Nationalism in Europe

1. Italian Unification
2. German Unification
3. Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire
4. Unrest in Russia

In the 1800’s, nationalism sparked revolutions across Europe. New Nations, such as Germany and Italy, formed along cultural lines. Absolute monarchies fell. These nationalist revolutions forever changed the may of Europe - and Europe’s balance of power.
1. Italian Unification

- In the 1800’s, Italian states rebelled against Austria and unified as the Kingdom of Italy.
Stirring of Nationalism

- The Italian Peninsula had not been unified since the fall of the Holy Roman Empire.
- Under Napoleon’s rule, Italian city-states were unified temporarily, but the Congress of Vienna divided them once again.
- As a result, a spirit of nationalism, or devotion to one’s national group, developed in the Italian cities and elsewhere throughout Europe.
After the Congress of Vienna

• Prince Metternich of Austria wanted to restore the Old Order throughout Europe, but just 15 years after the Congress had met, a tired Metternich admitted that “the old Europe is nearing its end.”

• Nationalism was a growing force in Europe fostered in part by some of the decisions made at the Congress of Vienna.

• Congress decided to divide Italy into three parts, and Italian nationalism grew in opposition to control over them.
Mazzini and Young Italy

- Italians began to form secret societies to work for political change. They began plotting to overthrow the Austrian government in Italy.

- Writer Giuseppe Mazzini - Young Italy - to fight for the unification of the separate Italian city-states. Eventually exiled, but his pamphlet sparked nationalism throughout the peninsula.
The Path Toward Unity

• Two men, Camillo di Cavour and Giuseppe Garibaldi, rose to lead a successful movement to unify Italy.
Uprising and Revolution

- There were several revolts and uprisings throughout the Italian city-states, but the only successful one in the beginning was in Sardinia.
Cavour and Sardinia

- Camillo di Cavour, a leader of the independence movement, founded a nationalist newspaper called IL Risorgimento - "resurgence, or rebirth"
- Risorgimento - also meant Italian unification and freedom from Austrian control.
- Became Prime Minister of Sardinia in 1852.
- He joined forces with the French in late 1850's and the two combined forces defeated Austria.
- By 1860, the northern Italian states were liberated from the control of the Austrian Empire.
Garibaldi and the Red Shirts

- Many of the Italians considered Cavour the “brain” of Italian unification and Mazzini as its “heart.”
- Equally important was Giuseppe Garibaldi - many called him the “sword” of the movement.
- He learned the techniques of guerilla warfare while in exile in South America. He returned back to Italy several times to continue the fight to free Italy from Austrian domination.
The Red Shirts

- His followers were the Red Shirts because of their colorful uniforms.
- After defeating the Austrian Empire, Garibaldi and the Red Shirts turned to Sicily and the southern part of the Italian peninsula.
- By July 1860, the Red Shirts controlled much of the Italian peninsula.
Unification

• Garibaldi offered the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies to King Victor Emmanuel of Sardinia.

• Territories throughout Italy had all agreed in 1861 for unification. All, but Venetia, still under control of Austria, and the Papal States controlled by France.

• These territories did not hold out for long, and eventually Italian troops entered Rome later that year, thus completing the unification of Italy under King Victor Emmanuel.
Challenges After Unification

- In the years after unification, Italy faced many new challenges.
- Although unified, Italy had to deal with a number of social and economic problems.
- By the late 1800's, the new nation would take steps to catch up with the rest of Europe in industrialization, social reform, and foreign policy.
Social and Economic Problems

- Regional differences led to a lack of unity among many Italians.
- The Catholic Church did not recognize Italy as a legitimate nation, and the pope prohibited Catholics from voting.
- Widespread poverty was a serious problem along with unemployment and rising taxes.
- As a result many Italians headed for America - some 4.5 million.
Reforms

• Voting reform was a major priority.
• Only the wealthiest could vote at the time of unification, but by the end of the 1800’s, most adult male taxpayers could vote.
• As Italy industrialized, the government passed reforms, including laws limiting working hours and prohibiting child labor.
• Encouraged the building of transportation and water systems to improve cities and encourage industry.
A New Foreign Policy

- In 1882, Italy formed a military alliance with Austria-Hungary and Germany.
- The three nations agreed to defend each other against any possible attack. - The Triple Alliance
- This alliance brought most of Europe to war in 1914 (WWI)
- Italy, trying to build an empire of her own, tried to gain control over Ethiopia, and in 1911, Italy declared war on the Ottoman Empire.
2. German Unification

• In the late 1800’s, Otto Von Bismarck transformed Germany from a loose confederation of separate states into a powerful empire.
Steps toward Unification

• In the mid 1800’s, many Germans were driven by nationalistic feelings to support a unified Germany.
• The Congress of Vienna organized the German Confederation, a group of 39 separate states with a common language and culture was poised for the movement to unite.
Revolutions in Prussia

- German liberals in the state of Prussia agreed that Germany unity would promote individual rights and liberal reforms.
- Facing calls for increased democracy, Prussian king Frederick Wilhelm IV quickly promised a constitution and other reforms, but did not hold true to his promises.
Economic and Cultural Unity

• Another step toward creating a unified Germany was an economic alliance between some of the German States.
• The Zollverein, or customs union, allowed for the removal of tariffs, or taxes, on products traded between the German states.
• Inspired business people to promote unity.
Bismarck’s Plan for Germany

- Otto Von Bismarck, a conservative and a politician, was the leading force behind German unification.
- Gained prominence after giving a speech at the National Assembly in 1847.
- 1862 - Wilhelm I, the new Prussian king, chose Bismarck as Prussia’s prime minister.
Bismarck’s Philosophy

• Bismarck was not a liberal like the people involved in the revolution. He was a conservative who believed that Prussia’s destiny was to lead the German people to unification.

• Realpolitik – view of government was practical not idealistic – policies based on interests of Prussia.
“Blood and Iron”

- Increased the power of the Prussian military.
- *German unity* would not be won by speeches and majority vote, but it would be won by “blood and iron.”
Bismarck’s First War

• A disagreement over the border states, called Schleswig and Holstein, eventually gave Bismarck the excuse to start a war with Denmark.

• He allied himself with Austria and the two powers quickly defeat Denmark. Austria – Holstein and Germany – Schleswig

• This meant that Austria owned a small part in Prussian borders and war with the country would be inevitable.
Bismarck could not increase the power of Prussia with Austria in her war. Austria was a leader in the German Confederation and had influence in many of the German states.

Bismarck moved Austria in two short battles, and established a unified Germany.
3. The Austrian-Prussian War

- Bismarck met with the Italian minister and promised them Venetia if they allied themselves with Germany.
- Prussian forces invaded Holstein and in response Austria declared war on Prussia.
- In only seven weeks, the Prussian war machine had defeated the Austrian army and forced Austria to surrendered the state of Holstein.
- This was the first step toward German unification.
The Franco-Prussian War

- The second war to create a unified Germany was the southern German states that were still not included in the North German Confederation.
- Conflict between France and Germany over the Alsace and Lorraine territories. Originally part of the Holy Roman Empire, which included Prussia.
- The issue of this land sparked southern German states to join the cause to fight against the French.
- The Franco-Prussian War and its peace treaty declared the unification of Germany.
Creating the German Empire

- Allied German states met in Versailles, near Paris. William I, the first kaiser, or emperor of Germany.
- Bismarck was appointed first chancellor.
The Empire’s Growth and Change

- As Germany grew economically, a new empire arose.
- Germany developed into a strong empire. This period was known as the Second Reich, because Germans considered the Holy Roman Empire to the First Reich.
A New Government

- The 25 states took on a Federalist form, similar to that of the United States.
- Wilhelm I held the government.
- All men over 25 could vote. Political parties developed.
The Government and the Church

- Bismarck believed that the Roman Catholic Church posed a threat to his government.
- A struggle emerged over power known as the Kulturkampf "the struggle for culture."
Economic Growth

- After German unification, the country experienced a period of economic growth and quickly caught up to the industrialized countries of Europe.
The Path to Social Reform

• As in other countries, industrialization had some critics. German socialists protested the harsh treatment of labor and the factories.

• Bismarck blamed socialists for two assassination attempts on the emperor, and he pushed through legislation that provided benefits for health, accidents, old age, and disability.
Bismarck and Wilhelm II

• After unification, Bismarck did not want to expand Germany any further, However, he believed that France was a threat.
• He entered into a number of alliances with other European nations, including Austria-Hungary, Italy, and Russia. (PROTECTION)
• 1888 – William’s grandson became Kaiser of Germany.
• He fired Bismarck and began to build up the most powerful military forces in Europe.
Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire

- Nationalism broke down two old European empires - the Austrian Hapsburg Empire and the Ottoman Empire.
The Hapsburg family, rulers of the Austrian Empire at the beginning of the 1800’s, had controlled much of the region for nearly four centuries.

At the Congress of Vienna, Prince Metternich of Austria became a very powerful voice in promoting the Old Order and a restoration of absolutism all over Europe.

However, the powerful empire would not remain intact through the remainder of the 1800’s.
Resistance to Change

• The Austrian empire and Metternich were determined to hold onto the empire and resist liberal ideas and movements that might endanger it.
• He sought to prevent reforms that conflicted with absolute monarchy - universities created a “whole generation of revolutionaries.”
• He also formed alliances with other European countries that opposed the liberal ideals.
• Congress at Troppau - leaders agreed to provide military intervention to support governments against internal revolution.
Turmoil in Europe and Austria

- Revolutions in France, Italy, and the German states set off revolts in the Austrian Empire.
- Many different people within the Austrian Empire wanted independence as well.
- Demonstrations were held in Vienna and a frightened Metternich resigned and fled Austria. King Ferdinand abdicated and his young nephew, Franz Joseph I, became king.
Response to Revolution

• His reign was unstable.
• 1848, the Hungarian Magyars rebelled against the Austrian rule, and almost won independence. Russian Czar Nicholas helped crush the revolt.
• Franz Joseph I was also able to abolish liberal reforms and stop the revolutions for at least a little while.
The Dual Monarchy

• He shortly restored the monarchy, but did not stop the nationalist movement.
• It came in the form of a dual monarchy, also known as Austria-Hungary.
Forming a New Government

- Austria’s defeat in the war with Prussia, brought new demands for the Hungarians.
- **Compromise of 1867** - created the dual monarchy and became *two separate but equal states*. One ruler - Franz Joseph (Emperor of Austria and king of Hungary)
- Each had its own Parliament and shared the ministers of war, finance, and foreign affairs.
An uneven Solution

- Lasted for 50 years, until 1918,
- Hungary provided many raw materials to Austria. Austria, in return, provided industrialized products.
- Divisions soon arose. Austrian Germans and Hungarian Magyars did not speak the same language.
The Ottoman Empire

• Like the Austrian Empire, the Ottoman Empire had existed for centuries and controlled a vast, diverse land.
• Ethnicities – Greek, Bulgarians, Turks, Kurds, Arabs, and Jews.
• It began to decline as a result of the vast changes occurring in Europe.
The Eastern Question

It became clear in the 1800’s, that the Ottomans could not defend themselves against independence movements or external threats.

This created the Eastern Question - What would happen if the Ottoman Empire collapsed? - Constantinople? (Istanbul)

Russia wanted to gain control of the Mediterranean trade and therefore Great Britain and France allied themselves to gain access as well.
The Crimea

• The situation grew worse as a dispute over the Holy Land worsened.
• The Ottomans who ruled the region, gave Roman Catholics the right to Palestine.
• The Ottomans denied Roman Orthodox Christians the same right. Therefore, Russians invaded.
• Great Britain, France, and the Ottoman Empire joined together in a war against Russia.
• Crimean War - shores of the Black Sea and accomplished almost nothing. Half million deaths in two years.
The Balkans

- Another hot spot in the Ottoman Empire was the Balkans.
- Nationalism in Europe created strong discontent among the diverse population:
  - Serbs, Romanians, Bulgarians, Albanians, and Greeks all wanted independence
  - Led to a series of conflicts and wars in the Balkans.
- To make matters worse, the Russians were nearing the city of Istanbul.
- Congress of Berlin - European powers met in Berlin - gave Austria Hungary land in the Balkans with no consideration of ethnic or national ties.
- Result - led to conflicts between ethnic groups for many years.
Political Reform

- **Young Turks** - political nationalist group - fighting against the absolute power of the sultan, the ruler of the Ottoman Empire.
- Vowed to restore the constitution. Their revolution helped ensure a more representative, liberal government.
4. Unrest in Russia

• In the late 1800’s and early 1900’s, Russia rebelled against the absolute power of the czar and demanded social reform.
In the first half of the 1800’s, Russia emerged as one of the great powers in Europe.

Russian troops helped defeat Napoleon and Russian leaders helped reorganize Europe.

Russia was quite different from the rest of Europe. It was huge – expanded eastward far into Asia.

Russian monarchs, or czars ruled with absolute power – Autocracy – government with unlimited power.

Russia’s society – agricultural – relied on most of the population called serfs

Serfs were slaves and controlled by lords, wealthy nobles, this led to a major problem in Russian society.
Reform and Repression

• Just like western Europe, revolutionary ideas had begun in Russia as well - more freedoms and more democracy.

• Russian czars were resistant to reform, which led to revolts, unrest, and repression.
The Decembrist Revolution

• Some revolutionaries formed secret societies to fight against the czar’s rule. When Alexander I died, they saw an opportunity.

• A group known as the Decembrist, included 3,000 soldiers that assembled near the Winter Palace, publically refused to pledge their allegiance to the new czar, Nicholas I.

• Nicholas – response – crush the rebellion – Many sent to Siberia – isolation and 5 were executed

• Short term effect – failed long term effect – sparked a revolutionary movement.
Reforms of Alexander II

• Next Czar - Alexander II - 1855 -began a series of reforms due to falling behind the rest of Europe.
• He freed Russian serfs and gave them the right to own land as part of a commune. He set up a judicial system and allowed some local self-government. He also reorganized the army and navy.
• Despite these reforms, a radical revolutionary group emerged - People’s Will - assassinated Alexander II.
Unrest Under Alexander III

- Alexander’s son, III, became next czar. He was reactionary and wanted to go back to the old times. He ended the reforms of his father. He responded by going after suspects plotting against the government.

- Another threat – Pogroms – widespread violent attacks against Jews started by wrongly accusing Jews of assassinating Alexander II.
Industrialization under Nicholas II

- Nicholas II was crowned czar in 1894. Like his father, he ruled as an autocrat.
- Industry developed significantly during his reign - Trans-Siberian Railroad - linked western Russia with Siberia - which led to conflict and war.

Map showing the Trans-Siberian Railroad in the Early 20th Century.
Wars and Revolution

- As Russia expanded east, it came into contact with another imperial power - Japan.
War with Japan

- Japanese forces, fearing threatened by Russian influences, quickly attacked and defeated Russia in the Russo-Japanese War.
- This defeat embarrassed Russia and led to further discontent. President Theodore Roosevelt received the Nobel Prize for negotiating peace.
Marxist Ideas

- **Group calling for change** - Marxists - Karl Marx - socialist republic - a society in which there would be no private property and the state would collectively own and distribute goods to society.
- **Marxist Vladimir Lenin** - called for revolutionaries to rise up against the “shame and the curse of Russia.”
The Revolution of 1905

• 1905 - many were ready for a revolution.
• Gapon’s petition - a number of demands were to be placed on Winter Palace, but troops fired at the group and hundreds died - Bloody Sunday
• Inspired revolts everywhere
• Final Straw - October - massive workers strike - some 2 million workers protested the streets of Russia.
• Something had to be done.
The October Manifesto

- In response to the rebellion, Nicholas II issued the October Manifesto – an official promise to reform and a more democratic government.
- It promised a Russian constitution. It guaranteed individual liberties to all Russians, including freedom of speech and freedom of assembly.
- Voters would elect representatives to the Duma, an assembly that would approve all laws.
- Even though Nicholas pledged reform, he still wanted to remain in power – cancelled the first meeting because they demanded too much.
- Nicholas and his advisors made a few more changes, but change in Russia would soon come.