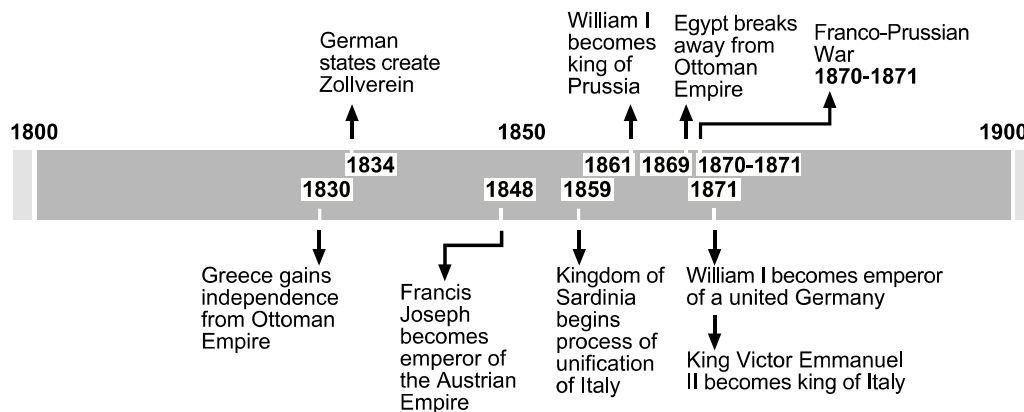


## Nationalism (1800s)

### Inspiring Different Struggles

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, English and French people developed a strong feeling of loyalty and devotion to their countries and cultures. This feeling is known as **nationalism**. Nationalism often inspires people to do just about anything to protect their culture and the survival of their homeland. People who have shared similar experiences and faced danger and serious problems are likely to develop nationalistic feelings. Throughout history, nationalism has ignited many struggles for independence and self-rule.

#### Timeline of Nationalism (1800s)



There are two different kinds of struggles you will read about in this unit. The first kind is called *unification*. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, countries such as Germany and Italy were broken up into many independent states. Each of these states had its own government and was only loosely connected to the other states. The people in these different states wanted to unite, or be *unified*, into a single *nation-state* with a central government.

The second kind of struggle often inspired by nationalism happens when a group of people want to break free of foreign rule and gain self-rule. Of course, a good example of this kind of fight for independence was the American Revolution, when Americans fought the British for the right to self-rule.

Sometimes nationalism leads people to believe that their culture and way of life is much better than any other. They may come to believe that all

people should behave and believe as they do. *Extreme nationalism* is a **desire** to spread one's culture to other parts of the world. France's Napoleon is a strong example of a leader who tried to spread his country's culture when he conquered most of Europe.

## The Unification of Italy



*The Catholic Church, under the leadership of the pope, ruled a block of territory in Italy known as the Papal States.*

After Napoleon's defeat, the Congress of Vienna broke Italy into many small kingdoms. Some of these kingdoms were ruled by powerful families. The Catholic Church, under the leadership of the pope, ruled a block of territory in Italy known as the *Papal States*. Most of the other kingdoms in Italy were ruled or controlled by Austria. The rulers of the various Italian kingdoms often had conflicting interests and were always fighting each other.

Many Italians fought the foreign domination of their country. They wanted a *Risorgimento*, or revival of the glory Italy had known during ancient Rome and the Renaissance. Patriotic societies, mostly secret, were formed to spread nationalistic ideas among the people. One secret society known as the *Carbonari* started **rebellions** throughout Italy to overthrow foreign rulers. Another patriotic group was *Young Italy*. Young Italy attempted to create a republic, but both France and Austria sent troops to crush the rebels.

### Northern Italy United under Sardinia

Almost all of the revolutions of 1848 failed in Italy. In the Kingdom of Sardinia, which included the island of Sardinia and the mainland regions of Savoy, Piedmont, and Nice, revolution did succeed. Sardinia gained independence and developed a constitutional monarchy, similar to that of Great Britain. Beginning in 1859, the Kingdom of Sardinia began the **process** of unification. Only the Kingdom of Sardinia was strong enough to unite Italy into an independent nation. Sardinia was led by a very clever prime minister named Camillo di Cavour, nicknamed *The Brain*. Cavour worked hard to bring reforms to the people in the Kingdom of Sardinia. He took much power away from the Church. He strengthened

the country by promoting industry, building railroads, improving agriculture, supporting education, and enlarging the army. He carried out a series of diplomatic moves to achieve Italian unity.

Perhaps most importantly, Cavour took steps to break Austria's hold on Italy. He formed an alliance with France and offered Italian lands in exchange for French help if war broke out between Sardinia and Austria. Cavour then provoked Austria into declaring war against Sardinia. With France's help, Sardinia defeated Austria and gained control of Lombardy, a territory in northern Italy. By 1860 Cavour had united most of northern Italy with Sardinia. Only the two sections in southern Italy and the Papal States remained under the Austrian monarch's control.

### **Camillo di Cavour**

Camillo di Cavour, an Italian nobleman, was largely responsible for the creation of a united Italy. He was born at Turin, the capital of Sardinia-Piedmont, August 10, 1810. He was educated for the army but became interested in politics. Cavour also studied social and political problems and methods of agriculture in England and France.

Cavour founded the liberal newspaper *Il Risorgimento* at Turin in 1847. He encouraged improvements in agriculture, industry, and uniting the peninsula of Italy with railroads. In 1852 Cavour became prime minister of Sardinia-Piedmont. Most of the kingdoms of Italy were dominated by Austria, and Cavour thought that the only way to drive them out would be with the help of the great powers. To get the favor of the great powers (France and Great Britain), Cavour sent troops to the Crimean War. He then formed an alliance with Napoleon III and attacked Austria in 1859.

In 1860 an Italian freedom fighter named Giuseppe Garibaldi wanted to bring the southern Italian states into a unified Italy. With his army of 1,000, called the *Red Shirts*, Garibaldi sailed south to Naples to help overthrow its French ruler. Garibaldi defeated the army of the Kingdoms of Naples and Sicily. Garibaldi then made plans to march north towards Rome and Venice.

At this time, Cavour was worried that France and Austria might send an army to stop Garibaldi and destroy the efforts of unification. On its way south, Cavour's army defeated the army of the Papal States. A few months later, Cavour's army united with Garibaldi's army in Naples. Except for the capture of Venetia and Rome, the unification effort had succeeded. In early 1861, an Italian Parliament similar to Great Britain's established the Kingdom of Italy. Victor Emmanuel II of Sardinia became king of Italy.



The unification of Italy was not yet complete, however. Venetia and a few of the other northern states were still ruled by Austria. Rome was still ruled by the pope and **occupied** by the French. Italy gained Venetia in 1866 after siding with Prussia against Austria in the Seven Weeks' War.

French soldiers stayed in Rome until the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 forced them to leave. When French troops left, Italian soldiers entered Rome. The Italian Kingdom then **annexed** most of what was left of the Papal States and named Rome as the capital of Italy. The pope was given the right to rule a small area in Rome called the *Vatican*. It took 12 years of fighting and diplomacy, but by 1871, Italy had achieved unification.

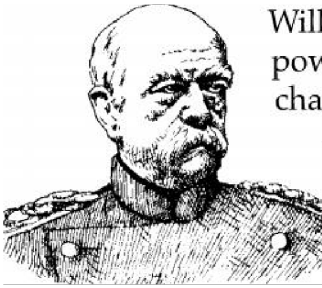


*The Unification of Italy, 1850-1870*

## The Unification of Germany

Many historians believe that the most important European event of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was the unification of Germany. Historians believe this because Germany became the largest in land area (except for Russia) and the most powerful country in Europe.

Before its unification, the German Confederation was a loose confederation of states controlled mostly by Austria. Within the German Confederation, Prussia was a powerful country independent of Austria. In the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Prussia was ruled by King



*Otto von Bismarck*

William I. However, beginning in 1862, the most powerful person in Prussia was its prime minister or chancellor, Otto von Bismarck. Bismarck became convinced that Prussia had to bring the German states together and end Austria's influence. Eventually Bismarck succeeded in defeating Austria. Beginning in 1864, Bismarck led the process that would end in 1871 with the creation of a united Germany.

Bismarck ruled Prussia with an iron fist. He was called the *Iron Chancellor* because he was a strong leader. He ruled with the policy of *blood and iron*. This meant that he planned to use military force to unite Germany. Through military might, Bismarck made Prussia the leading German state.

### Otto von Bismarck

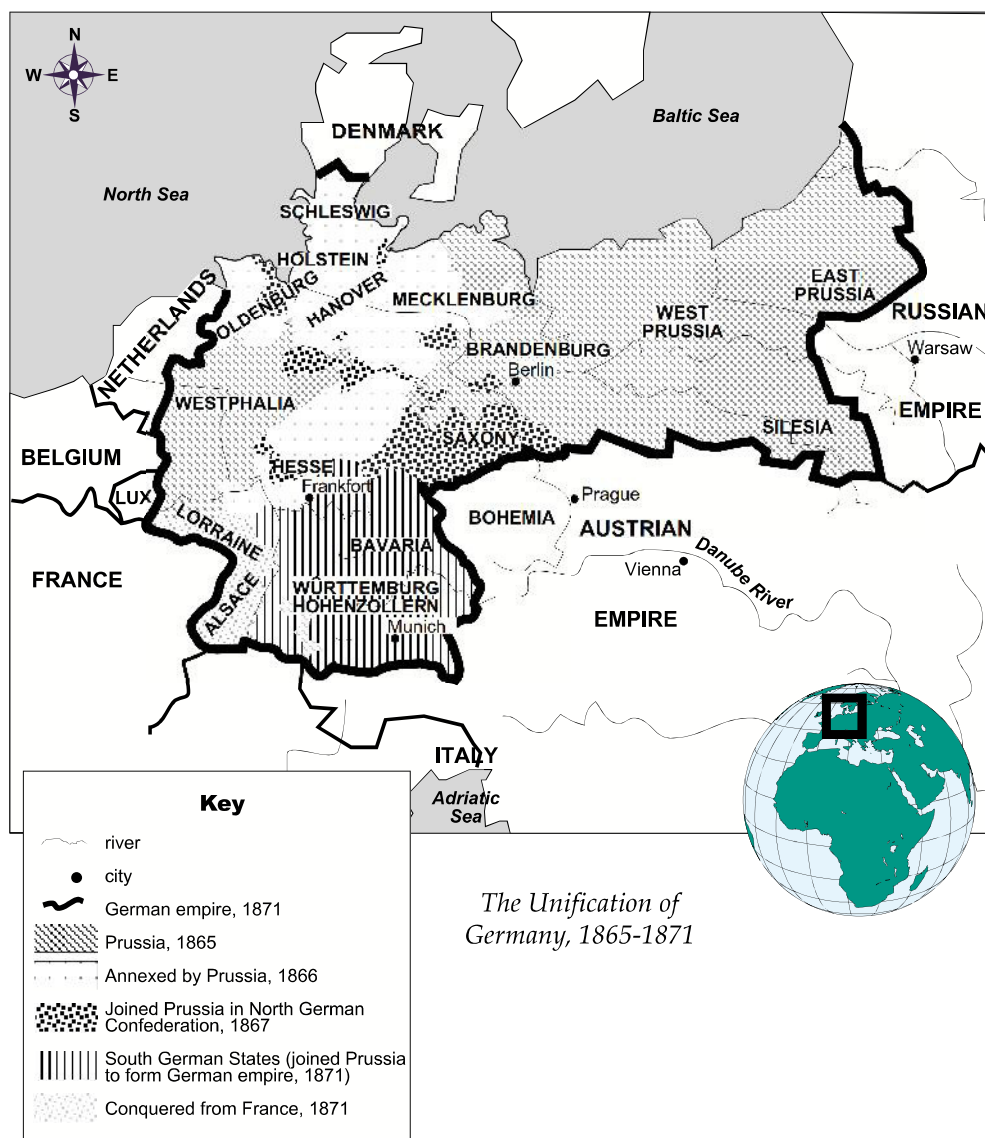
Bismarck (1815-1898) was the Prussian prime minister who was the architect of the German Empire. He served as ambassador to Russia and France, then as chancellor (prime minister of Prussia). He defeated Austria in the Austro-Prussian War. After defeating Napoleon III of France in the Franco-Prussian War, the German Empire was created, and Bismarck was made imperial chancellor and prince in 1871. Bismarck was forced to resign in 1890 after the accession of Kaiser William II, and then there was no one to prevent the rising tide of German nationalism, which eventually led to war.

## Events Leading to the Unification of Germany

By 1844 most German states had entered the *Zollverein*, or customs union, with Prussia. This union allowed the states to trade freely with one another without having to pay taxes on traded goods. It helped industrialize the German states by creating open markets and by

protecting members through high tariffs against nonmembers. Austria was against the Zollverein and tried to stop some German states from being a part of it. Austria did not want to lose control of these German states. Prussia did everything it could to keep Austria from hurting the Zollverein.

In 1866 their conflicts led Prussia and Austria to war. Prussia defeated Austria and gained control over the northern German states. In 1867 Bismarck formed the North German Confederation. Austria's power over German affairs ended with its defeat.



After this war, only four southern German states remained outside Bismarck's united Germany. Bismarck knew that France would fear a total unification of Germany. The Iron Chancellor hoped that in a war with France, the southern German states would join with Prussia. Bismarck also knew that the southern German states were different from the northern German states. One difference was that the people of the southern German states were mostly Catholics. The people of the northern German states were mostly Lutherans. Nevertheless, Bismarck knew that nationalistic German pride would unite the south with the north.

Bismarck was right: When Germany and France fought in the Franco-Prussian War in 1870, the German southern states united with the German northern states. War had unified the German people into a single nation. This Franco-Prussian War lasted six months. Germany easily won the war. William I, king of Prussia, was named emperor of Germany. With its strong and well-disciplined army and healthy economy, Germany quickly became one of the world's strongest countries.



*small German home*

## The Austria-Hungary Empire

Under the leadership of the Hapsburg ruler Emperor Francis Joseph, the Austrian government tried to prevent the different nationalities in its empire from forming their own countries. In particular, Hungarians began to demand freedom from Austria after Austria was defeated by Prussia in the Seven Weeks' War in 1866.

In 1867 the Austrian Empire tried to satisfy Hungarian demands by creating the *Austria-Hungary Empire*, also called the **Dual Monarchy**. In this setup, both Austria and Hungary would have their own government. However, the Emperor Francis Joseph would still rule both parts of the empire. He would rule as emperor of Austria and king of Hungary. Emperor Francis Joseph would be in charge of the army, all foreign matters, and the economy. Under self-rule, Hungary would be independent in all other areas.

The Dual Monarchy seemed like a good idea. The Austrian Empire thought that by giving the Germans and the Hungarians some self-rule, they would remain happy. In fact, the opposite was true. The Germans and Hungarians had some conflicting interests. In addition, other groups within the empire, including the Czechs, Serbs, Rumanians, and Poles, also wanted self-rule. Nationalism was kept alive.

In the years which followed, the Austrian Empire slowly **decayed**. The Emperor Francis Joseph was unable to keep the different nationalistic groups happy. Eventually, problems in the Austria-Hungary Empire helped start the first world war, World War I.

## The Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman Empire was a Muslim-Turkish state that stretched from Southeastern Europe (the Balkans) to North Africa and the Middle East from the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was slowly decaying towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As a result, the Ottoman Empire was called the *sick man of Europe*. The Ottoman Empire had economic problems and a corrupt

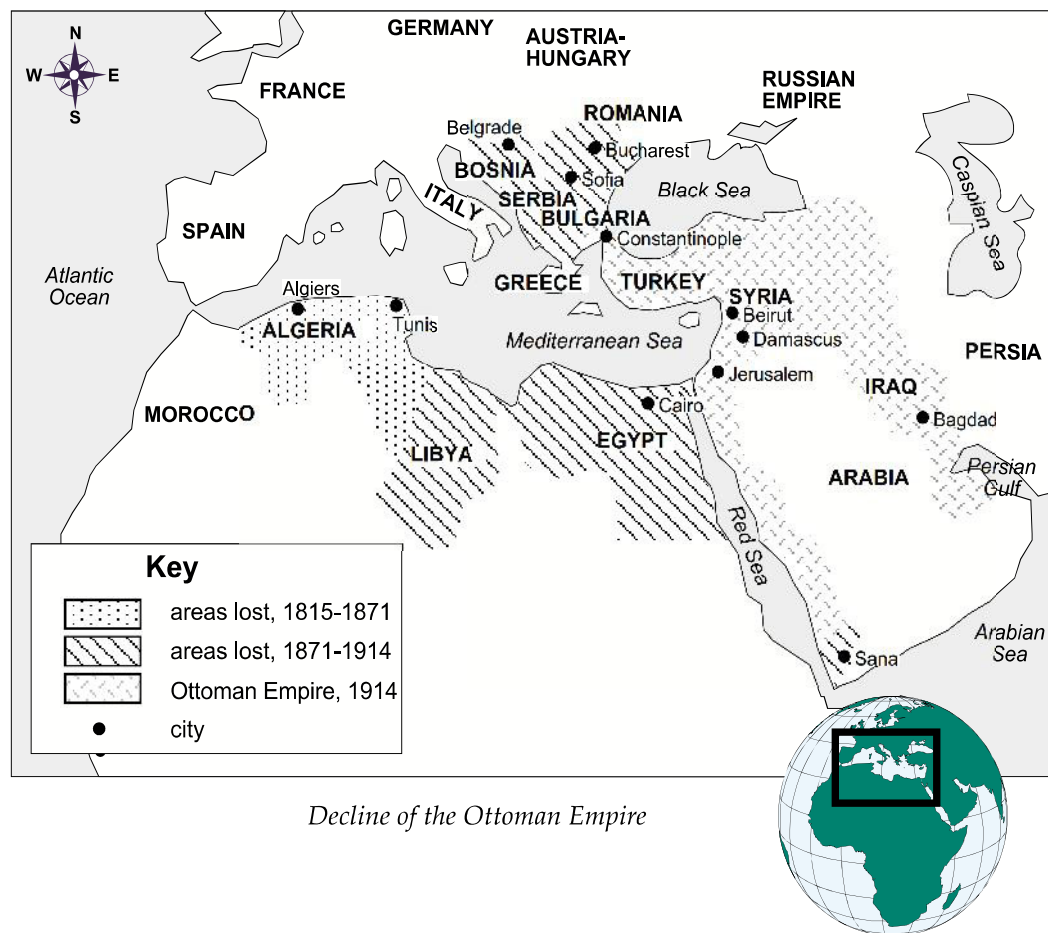


woodcut of a bearded Turkish man



government. Therefore, it was unable to prevent nationalistic uprisings. **Subject peoples** in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa threatened to break away. Although the Ottomans tried to suppress rebellions among its diverse people, several of its subject people gained independence. For example, Greece achieved independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1830.

In 1869 Egypt broke away from the Ottoman Empire. After 1869 other nationalistic groups began to seek self-rule. In 1877 with help from Russia, the Balkan States of Serbia, Rumania, Montenegro, and Bulgaria gained independence from the Ottoman Empire. As the Ottoman Empire decayed, European powers saw a chance to gain control of the Balkan areas the Ottoman Empire had ruled. The attempts of Great Britain, France, Russia, and Germany to gain influence in this region were among the causes of World War I.



## Review

Nationalism led to the unification of two countries—Italy and Germany. In the German Confederation, Chancellor Bismarck of Prussia was the Iron Chancellor who used force to unite the many states within the German Confederation. He led Prussia in victorious war against Austria to unite Germany's northern states. The southern states united with the northern states in war against France. In Italy, Cavour and Garibaldi led the people in rebellion against Austrian rule and other leaders of various Italian kingdoms. The unification of Italy and Germany changed the balance of power in Europe.

Nationalism also led to the breakup of two empires—the Austrian Empire and the Ottoman Empire. The governments of the Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empires were unable to prevent nationalistic groups, especially in Balkan territories, from gaining independence. Nationalistic rebellions usually had bloody and violent results. As Europe entered the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these events created many of the hostilities which led to World War I.