

The Rise of Nationalism in Europe

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Print of Democratic and Social Republic by Frederic Sorrieu



The Dream of Worldwide Democratic and Social Republics – by Frédéric Sorrieu, 1848.

- A series of four prints visualising his dream of a world made up of ‘democratic and social Republics’
- Shows the people of Europe and America – marching in a long train, offering homage to the statue of Liberty.
- Liberty as a female figure – bearing the torch of Enlightenment in one hand and the Charter of the Rights of Man in the other.
- In the foreground of the image lie the shattered remains of the symbols of absolutist institutions.
- Groups of nations are identified by their flags and national costume.
- United States and Switzerland were leading, which by this time were already nation-states.

- France, identifiable by the revolutionary tricolour.
- Followed by the peoples of Germany, bearing the black, red and gold flag.
- Germany not a united nation but flag expressed the liberal hopes in 1848 to unify the numerous German-speaking principalities into a nation-state with democratic setup.
- Following it - Austria, the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, Lombardy, Poland, England, Ireland, Hungary and Russia .
- Christ, saints and angels gaze upon the scene from the heaven.

EUROPE

EUROPEAN UNION

-  EU Member States
-  EU New Members since 2004
-  EU New Member 2013
-  EU Candidates
-  EFTA Member States

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Atlantic Ocean



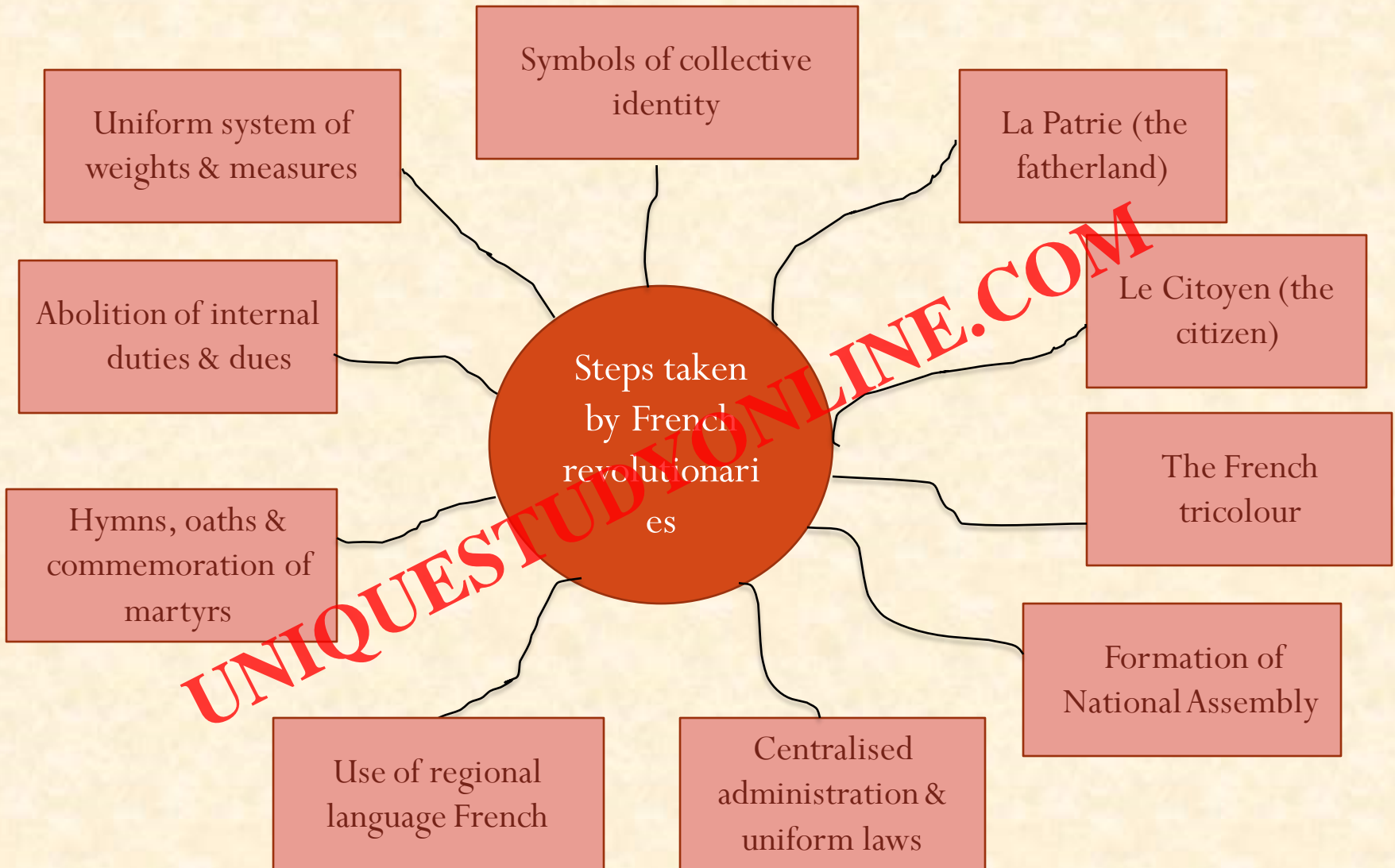
Feeling of nationalism

- Feeling of belonging and loyalty that cause people to think themselves as a nation.
- Powerful force in 19th and 20th century that created one nation from many countries eg: Italy and Germany.
- It brought about sweeping changes in the political and mental world of Europe.
- Result was the emergence of the *nation-state* in place of the *multi-national dynastic* empires of Europe.
- The majority of its citizens, and not only its rulers, came to develop a sense of common identity and shared history or descent.

The French Revolution and the Idea of the Nation



How was sense of collective identity installed in the people??



FR

- The revolutionaries further declared to help other people of Europe to become nations

FR

- Setting up Jacobin clubs by the students and educated middle class in Europe.

FR

- French armies moved into Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and much of Italy in the 1790s, carrying the idea of nationalism.

FR

- The French armies began to carry the idea of nationalism abroad

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The Napoleonic code - Civil Code of 1804

Return of
monarchy

Removal of
privileges
based on
birth.

Right to
property

Equality
before
the law

Administrative
reforms

Abolished
feudal
systems

Removal of
guild
restrictions
in towns

Improvement in
transport &
communication.

Uniform laws, weights
& measures and
national currency

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FA In the areas conquered by the French armies, the reactions of the local populations to French rule were mixed

FA In many places the French armies were welcomed as indicators of liberty.

FA Increased taxation, censorship, forced conscription into the French armies oppressed the idea of administrative reforms.

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2. The Making of Nationalism in Europe

- Europe was no 'nation-state'.
- Germany, Italy and Switzerland were divided into kingdoms.
- Eastern and Central Europe were under autocratic monarchies within the territories of which lived diverse peoples.
- They did not share a collective identity, a common culture, spoke different languages, different ethnic groups.

How to develop feeling of nationalism



2.1 The Aristocracy and the New Middle Class

- Aristocracy was the dominant class
- Members were united by a common way of life.
- They owned land, spoke French and connected by ties of marriage.
- Majority of the population was made up of the peasantry.
- West- land farmed by tenants & small owners
- Eastern & Central parts- vast estates cultivated by serfs

- In Western and parts of Central Europe the growth of industrial production and trade meant the growth of towns and the emergence of commercial classes.
- Industrialisation began, new social groups came into being:
 - ❖ a working-class population,
 - ❖ middle classes made up of industrialists, businessmen, professionals.
- The ideas of national unity and abolition of aristocratic privileges popularised among educated liberals.

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What did Liberal Nationalism Stand for?

- The term 'liberalism' - Latin root '*liber*' means free.

Two important aspects-

Political

Economic

Political

- For the new middle classes liberalism stood for freedom for the individual and equality of all before the law.
- Emphasised government by consent.
- French revo. - Liberalism stood for- end of autocracy & privileges, constitution & representative government.
- 19th century- Destruction of private property.
- 19th & early 20th century – women & non-propertied men organised movements for equal political rights.

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Economic

- Freedom of markets and the abolition of state-imposed restrictions on the movement of goods and capital.
- In 1834, a customs union or *zollverein* was formed at the initiative of Prussia and joined by most of the German states.
- It abolished tariff barriers and reduced the number of currencies from over thirty to two.
- The creation of a network of railways further stimulated mobility strengthening the nationalist sentiments.

Custom Union Zollverein formed in German states.



2.3 NEW CONSERVATISM AFTER 1815

- Conservatives believed monarchy, church, aristocracy, social hierarchies, property and family should be preserved.
- Wanted to preserve Napoleon's administrative reforms.
- In **1815** England, Russia, Austria and Prussia signed the **Treaty of Vienna**, undoing the changes made by Napoleon.



Treaty of Vienna

Bourbon
dynasty
restored

Buffer states
setup on
boundaries
of France

France
lost
territories

Russia
given part
of Poland

Prussia
given part
of Saxony

Kingdom of
Netherland
set up

Genoa
added to
Piedmont

Prussia got
new
territories

Austria
given
control of
northern
Italy

German
confederation
of 39 states
was left

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CHANGES BROUGHT BY CONSERVATISM

Return of autocratic regimes



Did not tolerate criticism and dissent



Curbed activities questioning autocratic government



Censorship laws brought in to limit the spread of liberal ideas



Liberal nationalists wanted freedom of press

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2.4 THE REVOLUTIONARIES

- Return of monarchies drove many liberal nationalists underground.
- Secret societies were formed.
- Their commitment was to oppose monarchy.
- Their aim was to fight for liberty & equality.
- Wanted to establish nation- states.

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GIUSEPPE MAZZINI

- He was an Italian revolutionary.
- Member of Carbonary, Founder of young Italy and young Europe.
- Believed that god intended nations to be the natural units of mankind.
- Described as 'the most dangerous enemy of the conservative social order.'



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3. The Age of Revolutions: 1830-1848

Liberalism and nationalism spread in the regions of Italian and German states, the provinces of the Ottoman empire, Ireland and Poland

Revolutions were led by the liberal-nationalists belonging to the educated middle-class elite professors, school teachers, clerks and members of the commercial middle classes.

- The first upheaval took place in France in July 1830.
- Bourbon king overthrown.
- Constitutional monarchy installed with Louis Philippe as head.
- July revolution sparked an uprising in Brussels.
- Belgium broke away from United Kingdom of Netherland.

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Greek War of Independence

- Greece had been part of the Ottoman Empire since the fifteenth century.
- Revolutionary struggle started in Europe in 1821.
- Greece nationalists got support from other Greeks living in exile
- Also from West Europeans who had sympathy for Greek culture.
- Poets and artists lauded Greece as the cradle of European civilisation
- It mobilised public opinion to support its struggle against a Muslim empire.
- The English poet Lord Byron organised funds and later went to fight in the war
- *Treaty of Constantinople of 1832* recognised Greece as an independent nation.

Greek War of Independence | Historical Atlas of Europe (22 April 1821)



3.1 The Romantic Imagination and National Feeling

- Culture, art and poetry, stories and music played an important role in creating the idea of the nation.
- Emphasis on vernacular language and the collection of local folklore carry the modern nationalist message to large audiences who were mostly illiterate, especially in Poland.
- Language too played an important role in developing nationalist sentiments.

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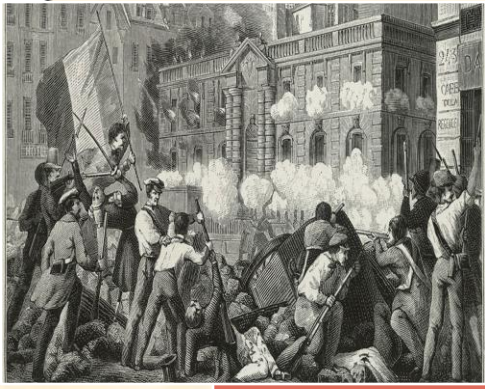
3.2 Hunger, Hardship and Popular Revolt

1830S'

- Year of economic hardship in Europe.
- Enormous increase in population in early 19th century.
- People migrated to cities & lived in overcrowded slums.
- Competition for import of cheap machine made goods against those of homemade goods especially textiles.
- Peasants struggled under feudal dues in areas with autocratic rule.
- Rise in food prices and bad harvest lead to poverty.

1848 Paris Revolt

- Year of food shortage and unemployment.
- Louis Philippe forced to flee.
- National Assembly proclaimed a Republic
- Suffrage granted to all adult males above 21



1845- Weavers revolt

- Weavers in Silesia lead revolt against contractors.
- Contractors reduced payment which led to revolt.
- Need for jobs by weavers taken advantage by contractors & prices reduced.



3.3 1848: The Revolution of the Liberals

- February 1848- removal of the monarch and a republic based on universal male suffrage had been announced.
- In Germany, Italy, Poland, the Austro-Hungarian Empire – men and women of the liberal middle classes combined demands for constitutionalism with national unification.
- Three main demands- a constitution, freedom of the press and freedom of association.

- In *German regions* middle-class professionals, businessmen and prosperous artisans came together in the city of Frankfurt and decided to vote for an all-German National Assembly.
- 18 May 1848- 831 elected representatives marched to Frankfurt parliament convened in the Church of St Paul.
- A constitution drafted for a German nation to be headed by a monarchy subject to a parliament.
- Elected assembly was opposed by the king.
- Increased opposition by aristocracy and military led to the erosion of social cause.
- Domination was of middle classes in the parliament.
- Resisted demands of workers and thus lost their support.
- Troops were called in and the assembly was forced to disband


Women participation

- The issue of extending political rights to women was controversial.
- Women had formed their own political associations, founded newspapers and taken part in political meetings and demonstrations.
- They were denied suffrage rights.

Changes initiated

- Monarchs realized that revolution could be ended by granting concessions to the liberal-nationalist revolutionaries.
 - 1848- Changes introduced.
- Serfdom and bonded labour were abolished in the Habsburg dominions and in Russia.

4. The Making of Germany and Italy

- After 1848, nationalism moved away from democracy & revolution.
- Nationalist sentiments were used by conservatives to promote state power & political domination.
- Middle class liberals tried to unite German confederations into a nation-state .
- German unification into a nation-state repressed by the combined forces of the monarchy, the military and large landowners Prussia.
- Prussia took on the leadership of the movement for national unification with Chief Minister  Otto von Bismarck as its architect.



- Seven wars were fought with Austria, Denmark and France, ended in Persian victory completing the process of unification.
- 18 January 1871 - an assembly comprising the princes of the German states, representatives of the army, important Prussian ministers Otto von Bismarck gathered in the Palace of Versailles to declare the new German Empire headed by Kaiser William I of Prussia.
- Unification showed domination of Prussia.
- New state emphasised on-
 - modernising the currency
 - Banking
 - Legal and judicial systems
- Prussian measures and practices became model for German nation.



Unified Germany in 1871



Kaiser William-1st

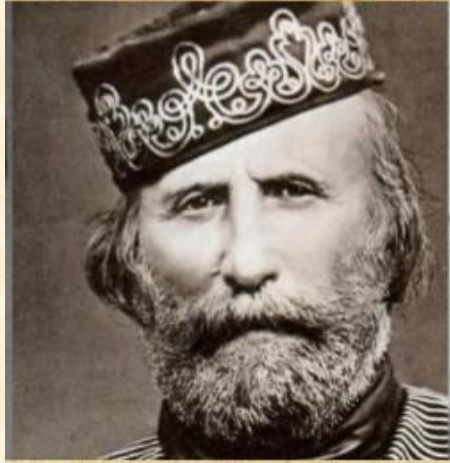
4.2 Unification of Italy

- Italians were scattered into dynastic states and multinational Habsburg empire.
- In the middle of the nineteenth century, Italy was divided into seven states.
- Sardinia-Piedmont, was ruled by an Italian princely house.
- North was under Austrian Habsburgs
- The centre was ruled by the Pope
- The southern regions were under the Bourbon kings of Spain.
- Italian language also had regional and local variants.

- 1830- Giuseppe Mazzini stood up for unification of Italy, formed secret society Young Italy
- 1831 and 1838 failure of revolutionary movements
- Responsibility of unification of Italy came to *Sardinia-Piedmont* under its ruler King Victor Emmanuel II.
- *Cavour* made a diplomatic alliance with France.
- Sardinia-Piedmont succeeded in defeating the Austrian forces in 1859.

- Large number of armed volunteers under the leadership of *Giuseppe Garibaldi* joined the battle.
- 1860- they marched into South Italy and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and succeeded in winning the support of the local peasants in order to drive out the Spanish rulers.
- 1861- Victor Emmanuel II was declared the king of United Italy.
- Much of the people in Italy were illiterate and remained unaware of nationalist ideas.

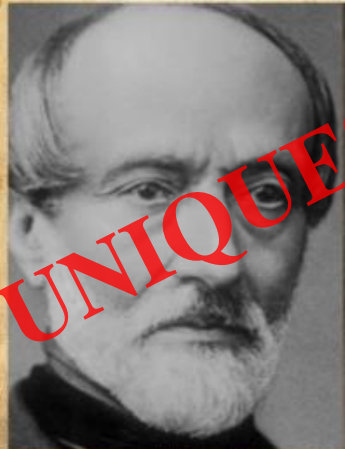
ITALY: LEADERS OF UNIFICATION



Garibaldi



Cavour



Mazzini



King Victor Emmanuel II

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4.3 The Strange Case of Britain

- In Britain, the formation of nation-state was a result of a long process.
- No British nation prior to the eighteenth century.
- Primary identity of the people was ethnic- such as English, Welsh, Scot or Irish.
- All had their own cultural and political traditions.



- English nation steadily grew in wealth, importance and power, & extend its influence over the other nations of the islands.
- The English parliament had seized power from the monarchy in 1688.
- It instrumented the formation of nation-state with England at its centre.
- *'The Act of Union (1707)* between England and Scotland resulted in the formation of the 'United Kingdom of Great Britain' & influence of England imposed on Scotland.

Case of Scotland

- *Scotland's* distinctive culture and political institutions were systematically suppressed.
- The Catholic clans living there suffered terrible repression whenever they attempted to assert their independence.
- Scottish Highlanders were forbidden to speak their Gaelic language or wear their national dress, and large numbers were forcibly driven out of their homeland.

CASE OF IRELAND

- Ireland suffered a similar fate.
- Country was deeply divided between Catholics and Protestants.
- The English helped the Protestants of Ireland to establish their dominance over a largely Catholic country.
- Catholic revolts against British dominance were suppressed.
- 1798- a failed revolt happened.
- Ireland was forcibly incorporated into the United Kingdom in 1801.

A new 'British nation' was forged through the propagation of a dominant English culture.

The symbols of the new Britain – the British flag (Union Jack), the national anthem (God Save Our Noble King), the English language promoted.

5. VISUALISING THE NATION

- Artists in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries personified a nation.
- Nations were portrayed as female figures.
- Given the abstract idea of the nation a concrete form.
- France was given a name *Marianne*, a popular Christian name.
- Her characteristics were the red cap, the tri colour, the cockade (knot of ribbons worn in a hat)
- Statues of Marianne were erected in public squares.
- *Germania* became the allegory of the German nation.
- *Germania* in visuals wears a crown of oak leaves, as the German oak stands for heroism



Figure of Marianne on postage stamps



Fig. 17 — Germania, Philip Veit, 1848.

Meanings of the symbols

Attribute	Significance
Broken chains	Being freed
Breastplate with eagle	Symbol of the German empire – strength
Crown of oak leaves	Heroism
Sword	Readiness to fight
Olive branch around the sword	Willingness to make peace
Black, red and gold tricolour	Flag of the liberal-nationalists in 1848, banned by the Dukes of the German states
Rays of the rising sun	Beginning of a new era



6. Nationalism and Imperialism

- By the last quarter of the nineteenth century nationalism no longer retained its idealistic liberal-democratic sentiment
- During this period nationalist groups became increasingly intolerant of each other and ever ready to go to war.
- The most serious source of nationalist tension in Europe after 1871 was the area called the Balkans



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- It comprised modern-day Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro whose inhabitants were broadly *known as the Slavs*.



- A large part was under Ottoman Empire.
- The spread of the ideas of romantic nationalism and disintegration of the Ottoman Empire made this region very explosive.

- All through the 19th century the Ottoman Empire strengthen itself through modernisation and internal reforms but not successful.
- One by one, its European subject nationalities broke away from its control and declared independence
- The people claimed for independence and political rights on nationality and they were independent earlier.
- Revolutionaries in Balkans attempts to bring back their independence.
- The Balkan states were jealous of each other and each hoped to gain more territory.

- Balkans also became a scene of power rivalry.
- Intense rivalry was seen among the European powers over trade, colonies, naval and military might.
- Each power – *Russia, Germany, England, Austro-Hungary* – was keen on countering the hold of other powers over the Balkans, and extending its own control over the area.
- This led to a series of wars in the region and finally the First World War.

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1 Nationalism aligned with imperialism led Europe to disaster in 1914 (IWW)

2 Colonies of European nations began to oppose imperial domination.

4 Nation-states came to be accepted as natural and universal.

3 Anti-imperial movements developed everywhere.

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THANK YOU

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