

Mini Lecture

- In 1750, many people in Europe & SW Asia lived in either large, multiethnic empires (Austrian & Ottoman) or in small kingdoms and independent cities.
- People did not assume that everyone in their state should speak the same language & practice the same culture- by the 1900s, people commonly accepted that people should. This shift caused wars that split empires and unified Germans & Italians respectively into their own countries. This was fueled by a sense of cultural identity & by the wave of nationalism that
- Nationalism spread because of Napoleon- or resentment of him.
- In the 1700s, Germans lived in over 300 independent states. By 1848, they merged into a confederation of 38 states- Prussia being the most powerful
- King Wilhelm of Prussia believed Prussia should be the core of a newly united Germany and he appointed Otto von Bismarck as chief minister (later Chancellor/Prime Minister) to help him achieve that goal.
- Bismarck believed in practical rather idealistic policies to achieve his goals, known as realpolitik. He said the world can be changed only by "blood and iron"- aiming to use the military to unify Germans under Prussian
- In 1866, he waged a war (Austro-Prussian War) against the other powerful German state & won. He then organized the North German Confederation to extend Prussia's power- four major Southern states did not join.
- To encourage them to join, Bismarck started another war by stirring up hostile feelings by playing on national pride. The Franco-Prussian War of 1870 was a quick & total victory for the Germans. France had to give up the provinces of Alsace & Lorraine (rich in coal & iron) & had to pay a large sum of money. The war led to the unification of a strong German Empire
- Since the Middle Ages, the region of Italy had been divided into several provinces/kingdoms/city-states. Some were independent, while others were rule by Austria or the Pope. But Italians shared the same language, culture, &
- In 1830s, a young nationalist leader, Giuseppe Mazzini, founded Young Italy- a secret society calling for the unification of Italy under a representative government. He stirred up a few revolts, but were put down &
- A second great figure unifying Italy was Giuseppe Garibaldi. In 848, he led 2 failed revolts against Austria & the Pope & he was exiled.
- In 1852, Italian unification gained new life under Camillo di Cavour, prime minister of Sardinia & Piedmont. He provoked & won a war against Austria which gained new territory & increased nationalist feelings. Other provinces demanded freedom from Austria & unification with Piedmont- setting the foundation for the Italian nation.
- In May 1860, Garibaldi conquered the island of Sicily with his Red Shirts (army), moving on to conquer the South and the Papal States. He then transferred his power to the king of Piedmont- Victor Emmanuel.
- In 1870 (because of the Franco-Prussian War), France withdrew from Rome. In 1871, for the first time in centuries, the entire peninsula was part of the same state. The leaders of unification were honored: Mazzini as the soul, Cavour as the brains, and Garibaldi as the sword.
- The surge of nationalism felt by Europeans had differing effects in different regions. In Germany and Italy, it brought smaller, culturally similar entities together to form unitary states. But in the cases of the Ottoman & Austrian (Hapsburg) Empires, the opposite occurred. Ethnic nationalism, combined with religious differences, causes the empires to divide.
- By the 1800s, the Ottoman Empire was in decline because of overexpansion, corruption, and failure to modernize. Long-standing ethnic & religious differences emerged which grew into rebellions & loss of territory.
- One region where the Ottomans lost power was in the Balkans, a mountainous, multiethnic region in SE Europe. Mountains made it difficult for communication & transportation.
- Nationalism led to Greece (1832), Serbia (1878), & most of the Balkans to gain independence from the Ottomans (or under control of another empire).
 - What are 2 thigs nationalism can lead to? Explain how.
 - What roles did Mazzini, Cavour, & Garibaldi play in Italian
 - How did Otto von Bismarck lead the way and unite the German states?
 - How did Nationalism affect the Ottoman Empire?

The force of Nationalism has unified or divided many states over the past 2 centuries.

What historical circumstances led to the unification of Germany and Italy?

Directions: Read the text, watch the videos, and examine the map & images below, then answer the questions that accompany them.

The Impact of the French Revolution and Napoleon on European Nationalism

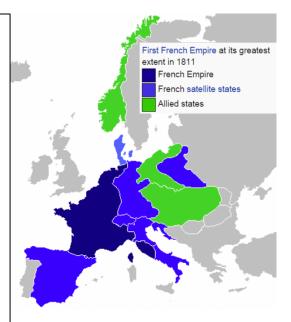
The **French Revolution** (1789–1799) was a period of political and social upheaval in France and Europe, during which the French government, previously an absolute monarchy, underwent radical changes based on **Enlightenment principles** of republic, citizenship, and inalienable rights.

This revolution sparked five wars between the well-trained armies of **Napoleon Bonaparte**, Emperor of France, and neighbors including Prussia and Austria called the **Napoleonic Wars**. From 1803 to 1814, Napoleon ruled over a large section of Europe. During that time he and the ideals of the French Revolution greatly affected the regions he controlled. The revolution's nationalistic call for "liberty, equality, and fraternity" and a government ruled by the will of the French people, instead of a royal family with connections outside of France, inspired similar feelings in regions occupied by Napoleon's troops.

In central Europe, for example after conquering the area, Napoleon created the **German Confederation**, an association of German speaking states that were previously part of the Holy Roman Empire, Prussia, and the Austrian empire. Soon after Napoleon was defeated, the German Confederation was dismantled. At the **Congress of Vienna** (1815) the major European powers decided to give the land back to Prussia and the Austrian Empire, but the idea of unity for German speaking people remained.

The French Revolution and Napoleon affected people living on the Italian peninsula as well. Napoleon ruled the entire area as the **Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy**. His reign inspired nationalistic feelings in the Italians. As happened to the German Confederation, the Kingdom of Italy was broken up after Napoleon's defeat. The representatives at the Congress of Vienna divided Italy up into small independent governments and gave the Austrian Empire control of Northern Italy. Austrian Chancellor Franz Metternich, an influential diplomat at the Congress of Vienna, stated that the word *Italy* was nothing more than "a geographic expression."

Though Napoleon was defeated, the **nationalism** that he and the French Revolution inspired lingered in German and Italian speaking regions, threatening the Austrian Empire.



1. What role did Napoleon play in the spread of nationalism?

German Unification (1861-1871)

Watch this video from Simple History entitled "Otto von Bismarck (1815-1890)/German Unification"

By the mid-1800s, **Prussia** had been a force in politics in Northern Europe for centuries. Like most of Europe, it was conquered by Napoleon in the early 1800s and was a part of the coalition of countries who defeated him in 1814.

In 1861, **King Wilhelm I**, a supporter of German unity, came to power. In 1862, he appointed **Otto von Bismarck** (1815–1898) the new Prime Minister of Prussia. Bismarck became known for his style of diplomacy known as *realpolitik*. *Realpolitik* is also known as "pragmatism" and is a way of making political decisions based on being practical instead of based on ideals. Bismarck argued that Germany could only unify through a **foreign policy called "blood and iron,"** meaning through war and military strength.

Through a series of wars against Denmark, Austria, and France, Prussia led by Wilhelm I and Otto von Bismarck conquered most of the German speaking areas of Europe. On January 18, 1871, the German princes assembled in the Hall of Mirrors of the Palace of Versailles after defeating France and proclaimed the Prussian King Wilhelm I as the "German Emperor" on January 18, 1871. The **German Empire** was thus founded.

Timeline of German Unification

1861 King Wilhelm I of Prussia comes to power

1862 Wilhelm I appoints Otto von Bismarck as Minister-President of Prussia

1864 Danish War

1866 Austro-Prussian War

1870-1871 Franco-Prussian War

1/18/1871 German Empire is proclaimed, unifying Germany

1. Who were the two leaders of Prussia that led the unification of Germany?

- 2. Describe Otto von Bismarck's policy called *realpolitik*. How was *realpolitik* different from the way Maximilien Robespierre led during the French Revolution?
- 3. According to Bismarck's "blood and iron" policy, how was Prussia going to unite the German-speaking people?
- 4. Which countries did Prussia go to war with to gain control of the German speaking areas in Europe?

Italian Unification (1849-1878)

Watch this video from Knowledgia entitled, "Italian Unification Explained as Short as Possible,"

The Soul, The Brain, and the Sword of Italian Unification Image: Second system of the Brain of the Sword of Italian Unification Image: Second system of the Brain of t

After Napoleon Bonaparte's empire crumbled, the representatives at the Congress of Vienna decided to award most of northern Italy to the Austrian Empire and to give several monarchs control over the rest of the Italian peninsula instead of unifying them. Despite the Austrian Empire's attempts to suppress it, nationalism inspired by the French Revolution took hold of the Italians.

Revolutionary groups formed in Italy and tried to organize the people into revolt. **Giuseppe Mazzini**, who was later known as "the soul" of Italian unification, was a part of one of the most influential groups, known as the Carbonari, that created a secret organization called **Young Italy** in 1831. In southern Italy, another member of the Carbonari, a general named **Giuseppe Garibaldi** gathered nationalistic volunteers called **red shirts** to fight with him against the Austrian Empire and those Italian monarchs who did not want to unify Italy. Between 1814 and 1849, the rebellions started by nationalist organizations like those led by Mazzini and Garibaldi were stamped down by local forces or Austrian troops. As a result, both Mazzini and Garibaldi were exiled for their revolutionary actions. They returned when leaders in northern Italy started a campaign that eventually brought Italy together.

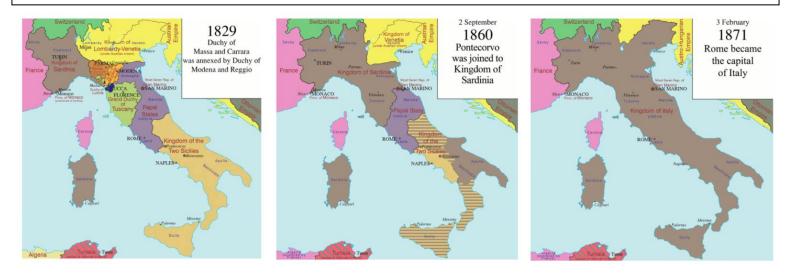
In 1849, Victor Emmanuel II, a supporter of Italian unification, became the King of Sardinia in the Piedmont region of northern Italy. Camillo di Cavour, an experienced and savvy diplomat, became Emmanuel's president of the Council of Ministers in 1852. Emmanuel and Cavour, with the help of Napoleon III of France, used Piedmontese and French troops to successfully pushed the Austrians out of Northern and Central Italy, expanding the Kingdom of Sardinia to a large amount of the Italian peninsula by 1859.

Garibaldi, who had returned to Italy to aid in the unification, was convinced by Cavour in May of 1860 to concentrate his forces on Sicily where recent rebellions demonstrated that there was support for their cause. Garibaldi and about a thousand red shirts conquered Sicily in three days. Garibaldi went on to attack several other cities and invaded Naples, gaining support from the inhabitants and becoming a national hero in the process.

Meanwhile, Victor Emmanuel commanded the Sardinian army to march south, defeating the Papal states, and coming to Garibaldi's aid. Garibaldi gave over his command to Emmanuel and they defeated the king of Naples. Only Rome and Venetia remained. On February 18, 1861, Victor Emmanuel assembled the deputies of the first Italian Parliament in Turin. On March 17, 1861, the Parliament **proclaimed Victor Emmanuel II King of Italy**.

Three months later, Cavour, having seen his life's work nearly complete, died. When he was given the last rites, Cavour purportedly said: "Italy is made. All is safe."

By 1871 both Venetia and Rome came under the control of the Italian government. Venetia was won because the Italians sided with the Prussians in the Prusso-Austrian War in 1866 and Rome was taken by force when French troops left the city to defend France against Prussia in 1870.



1. Identify the four most important leaders of Italian unification.

2. Which countries/empires did the Italians have to fight or make deals with to gain control of the entire Italian peninsula?