. He foresaw... what Hitler meant. Later, he understood Hitler better than Hitler understood him. He understood Stalin and Russia better than Roosevelt did.... England in 1940 could have received an offer of peace from Hitler, who wanted Britain to accept his domination of Europe and end its resistance to Germany. Churchill would not consider that for a moment. He knew that this would mean that England would become a partner of Germany, if not a “slave state.” In 1940, he was alone, the single obstacle to Hitler’s winning the Second World War.”