

# Nationalism Triumphs in Europe, 1800-1914

Chapter 10

# Building a German Nation

- German-Speaking people lived in several small city-states in the early 1800's
- This changed when Otto von Bismarck became chancellor in Prussia and decided to build a unified German state.
- Napoleon's invasions into German-speaking states produced changes in these territories
  1. He dissolved the Holy Roman Empire
  2. He organized several German states into the Rhine Confederation
  3. He made trade easier in the region
- German-speaking people fought together to free themselves from French rule and began to consider creating a united German state.

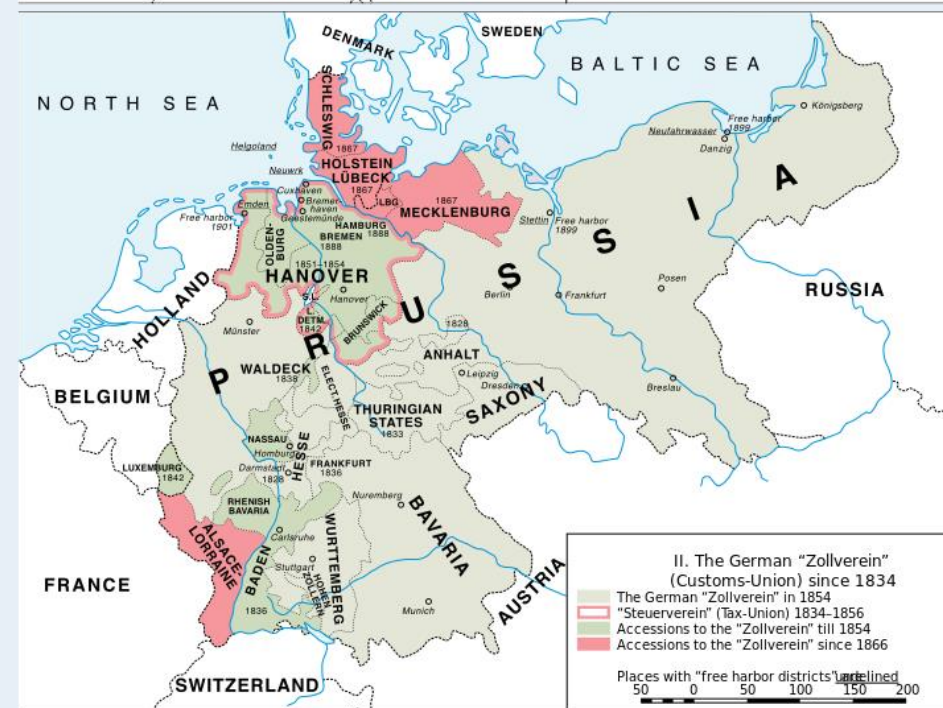
The French army marches into Berlin, 1806



# Building a German Nation (Continued)

- Creating a united Germany was difficult
- It required dissolving the small governments of each German state
- Instead, leaders created a weak alliance called the German Confederation
- Prussia created an economic union called the Zollverein (zahl-ver-eh-in), but Germany remained fragments politically

# Customs Union and Coalition of Zollverein



# Building a German Nation (Continued)

- This changed when Otto von Bismarck rose to power in Prussia
  - He became prime minister in 1862, then rose to chancellor
  - Bismarck was determined to unite Germany under Prussian rule and used a policy of “blood and iron” to do so
- Bismarck mastered Realpolitik and strengthened the Prussian army
  - Realpolitik was an ideology that favored power over principle
  - He then led Prussia into three wars
  - These actions all paved the way for German unification

Bismarck in 1863, age 48



Bismarck became Chancellor of Germany in 1871



Anton von Werner's patriotic, much-reproduced depiction of the proclamation of Wilhelm I as German emperor in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles. Focus is on Bismarck, center, wearing white uniform. (1885)



# Building a German Nation (Continued)

- Otto von Bismarck took methodical steps to increase Prussia's power and territory
  - He formed an alliance with Austria, then seized provinces from Denmark
  - Next, he attacked Austria and annexed several states
  - He dissolved the German Confederation and replaced it with one led by Prussia

# Building a German Nation (Continued)

- The Franco-Prussian War Broke out in 1870
  - Bismarck stoked the rivalry between the two states by editing a telegram to make it appear that King William I of Prussia had insulted a French ambassador
  - After a furious Napoleon III declared war, Prussia and other German states easily defeated the French within weeks
  - Leaders in many German states urged William I of Prussia to take the title Kaiser
    - German nationalists celebrated the beginning of the second Reich, the second German empire after the Holy Roman Empire
    - Bismarck wrote a constitution and set up a two-house legislature. However, real power remained with the emperor and chancellor.

The Prussian 7<sup>th</sup> Cuirassiers charge the French guns at the Battle of Mars-La-Tour, August 16 1870



# French muzzle-loading artillery in position during the Franco-Prussian War



# Napoleon III and Bismarck following Napoleons capture at the Battle of Sedan



# Building a German Nation- Key Ideas

- Nationalist movements strengthened as a result of opposition to French occupation of German states under Napoleon Bonaparte
  - 1848 revolutions (including Austria and Prussia) result of nationalism and liberalism (representation under constitutions recognizing natural rights)
- Otto von Bismarck used realpolitik to engineer three wars, (culminating in the Franco-Prussian War, gaining territory each time, including Alsace-Lorraine) and forge the German Empire

# Germany Strengthens

- After the Franco-Prussian war was ended, Germany became the dominant power in Europe.
- It increased its power by becoming an industrial giant
- After Germany unified, it became the industrial leader of the European continent
  - Germany's iron and coal resources, as well as its disciplined workforce, helped make this possible.
  - The nation had a rapidly growing population, which fed industrialization
  - Germany had also laid the groundwork for progress in the 1850's and 1860's by founding large companies and building railroads

# Germany Strengthens (Continued)

- Both the government and industrialists supported scientific research and economic development.
  - Scientists were encouraged to develop new materials and were hired to solve technical problems in factories
  - At the same time, the government pursued sound economic policies such as issuing a single currency and raising tariffs to protect home industries



# Germany Strengthens (Continued)

- Bismarck pursued several foreign policy goals as the “Iron Chancellor” of Germany
  - He wanted to keep France weak and sought strong links with Austria and Russia
  - He did not want to compete with British naval power
- On the domestic front, Bismarck was ruthless
  - He wanted to ensure complete loyalty to the state
- Bismarck began a campaign against the Catholic Church in 1871
  - He distrusted Catholics because he believed their first loyalty was to the pope instead of the German state.

# Germany Strengthens (Continued)

- Bismarck launched the Kulturkampf, which lasted between 1871 and 1878
  - He had laws passed that increased state power over Church actions
  - When faithful rallied behind the Church, however Bismarck retreated
- In addition to Catholics, Bismarck targeted socialists
  - He worried that socialists would create a revolution among German workers
  - Bismarck dissolved socialist groups, shut down their newspapers, and banned their meetings
- When these measures failed, Bismarck sponsored laws to protect workers and thereby woo them away from socialists
  - Germany became a leader in social reform with its health and old-age insurance. Still, the socialist party grew.

# Germany Strengthens (Continued)

- William II succeeded his grandfather William I as kaiser in 1888.
  - He asked Bismarck to resign as chancellor, saying “There is only one master in the Reich, and that is I.”
  - He believed that his right to rule came from God
- William was very confident and wanted to leave his mark
  - His government provided social welfare programs and services, such as public transportation, electricity, and excellent public schools
  - He also developed the already huge German military, hoping to win an overseas empire like those of Britain and France

## Wilhelm II, 1890



# Germany Strengthens- Key Ideas

- Otto von Bismarck played a tremendously important role in the formation of Germany and was forced to resign in 1890 following Kaiser Wilhelm II's ascension to the throne

# Unifying Italy

- There were many obstacles to Italian unity in the early 1800's
  - People identified mainly with their local regions due to frequent foreign rule
  - At the Congress of Vienna, Italy was partitioned by Austria, the Hapsburg monarchs, and others
  - Nationalist revolts were continually crushed by Austria
- Giuseppe Mazzini, a nationalist leader, founded Young Italy in the 1830's
  - It was a secret society whose goal was to establish a united Italy
  - The ideas of nationalists such as Mazzini soon spread

# Unifying Italy (Continued)

- Victor Emmanuel II, the monarch of Sardinia, wanted to join other states to his own and increase his power.
  - He made Count Camillo Cavour his prime minister in 1852
  - Cavour was a skilled politician who reformed Sardinia's economy and ultimately sought to throw Austria out of Italy and annex more provinces.
- Sardinia helped Britain and France fight Russia in the Crimean War.
  - In the aftermath, Cavour got France to agree to help Sardinia if it ever went to war with Austria
  - Cavour then provoked that war and defeated Austria with Frances help

# Unifying Italy (Continued)

- Now that Sardinia controlled northern Italy, Cavour turned his attention southward
  - There, a nationalist leader named Giuseppe Garibaldi put together a volunteer force of 1000 “Red Shirts”
  - Using ships and weapons from Cavour, the force invaded Sicily and won control of it



# Unifying Italy (Continued)

- Cavour feared Garibaldi would set up his own republic in the southern part of Italy
  - However, when Victor Emmanuel sent Sardinian forces to confront Garibaldi, he turned over Naples and Sicily. Victor Emmanuel II was crowned king of Italy in 1861
  - Italy won the province of Venetia during the Austro-Prussian and won Rome during the Franco-Prussian War. It was finally a united land.

# Unifying Italy (Continued)

- Italy faced many problems once it was unified
  - Regional rivalries and differences made it hard to solve problems
  - The north was rich and had a tradition of business and culture, whereas the south was rural and poor
  - Further, popes urged Italian Catholics not to cooperate with Italian government
  - Turmoil broke out in the late 1800's as the left struggled against a conservative Italian government
    - Socialist organized strikes and anarchists turned to violence
    - In response, the government extended suffrage to more men, passed laws to improve social conditions, and set out to win an overseas empire in Africa

# Unifying Italy (Continued)

- Italy developed economically, particularly after 1900.
  - Industries developed in northern regions and people moved to cities
  - Though a population explosion created tensions, many people chose to emigrate, which calmed things at home

# Unifying Italy- Key Ideas

- Cavour, prime minister of Piedmont-Sardinia, led the drive to unite Italy under the House of Savoy
- [Italian Unification](#)

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires

- During the early 1800's, the Hapsburg rulers of Austria tried to prevent change and ignored liberal demands
  - They even tried to prevent industrialization, fearing that it would change the empires traditional way of life
  - Nevertheless, factories sprung up by the 1840's in Hapsburg lands and caused changes, including the growth of cities

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires (Continued)

- Austria was an empire of very diverse people with rival goals. Nationalist feelings grew during the mid-1800's.
  - Nationalists made demands of the Hapsburg rulers. They wanted self-government.
  - A nationalist revolt broke out in 1848, and the Hapsburg government crushed it.

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires (Continued)

- The Hungarians wanted the right to rule themselves
  - Francis Joseph, who inherited the Hapsburg throne amid the 1848 uprising, made some reforms including the formation of a legislature
- This did not satisfy the Hungarians, however, because the body was led by German-speaking Austrians
- After Austria's defeat in its war with Prussia, Hungarians pressured the Hapsburgs for a compromise
  - A moderate Hungarian leader named Ferenc Deak helped to work out a solution
  - The Dual Monarchy of Austria-Hungary was formed in 1867

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires (Continued)

- The Dual Monarchy of Austria Hungary
- Separate
  - Each had its own constitution
  - Each had its own parliament
- Shared
  - Francis Joseph ruled both, as emperor of Austria and king of Hungary
  - They shared ministries of finance, defense, and foreign affairs



# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires (Continued)

- Despite the compromise, nationalist unrest continued to increase in the empire
  - Hungarians were happy, but others were not. Slavic people still lacked a voice in government for example, and nationalist leaders called on them to unite
- Unrest from nationalists paralyzed governments in the early 1900's
- Europe was patchwork of different nationalities between 1800 and 1914
- Nationalists pushed for self-rule, which brought about the decline of the Austrian and Ottoman empires

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires (Continued)

- The Ottoman empire faced the same problem as the Austrian empire
  - Nationalist demands put pressure on the empire's leaders
  - Many revolts broke out against the Ottomans in the 1800's as nationalist groups sought self-rule



- Some states gained independence from the Ottomans by 1878

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires (Continued)

- In addition to trouble from the nationalists, the Ottoman empire faced invasions from Europe in the mid 1800's
  - Russia pushed toward Istanbul and Austria-Hungary took control of two provinces
  - As a result, a series of wars broke out. Russians fought against the Ottomans, and subject peoples revolted. The region became known as the “Balkan powder keg”

# Nationalism Threatens Old Empires- Key Ideas

- The Austrian Hapsburgs and Ottoman Turks ruled empires with diverse ethnic groups
- As nationalist feelings grew among these groups, fewer of the empires declined

# Russia: Reform and Reaction

- Efforts to modernize Russia had little success because tsars imprisoned or exiled critics
- As twentieth century dawned, Russia was a hotbed of civil unrest
- Russia was the largest and most populous nation in Europe by 1815, but it was also economically undeveloped.
  - Russia had many resources
  - However, it had a very autocratic government
  - Russian rulers resisted reforms that would lead to modernization

# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- Russia had a very rigid social structure in the early 1800's, which was one obstacle to progress
  - Land owning nobles at the top resisted change and reforms
  - Middle Class was weak and small
  - Most people in Russia were serfs, bound to the land
- Tsars ruled Russia with absolute power
  - Whenever the tsars made liberal reforms, they eventually canceled them to maintain the support of the nobles
  - While governments of other European nations changed, Russia remained an absolute monarchy

# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- Alexander II inherited the throne during the Crimean War in 1855
  - The war began when Russia tried to seize Ottoman lands, and ended in Russian defeat
  - The war showed how 'backward' Russia was. People demanded change
- In response to pressure, Alexander agreed to the emancipation of the serfs
- Though peasants remained poor, emancipation was a turning point that led to the drive for more reform



# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- The reforms of Alexander II
  - Emancipation of Serfs
  - Establishment of local government in the form of zemstovs, or elected assemblies
  - Introduction of legal reforms such as trial by jury
  - Reduction in military service

# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- The reforms did not satisfy the Russians, who wanted a constitution or more revolutionary changes.
  - Socialists tried to convince peasants to rebel, which didn't work. Radicals became angry and assassinated Alexander II.
  - Alexander III took the throne and embarked on a 'crackdown'. He increased the power of the secret police and exiled critics.
- Persecution of Jewish people also increased under Alexander III
  - He forced them to live in restricted areas
  - Pogroms against Jewish people became common
  - Many Jews left Russia and became refugees

# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- Russia finally industrialized during the late 1800's
- Nicholas II, son of Alexander III, focused on economic development in Russia. His government encouraged the building of railroads and secured foreign investment
- Despite this industrial progress, political and social problems worsened as workers faced bad conditions in factories and urban slums

# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- Russia entered a [war with Japan](#) in 1904 and suffered many defeats
- As discontent mounted, protesters poured into the streets and workers went on strike
- A priest organized a peaceful march on a Sunday in 1905 in St. Petersburg. The tsars' soldiers fired on the crowd.
- Bloody Sunday was a turning point for Russians, who felt they could no longer trust the tsar
  - Discontent grew, strikes increased, and rural peasants demanded land
  - Nicholas announced big reforms, including a pledge to summon a Duma
  - However, the tsar dissolved the Duma, in 1906. The pattern of reform and reaction continued.

# Russia: Reform and Reaction (Continued)

- Nicholas appointed Peter Stolypin (stall-ee-pin) prime minister in 1906
  - Peter Stolypin worked to restore order with arrests and executions
  - He recognized the need for change, and introduced several moderate reforms.
  - It wasn't enough, though, and Russia still roiled with unrest in 1914.