

World War I

(The Great War)





The German Empire was young in 1914 having gained land through a series of wars in the late 1800's.

Terms for Germany and Austria

Germany

Reich - means **Empire** in German

Kaiser – means **Emperor** in German. Kaiser Wilhelm II was Emperor William II.

Austria

The **Dual Monarchy** was the **Austria-Hungary Empire** governed by the **Hapsburg Dynasty** whose leader in 1914 was Emperor Franz Josef. First heir to the throne was Archduke Ferdinand. The Hapsburg Dynasty annexed the province of Bosnia-Herzegovina, where many Serbs lived, from the Ottomans in 1878.

BACKDROP OF THE GREAT WAR

The Alliance System

A Competitive Arms Build-up

**Excessive Nationalism – Competition for resources
and prestige**

Social Darwinist Ideas

Miscalculations

Yellow Press

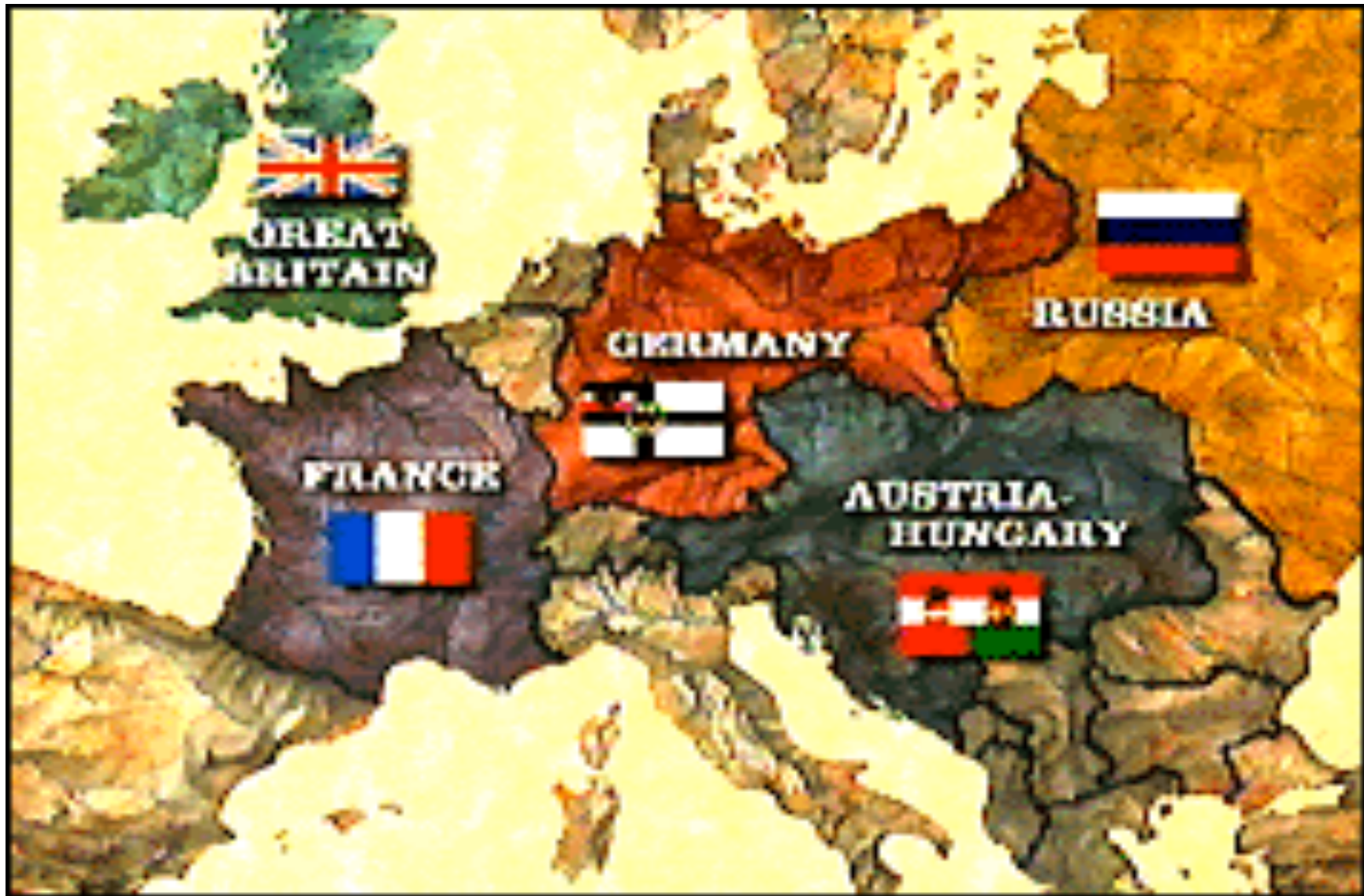


Austria-Hungary occupied Bosnia in 1878 taking the province from the Ottoman Empire. The Balkans were a “powder keg” ready to explode.



ALLIANCES

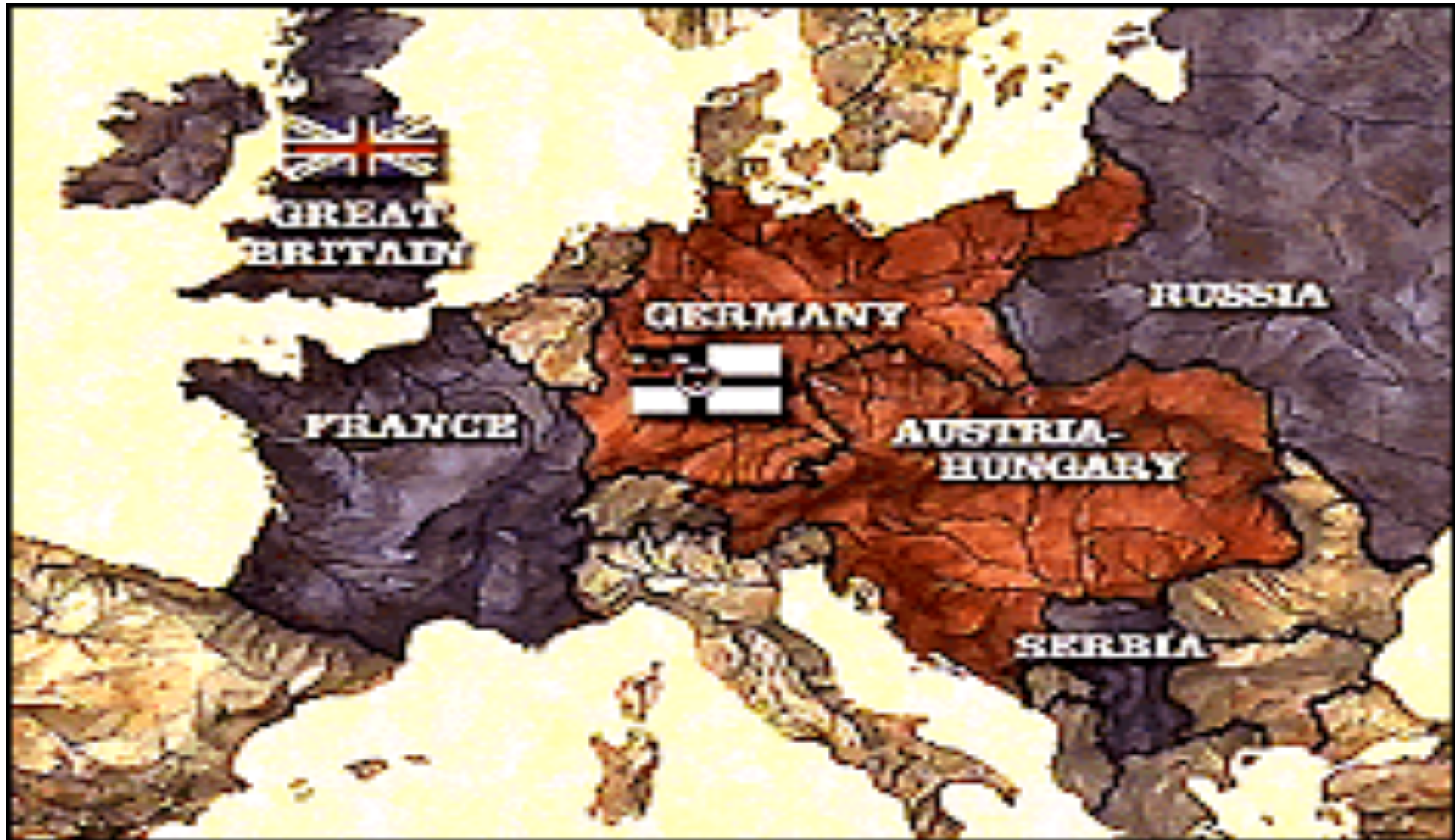
Dual Alliance (A/H and Germany)	1879
Three Emperors League (A/H, Germany, Russia)	1881
Triple Alliance (A/H, Germany, Italy)	1882
Franco-Russian Alliance (France, Russia)	1894
Russo-Bulgarian	1902
Entente Cordiale (France and Britain)	1904
Anglo-Russian	1907
Triple Entente (Britain, France, Russia)	1907



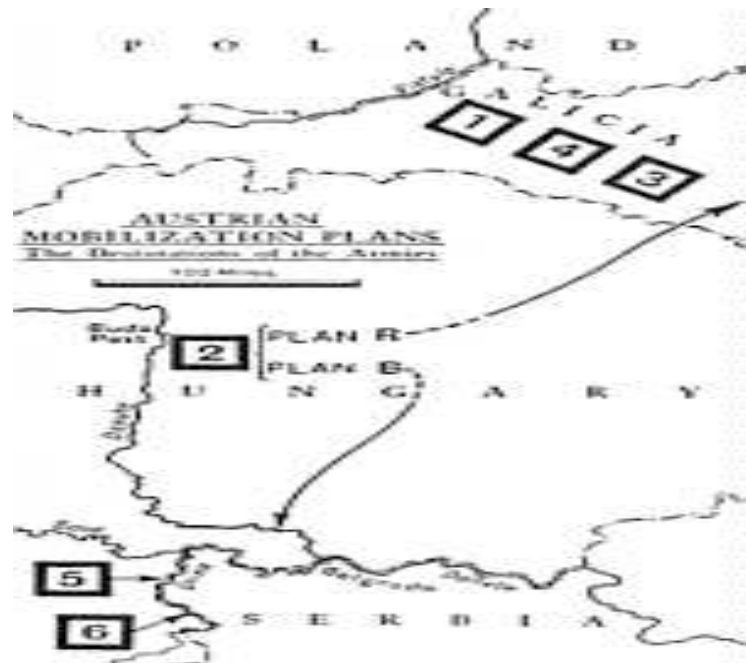
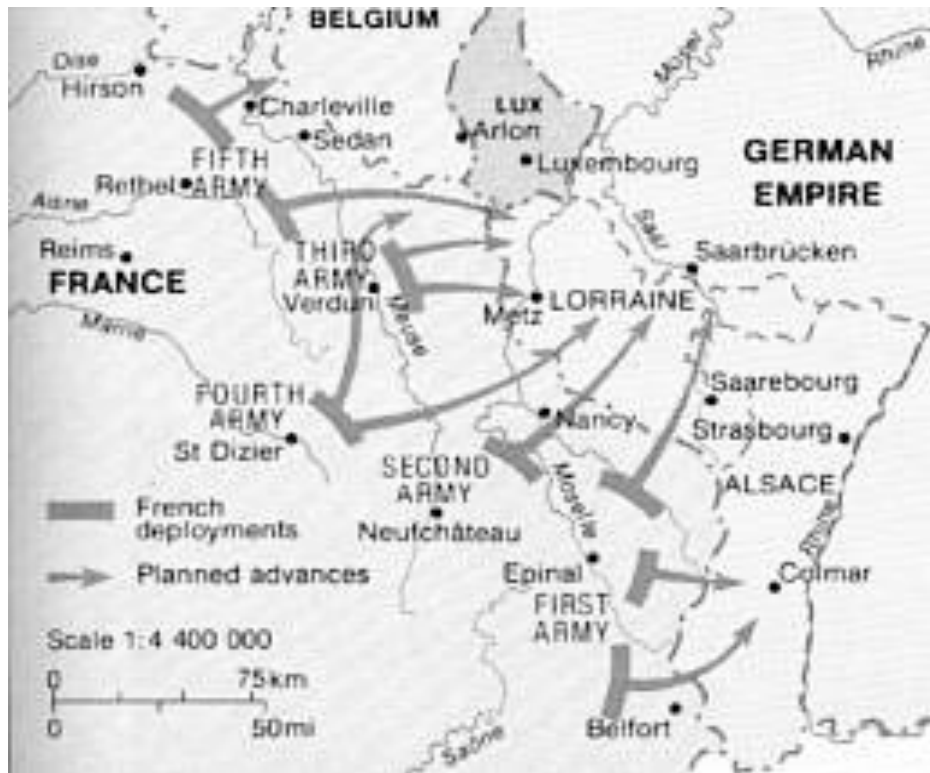
Former German Chancellor Otto von Bismark's strategy was to always be part of a majority of three in any dispute among the five great European powers. This was because of Germany's precarious position as a "middle power" located in Central Europe. His main goal was to preserve peaceful ties with Russia.



Kaiser Wilhelm II upset Bismark's strategy when he broke ties with Russia seeing Russian mobilization to assist Serbia as a threat. Germany found itself in an alliance of 2 – Germany and Austria-Hungry.



Russia came to the aid of Serbia against Austria-Hungary and that meant France and Britain would join Russia as her allies because of family ties between the royal families. In a flash the whole continent was at war.



War Plans

BRITISHERS



ENLIST TO-DAY



Are YOU in this?

**WHO CAN BEAT
THIS PLUCKY FOUR?**



**BUT ALL THE SAME
WE'RE WANTING MORE**





God Punish England



Help Us Win

WAKE UP, AMERICA!



CIVILIZATION CALLS
EVERY MAN WOMAN & CHILD!



Beat back the **HUN**
with

**LIBERTY
BONDS**





Russian Posters Ask for War Loans

“The lamps are going out all over Europe; we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime.”

Sir Edward Gray
British Foreign
Minister



Austrian Emperor Franz Josef



Austrian Archduke Ferdinand, heir to throne



Austrian Foreign Minister Berchtold



Austria Gen. Franz Conrad von Hotzendorf



**German Chancellor
Bettmann-Hollweg**



German General von Moltke



**German Foreign
Minister von Jagow**



Emperor (Kaiser) Wilhelm II



**German Amb. to Britain
Lichnowsky**



**Erich von Falkenhayn
Prussian War Minister**



Col. Apis of Black Hand (center above,) also known as Col. Dimitrijevic of Serbian military intelligence, Archduke Ferdinand and Sophie, and Gravelo Princip the assassin, Serb Prime Minister, Nikolai Pasic



In 1915 a force of British, French, Australians and New Zealanders landed to fight Turkey at Gallipoli. Turkey had allied with Germany.



Tsar Nicholas II was forced to abdicate the Russian throne in 1917 and in October 1917 the Bolsheviks under Lenin, a committed Marxist, took over the government. A year later the Bolsheviks murdered Nicholas and his family.



President Woodrow Wilson summoned Americans to mobilize despite overwhelming desire on the part of Americans to stay neutral.

What US National Interests were at stake?

- 1. Freedom of shipping and freedom of the seas**
- 2. Violation of US neutrality**
- 3. Investments and loans to allies**
- 4. Business profits from orders from Europe for food and armaments from both sides – Allied and Central Powers**
- 5. Zimmerman Letter (Mexico would ally with Germany)**

US Conscription in World War I

From the day the US declared war on the Central Powers, a rush of men volunteered to join the already 300,000 strong military force. Six weeks after declaration of war, a draft law was voted on and approved by Congress. As a result 26 million men registered (total US population was 105 million). Of that number about 4 million American men actually went to war. Among these were 300,000 African Americans. Altogether 116,000 killed.

Total World War I Deaths and Casualties

8 million deaths

20 million casualties

When the “war to end all wars” had ended Royal families and ruling elites realized it was the end of an era for them.

“There never was such a break-up. All the old buoys which have marked the channel of our lives seem to have been swept away.”

Lord Esher

Former empires – Ottoman, Austria-Hungary, German, and Russian-collapsed and disappeared. New countries such as Austria, Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia were created on the basis of self-determination.

**Leftist German writer Kurt Tucholsky wrote in 1924:
“The wave of drunkenness which overtook the country
ten years ago has left behind many hung over people
who know no other cure for their handover than to
become drunk again. They have learned nothing.**

**Today the spiritual foundation on which Germany
rests is no different from that when it was founded. No
spiritual experience has touched the country. It
changed bodies into cadavers, but it left the spirit
completely untouched. Germany still views the world
with near-sighted eyes through glasses. We are,
incidentally, the center of our world, even though we
lost the war.”**

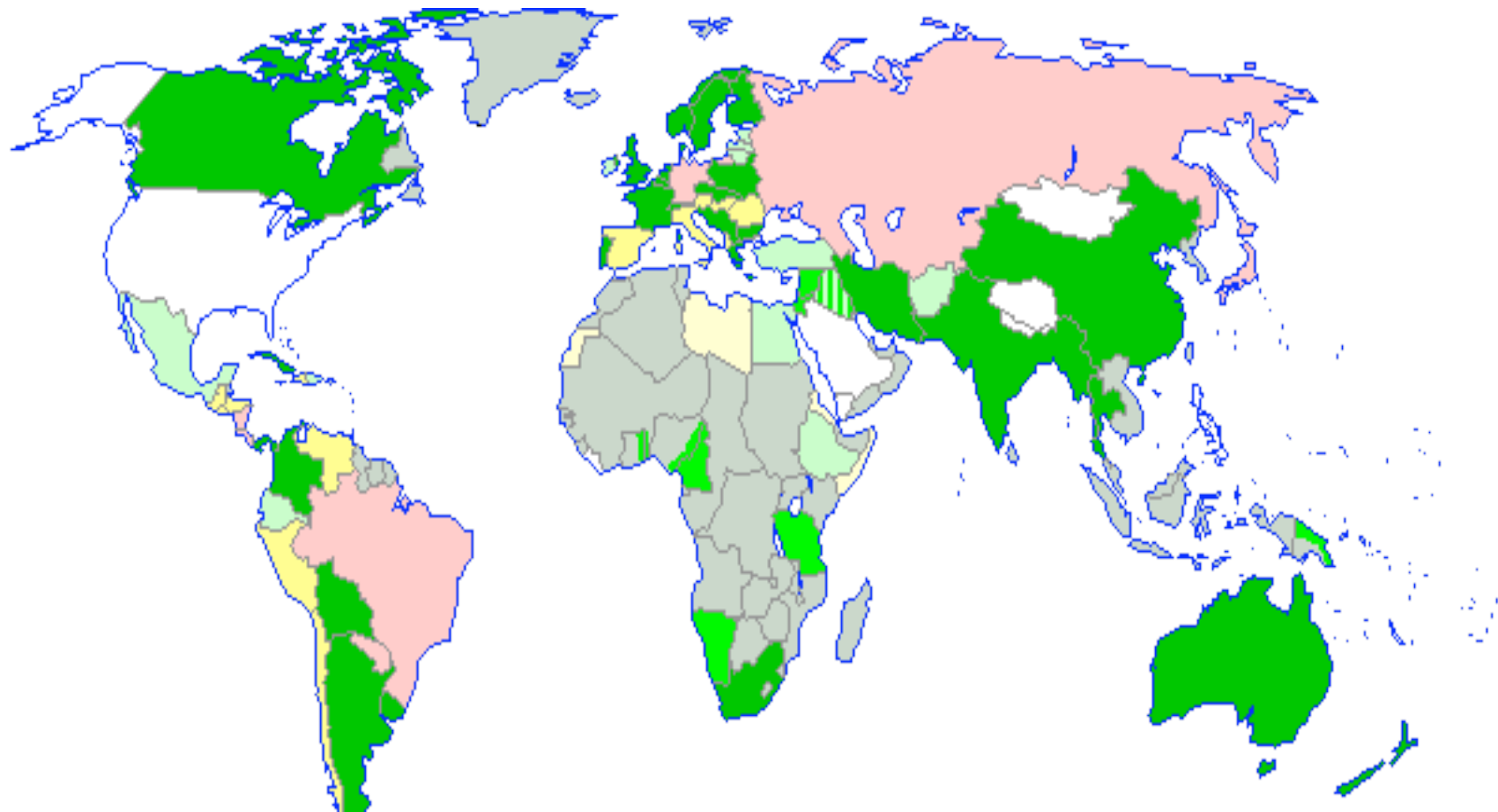
**POSITIVE OUTCOMES:
SCAFFOLDING ON WHICH TO BUILD
PEACE AND
DE-LEGITIMIZE WAR**

1. League of Nations

2. Powerful books such as All Quiet on the Western Front and Guns of August

3. Efforts to Mediate war (Jane Addams, Henry Ford, Rosika Schwimmer, Emily Balch)

4. New organizations founded, for example, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom



The League of Nations:

- Members for the duration of the League (1920-46)
- Late joiners who remained in the League until the end (1946)
- Colonies of League members (1946)
- League of Nations Mandates

Members who were expelled or otherwise left early:

- Membership lasted more than 15 years
- Membership lasted less than 15 years
- Colonies



Jane Addams



Rosika Schwimmer



Oswald Garrison Villard



Henry Ford

