International Relations in 20\textsuperscript{th} Century Europe.

World War 1 and its Consequences:

Europe before WW1:
- Large Empires were divided into two Alliances.
- Allies = Britain, France, Russia, Italy (Joined 1915), America (Joined 1917)
- Central Powers = Germany Austro-Hungarian Empire, Bulgaria and Ottoman Empire.
- Competition for Trade and Military Strength caused Tension.
- The assassination of the Heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne (Archduke Franz Ferdinand) in Sarajero started the war.

The War:
- Central Powers tried to expand into France and Russia.
- At the fronts trenches were dug, Soldiers would run across no mans land to enemy trenches in an attempt to push them back, this resulted in many deaths (Eg. 700,000 deaths in Verdum, France).
- The war was a stalemate until America arrived in 1917 and the Central Powers surrendered. (11\textsuperscript{th} Nov 1918).

Paris Peace Conference
Allies met in Paris to decide on a Peace Treaty.
- \textbf{Woodrow Wilson} (America): Wanted countries to rule themselves and to have no large Empires.
  - Wrote his 14 Point Plan – How Europe could have Peace.
- \textbf{Georges Clemenceau} (France): They lost more soldiers than the Americans and blamed Germany for the War.
  - Wanted compensation for damages and control of Alsace-Lorraine (Area between France and Germany) as they believed it would stop Germany from attacking again.
- \textbf{David Lloyd George} (Britain): Thought France were too harsh yet they still wanted Compensation and to weaken the German Navy.
- \textbf{Vittorio Orlando} (Italy): Wanted land from the break-up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.
Treaty Of Versailles:
Germans were forced to sign on 28 June 1919, It said that:
1. Germany had to accept War Guilt Clause (Admit it was their fault)
2. They had to pay Reparations (Cost of War) of £6.6 billion.
3. Germany Army limited to 100,000 men, no tanks, no air force or submarines. The Navy was also limited.
4. They weren’t allowed station troops on the Rhineland.
5. Ottoman + Austro-Hungarian Empires were split up.
6. League of Nations was set up – The idea was that members would discuss disagreements in a peaceful manner.

Results of WW1: (Which ultimately caused the Second World War)
1. Resentment: Germans were angry at the Treaty as well as the Government who signed it. Italy not happy with the amount of land they received.
2. Unemployment and Poverty: Germany lost a lot of land and had to pay huge Reparations.
3. New Countries: Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Czechoslavakia and Yugoslavia were created.
4. Rise of USA: Unlike Europe, America wasn’t destroyed and their policy of Isolationism meant that they didn’t get involved with problems of Europe.
5. League of Nations: 3 powerful countries weren’t members so it didn’t operate well (USA = Isolationism, Germany + Russia – Weren’t allowed).
6. Rise of Communism: Rise of communist Russia impacted the rest of Europe.
Changes in Russia

- When the Tsar Empire was overthrown during the war, the Russians still fought against the Central Powers. Suffering civilians turned towards Vladimir Lenin’s Bolshevik party (Communist).

October Revolution:
In October 1917, Lenin became leader. Under his rule:

- He signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk with Germany in 1918 taking Russia out of the war (Germans got some Russian territory in return).
- Land and wealth was divided equally between all Russians and factories became Nationalised (Owned by the people of the country).
- The Red Army led by Leon Trotsky fought opponents of Communism.
- There was a famine because of Nationalism and War and Lenin’s New Economic System gave bonuses to workers to produce more (Situation improved).
- Russia became the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

Josef Stalin takes charge:
- Lenin died (1924) AND Stalin (Bolshevik secretary) and Leon Trotsky both wanted to take his position.
- 1927 Stalin became leader, he removed Trotsky from Russia (Seen as threat) and began Industrialising the USSR.

Industrialising of USSR:
1. Stalin’s Five Year Plan: He made workers work harder through fear and punishment and Industries Doubled/Trebled goods.
   - Worked well in 1929 and he did two more of these 5 year plans.
   - Russia became one of the most powerful countries in the world.
2. Collective Farming: He joined farms together to increase the amount of produce and stop Famine.
Kulaks (Medium sized farmers) lost their jobs because of Collective farming, they didn’t want to move to cities and rebelled. 5 million Kulaks were either killed or sent to concentration camps called Gulags.

3. **The Great Purges**: Anyone against Stalin was arrested by secret police (NKVD) and many were executed.
   - Stalin was worried that communist parties would turn against him so thousands of people were put on trial for Conspiracy.
   - These Great Purges resulted in many deaths, including some of Stalin’s top men.

**NB**: F.C Porto  (F = Five Year Plans, C = Collective farming, P= Purges)

**Results of Stalin’s Policies:**
1. USSR became an Economic success (Very powerful)
2. Communism spread because of success and jealousy (Spain, Italy, Germany)
3. Wealthy people saw communism as a threat and turned to Fascism.
4. Britain, France and USA feared communism and refused to have Diplomatic (Peaceful) relationships with USSR but kept an Economic relationship.
5. USSR was very secretive and other counties didn’t know all of the things that were going on inside the USSR.
6. Stalin could improve and expand his military because of the Isolation of USSR and because people feared interference with him.
Fascism in Italy

Fascism = Political system that promoted a total one party state. It was against Communism, Racism, Right-Wing Parties And used Violence and Intimidation of Political opponents to achieve success. Unlike Communism, it allowed Religion and still let some people have more wealth than others.

Reasons for Fascism in Italy:
2. Memories of its success in the past.
3. Economics: In debt from WW1 (Poverty and Unemployment) and they wanted the government to fix this.
4. Democracy hadn’t worked during the last 5 years.

Mussolini and the Fascist Party:
• Benito Mussolini’s father believed in Marxism and Mussolini became a Socialist (Wealth and power should be shared equally).
• He founded “Il Popolo d’Italia” (Newspaper) before joining the army.
• Got injured at war and returned to Newspaper.
• He set up Fasci Italiani di Combattimento (Fascist Party).
• In 1920 the Economic system got worse and there were lots of strikes.
• Mussolini offered his men (Black Shirts) to business owners as protection during these strikes (Popularity), the Blackshirts also interrupted Communist meetings.
• 1921, he and 34 other Fascists in Government. (Became National Fascist party).
• 1922, the Government collapsed and Mussolini asked King Emmanuel could he form the next Gov.
• March On Rome: 10,000 of Mussolini’s supporters marched through Rome to show Popularity.
• King Emmanuel panicked and chose Mussolini to be Prime Minister (Only had 15% of seats in Italian Parliament).

Mussolini in Power:
• He introduced new Fascist policies.
1) Created the OVRA in 1923:
   • Secret police who used intimidation and violence to get what they wanted.
2) Passed the **Acerbo Law 1923**:  
- Meant that the party with most votes won 2/3 of the seats in Government.  
- Mussolini won most the votes using fear and intimidation.  
- King Victor Emmanuel allowed this as he wanted no more instabilities.

3) 1925 Mussolini removed the King's power to dismiss government ministers.  
- He established a Censorship (Controlled all the media in Italy).  
- Mussolini became a dictator named “Il Duce” meaning the leader.

**Mussolini’s Fascist Policies:**

**The Economy:**  
- Corporate State = Economy divided into different areas, officials and workers ruled.  
- Motorways called Austrada were built which produced employment.  
- Marshes were drained and became used for agricultural land.  
- Grain production increased (More food) and hydroelectric power stations were set up.

**Religion:**  
- Italy was 98% Catholic.  
- **Lateran Treaty 1929** - Mussolini allowed The Vatican to be a state and let Catholic be the main religion in Italy – gave him great popularity.

**Winning over the People:**  
- OVRA used fear and intimidation to get support.  
- Mussolini used Propaganda to gain support.  
- Indoctrination was used (Teaching biased views to people).  
- Teachers and schoolbooks had to be approved by fascists.  
- Youth clubs called **Balilla** were set up to teach children how to be good fascists.

**Foreign Policy:** (Dealings with other countries)  
- Forced Yugoslavia to give up a piece of land called the Fiume.  
- Invaded Abyssinia (Ethiopia) for revenge, the League of Nations threatened to ban trade with Italy when Mussolini refused to stop.  
- Germany became friendly with Spain and Germany (Fascists) and Mussolini supported leader General Franco in the Spanish Civil War. (1937)  
- He made an alliance with Hitler called the **Rome-Berlin axis**.
Hitler and Germany:

- Germans were the Government who signed the treaty (November Criminals) and they turned communism.

- **Adolf Hitler:**
  - Born in Braunau am Inn, Austria on 20 April 1889.
  - Failed to be an artist so he joined German Army.
  - He fought WW1 and was very angry at the signing of the Treaty of Versailles.
  - After the war he worked for the army monitoring political parties.
  - He joined the National and fascist German Workers Party.
    - Soon became their spokesman and leader.
  - It changed to National Socialist German Workers Party (Nazis).

Hitler and the Nazi Party:

- He hated France and foreigners in Germany (Blamed Jews for the war).
- Like Italy he thought Germany needed a strong leader.
- The SA (Sturm Abteilung), Brownshirts and Hitler’s personal bodyguards (Schutzstaffel) got support through fear and intimidation.
- Hitler took the name “Der Fuhrer” meaning the leader.
- His soldiers honoured him with a one armed salute and Swastika was the Nazi crest.

Hitler’s rise to Power:

- There was a revolution in Munich called the **Beer Hall Putsch** which was easily put down and Hitler and others were sent to prison.
- In prison, Hitler + Rudolph wrote **Mein Kampf** meaning my struggle, it said that:
  1. German people (Aryans) were a superior race (Herrenvolk).
  2. Aryans should unite with Austria + other surrounding countries.
  3. They needed more raw materials and living space (Lebensraum).
  4. They hated Jews (Anti-Semitism) and that all non aryans should be removed.
  5. Communism and socialism should be destroyed.
  6. Anything stopping Germany was to be removed (The treaty).
- When Hitler got out of prison Gustav Streseman (Prime minister) and Germany were economically improving and got loans off America.
Growth of Nazism:
- The Wall Street crash meant that America needed Germany to repay their loans causing lots of businesses in Germany to close and unemployment to rise.
- They could no longer pay the reparations for the war and huge amounts of inflation occurred.
- Weimar Republic – set up in 1918 after the war.
- During their time in charge the Weimar Republic faced many problems:
  1. Their members (November criminals) were blamed for treaty).
  2. Struggled to be a strong party because of other parties alongside them, people wanted a new system.
  3. Violence between communists and Right-wing parties.
  4. They were blamed for the economic difficulties in Germany.
- The Nazis promised to stop any communist threats and to solve all economic problems.
- 1903 they received 103 seats in the Reichstag (German Parliament).
- 1932 they got 230 seats (majority) and President Von Hindenburg was persuaded to make Hitler chancellor in 1933.

Hitler becomes Dictator:
- Once he became in charge, the SS, SA and Gestapo ensured that oppositions were silenced.
- 1933 Hitler banned communist parties and arrested their leaders because Marinus van der Lubbe (Communist) was accused of burning down the Reichstag.
- Passed the Enabling Act 1933 giving him the permission to pass any laws without permission off the Reichstag for 4 years.
- He banned all parties and trade unions and created a censorship.
- Hindenburg died in 1934 so Hitler became president as well (Had absolute power).
- Night of the Long Knives – Hitler killed + arrested people in power including Heinrich Himmer, the leader of the SS.
- Concentration camps were set up.

Propaganda:
- Josef Goebbels – minister for propaganda and National Enlightenment, he was in charge of the media.
He made videos of huge rallies etc to show how great and superior the Germans were.

Indoctrination:
- Textbooks were re-wrote to describe the glorious German past.
- Aged 14, boys joined Hitler Youth to learn how to become a soldier and girls joined the League of German Maidens.
- Children were constantly taught loyalty to Hitler and hatred to Jews.

Economics:
- Public working schemes set up (Autobahn – motorways).
- Made weapons and re armed military which was against treaty (employment).
- Encouraged people to buy Volswagens which were very affordable.
- Married women were paid to stay at home and have children.
- 1939, Germany had virtually no unemployment.

Anti-Semitism – Hatred of Jews:
- 500’000 Jews in Germany were all blamed for the defeat in WW1, the treaty and all the wrongs in Germany.
- Propaganda made them look like greedy enemies.
- To get rid of them and protect the German race....
  - Jews were banned from government jobs.
  - A boycott of all Jewish shops was organised.
  - Films were made to make them look dirty & evil.
- Nuremburg Laws 1935 = Jews weren’t allowed to be citizens, to vote, to marry Germans or own property, they had to wear a yellow star of David so everyone knew they were Jewish.
- 1938 a German Diplomat was killed by a Polish Jew and on 9 November, as revenge, the Germans destroyed Jewish shops and synagogues, many Jews were killed, arrested or sent to concentration camps.
- This was called Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) and Jews had to pay for all the damage.
- Many Jews fled Germany during this time.
- Final Solution = Destruction of all Jews in land of Nazi control, Himler was in charge of this plan. Concentration camps and later Extermination camps were set up all across Europe.
**WW2**

**Destruction of the Treaty of Versailles:**
- Hitler re-armed his military. Increased from 100’000 to 550’000.
- 1936 he stationed his troops on the Rhineland, and allies did nothing but condemn it which gave the Germans confidence.

**Reasons for Allies Inactions:**
1. France: They didn’t know the size of Hitler’s army, they were still building their Maginot Line (defence Line) and they wanted British support.
2. Britain: They had sympathy for the Germans, and Neville Chamberlain wanted to appease them as their army wasn’t ready.
3. America: they couldn’t react because of their Isolationism policy and Neutrality Law.

**Creation of Greater Germany:**
- He helped General Franco in Spain which allowed him to test his Luftwaffe.
- 1938 Hitler put pressure on the Austrian Chancellor to resign and replaced him with the leader of the Austrian Nazi party.
- **Anschluss** was created (Germany +Austria) which was against the treaty yet the Allies did nothing.
- Hitler then turned towards the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia (Had 3.5 million German speakers).
- France, Britain, America, Italy and Germany met at the Munich conference and it was decided to give the Sudetenland to Germany if they promised to look for no more land. (Czechoslovakia got no say in the matter).
- Neville Chamberlain returned home and said he had secured “Peace for our time”.

**Appeasement** = Agreeing to unjust demands in hope of peace.

**Germany’s expansion in the East:**
- The attempt of appeasement by the allies failed and in 1939 Hitler sent troops into Czechoslovakia.
- Allies offered Poland support if the allies tried to attack them.
Hitler wasn’t ready to fight the USSR and he didn’t want to fight on two fronts so he signed the [Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi%E2%80%93Soviet_Non-Aggression_Pact) meaning they wouldn’t attack each other for 10 years. (Stalin wanted time to build up his army)

- They also secretly decided to divide Poland up between them.
- Hitler invaded Poland on 3 September 1939 and Britain and France declared war on Germany.

**German Army:**

- They were called the [Wehrmacht](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wehrmacht).
- Used a tactic called [Blitzkrieg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blitzkrieg) (Lightning war):
  1. Luftwaffe (Airforce) bombed all roads and military centres.
  2. Panzers (Tanks) broke through the defences.
  3. Infantry took out any further resistance and secured the area.

**1940**

**Germany advance:**

- Germany and USSR took Poland in weeks and Britain + France did nothing as Poland was too far away.
- **Phoney War** = 6 month period after the invasion of Poland were little happened as winter was coming and both sides wanted to improve their military. (Britain evacuated children from cities)
- April 1940 Hitler invaded Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg so they could now bypass the Maginot Line.
  - 22 June France surrendered as they couldn’t handle the Luftwaffe.
- 1940 Winston Churchill became Prime Minister of Britain and he sent 250’000 troops (British Expeditionary Force – BEF) to France.
- They were surprised by the advance of the Germans, and the BEF as well as 100’000 French troops were forced to Dunkirk were they were trapped.
- Ships, yachts and trawlers from Britain rescued over 330’000 men from France.
- South France (Vichy France) was given to loyal French led by Marshal Pétain.
- Britain now stood alone against Germany.
Battle of Britain:

- German plan was to....
  1) Defeat British Royal Air Force – RAF (Operation Eagle)
  2) After, the German navy would attack (Operation Sealion).
    - The German planes (Heinkel and Stuka) were more numerous but the British Spitfire & Hurricane were better at air-to-air combat.
    - The British also had radar and German lost most these dog fights.
    - The Germans began Night Raids and there was mass death + destruction.
    - Britain won this battle.
    - The period between Sep 1940 to May 1941 is known as the Blitz, there were over 71 big attacks during the Blitz.
    - Battle of Atlantic – German U-boats (Submarines) sank over 5000 British supply ships.

Italy:

- In 1940 Mussolini invaded Yugoslavia and Greece + moved into British-controlled Egypt.
- In early 1941 Yugoslavia + Greece surrendered and General Erwin Rommel (Desert Fox) – German, helped push British deep into Africa.

1941:

Operation Barbarossa:

- 22 June 1941, Hitler invaded Russia.
- Troops were sent South to the Caucasus Mountains, North to Leningrad and to Moscow in the centre.
- Using Blitzkrieg they were 2/3 of the way to Moscow by August, Stalin was surprised and he used scorched earth policy.
- This was a tactic whereby he burned all resources and buildings as he retreated so they couldn’t be used by the Germans.
- Stalin wouldn’t allow retreat and over 4 million infantry were captured.
- Fedor Von Bock besieged Leningrad and got 32km from Moscow.
- End of 1941 – Germans controlled most of East Europe.

The Tide turns:
• The Germans were delayed 3 weeks as they were helping other countries and by the time December came it was -40 degrees.
• Germans didn’t have the right clothing and their petrol froze, Stalins scorched earth policy meant that the Germans had no supplies.
• General Zhukov (Russian) held a counter attack around Moscow and pushed the Germans back.

**Battle of Stalingrad:**
• Good weather in 1942 allowed Friedrich JanPaulus to reach the gates of Stalingrad.
• Hungarians and Italians helped secure the area around it.
• Russians weren’t allowed retreat so street battles occurred, Germans began getting very tired.
• Operation Uranus (November) – Russians attacked the weaker Italians and Hungarians on one side of the city and they incircled over 290’000 Germans. (USSR had lots of supplies while the Germans had none).
• Promised help from Hitler didn’t succeed and on the 31 November Friedrich Jan Paulus surrendered.
• This was the turning point of the war.
• Over 500’000 soviet soldiers were killed during Operation Barborossa yet it was still a confidence boost.
• 1944 the Soviets pushed the Wehrmacht back to Poland.
• 1945 They reached Berlin where Karl Doenitz surrendered on 7 May 1945.

**Pearl Harbour:**
• Japan (Axis) launched a surprise attack on an American Military base, Pearl Harbour in Hawaii. (December 1941)
  o They destroyed 21 naval ships.
• USA were now no longer neutral and Theodore Roosevelt declared war on Japan, Germany then declared war on them.
• USA fought Japan and also sent troops to Europe.

**1942**
• 3 battles at the end of 1942 began turning the war in favour of the allies.
1) Stalingrad.

2) El Alamein:
   - Desert Fox and the Germans pushed British deep into Egypt.
   - Bernard Law Montgomery and his British troops halted at El Alamein and counter attacked in October.
   - Desert Fox slowly retreated to Libya.
   - Dwight Eisenhower (American) pushed the Germans eastward from Morocco and the Americans sent tanks over to the British.
   - Germans were surrounded at Tunisia in May and 250’000 Germans + Italians surrendered.
   - Allies now owned Africa and could invade Europe from the South.

3) Battle of Midway:
   - This was a sea battle in June 1942 between the Japanese and American navy at the Midway Islands.
   - Americans defeated 4 Chinese aircraft carriers, 2 cruisers and 3 destroyers and they only lost one ship in doing so.
   - With no ships the Japanese couldn’t hold on to the islands and America slowly advanced on Japan.

1943:

Invasion of Italy:
   - The Allies already controlled Africa and they took over Sicily.
   - They landed on mainland Italy and travelled northward in September.
   - The Italians overthrew and arrested Mussolini and surrendered to the Allies.
   - He was rescued by the SS but captured again and executed in 1945.
   - He was hung on the streets of Milan after his death.
   - This was the first time that the allies invaded Axis land.

Eastern Front (Russia):
   - The Soviets had pushed the Wehrmacht back to Poland by the end of 1943
Operation Overlord:

- November 1933 – Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill made plans in Iran.
- Stalin wanted to create a Western Front to remove pressure from his army.
- Operation Overlord was planned for June 1944, the day of invasion was called Deliverance Day (D-Day) and was led by Generals Eisenhower and Montgomery.

1944

D-Day: (Western Front)

- On the first day they sent 120'000 troops and 20'000 paratroopers who parachuted behind enemy lines.
- They held a decoy attack on Calais but actually attacked 5 beaches in Normandy which they named – Utah, Omaha, Juno, Gold, Sword.
- 6 June they landed and defeated the Atlantic Wall after 18 hours.
  - By August over 1 million troops took Paris.
- Hitler still that Calais wasn’t a decoy, he didn’t know what to do and he attempted to bomb Britain with V-2 rockets.
- In December the Axis managed to halt the Allies in a battle which lasted until February called the Battle of the Bulge.
- It was Hitler’s last attempt but he didn’t have enough troops to halt the Allies.

1945

- VE Day – Victory in Europe Day:
  - The Allies kept bombing the Germans.
  - By April the crossed the Rhineland and the Soviets had reached Berlin.
  - 30 April 1945 Hitler married Eva Braun then they both committed suicide in a bunker – he made Karl Doenitz the leader.
  - Doenitz agreed on an unconditional surrender on the 7th May.
  - The next day = VE Day.

War in the Pacific:

- The Japanese continued fighting after VE Day.
- There navy was destroyed but they kept fighting on islands.
• Kamikaze Pilots drove old planes with bombs into ships and sunk 17 American ships.
• America took the islands of Iwo Jima and Okinawa in June.
• The Japanese would rather commit suicide then surrender making it difficult for the Americans.
• Instead of losing soldiers, the Americans decided to use THE Atomic Bomb to defeat Japan.

**Hiroshima and Nagasaki:**
• Harry Truman took over America.
• Between 6-9 June the Americans dropped Atomic Bombs on Nagasaki (Killed 40’000) and Hiroshima (Killed 60’000).
• 8 August USSR declared war on Japan and they finally surrendered on 14 August.
• VJ Day – War was over.

**Why the Allies won?**
(A) More troops + supplies and Germany had to fight on two fronts.
(B) Germans had to help other Axis countries.
(C) Hitler made some mistakes, Eg. Attacking Russia who’s Red Army was huge.

**The Holocaust:**
• **Holocaust** = Destruction of the Jewish community during WW2 (Over 6 million were killed).
• Before the War: Nuremburg Laws, Kristallnacht, and Final Solution.
• 1941 groups called Einsatzgruppen were formed to eliminate jews in USSR.
• Concentration and Extermination camps were set up in Germany.
• 1942 Adolf Eichmann was put in charge of the Final Solution – Jews were sent to camps then gassed and cremated.
• Communists, Socialists, Gypsies, Disabled people and homosexuals were also persecuted – seen as subhuman.
• Some countries like Croatia supported and rescued the Jews, but most people were too scared.
Results of WW2:

2. Destruction of Europe.
3. Rise of Superpowers – Because all the other countries were in ruins, USA and USSR dominated politics.
4. Europe was divided, even Germany was divided into East (USSR) and West (Other Allies).
5. Cold War – So much tension.
6. European Unity – Groups were created to ensure that there were no more wars (European Union).
7. United Nations was set up.