

# **NATIONALISM**

**CASE STUDIES:  
ITALY AND GERMANY**



# NATIONALISM

- Nationalism is the belief that one's greatest loyalty should not be to a king or an empire but to a nation of people who share a common culture and history. When the nation also had its own independent government, it became a nation-state.



# BONDS THAT CREATE A NATION-STATE

- **NATIONALITY:** A belief in a common ethnic ancestry – real or imagined.
- **LANGUAGE:** Different dialects (forms) of one language; one dialect chosen as the “national language”.
- **CULTURE:** A shared way of life (food, dress, behavior, ideals).
- **HISTORY:** A common past, common experiences (real or imagined).
- **RELIGION:** A religion shared by all or most of the people.
- **TERRITORY:** A certain territory that belongs to the ethnic groups; its “land”.



# NATION-STATE

- Defends the nation's territory and its way of life.
- Represents the nation to the rest of the world.
- Embodies the people and its ideals.



# TYPES OF NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS

TYPE	CHARACTERISTICS	EXAMPLES
Unification	Mergers of politically divided but culturally similar lands	19th century Germany 19th century Italy
Separation	Culturally distinct group resists being added to a state or tries to break away	Greeks in the Ottoman Empire French-speaking Canadians
State-building	Culturally distinct groups form into a new state by accepting a single culture	The United States Turkey



# NATIONALISM: A FORCE FOR DISUNITY

- In the 1800's growing sense of nationalism challenged three old empires:
  - Russia
  - Austrian Empire
  - Ottoman Empire

All three empires would eventually collapse;  
largely as a result of WWI



# NATIONALISM, A FORCE FOR UNITY: ITALY





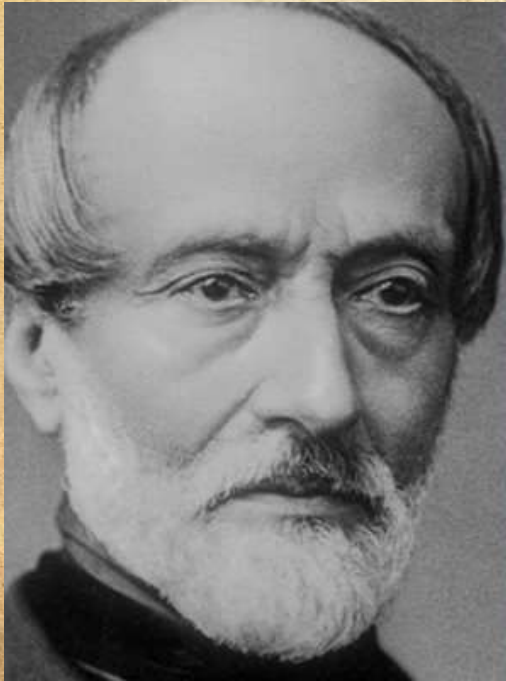
# ITALY

- After the Congress of Vienna (1815), the land of Italy was still divided:
- - Austria ruled the Italian provinces of Venetia and Lombardy.
- The Spanish Bourbon family ruled the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.
- Pope controlled the Papal States.

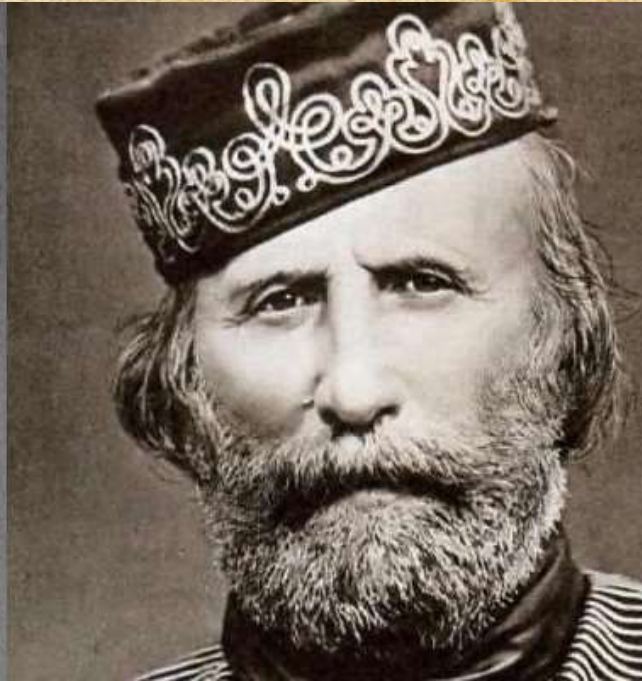




# ITALY: LEADERS OF UNIFICATION



Mazzini



Garibaldi



Cavour



# ITALY: LEADERS OF UNIFICATION

- Mazzini:
  - Formed a nationalist group known as “Young Italy” in 1832.
  - He called for an end to foreign rule and the unification of Italy based on the common language and culture of the people. The Italian nationalist movement was called the **Risorgimento** (“resurgence”)
  - 1848: rebels failed and former rulers of Italian states drove Mazzini and other nationalists leaders into exile.





# ITALY: LEADERS OF UNIFICATION

- Cavour:
  - Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia.
  - Used diplomacy and alliances to increase Piedmont-Sardinia power.





# ITALY: LEADERS OF UNIFICATION

- Garibaldi:
  - Leader of the Red Shirts (Italian nationalist group that gained control of Sicily in 1860).





# ITALIAN UNIFICATION

- Agreement between Italy (Cavour) and France (Napoleon III). Napoleon agreed to help drive Austria out of the northern provinces of Lombardy and Venetia.
- Cavour provoked a war with Austria. A combined French-Sardinian army won two quick victories against Austria. Major battles were fought at Magenta (June 4, 1859) and Solferino (June 24, 1859).
- They drove Austria out of Lombardia but failed to drive them out of Venetia.
- France was given Savoy and Nice in exchange for their help.





# ITALIAN UNIFICATION

- Secretly, Cavour started helping nationalist rebels in southern Italy.
- In May 1860, a small army of Italian nationalists (the Red Shirts), led by Giuseppe Garibaldi, captured Sicily.
- From Sicily, Garibaldi crossed to the Italian mainland and marched north.
- After Garibaldi took complete control of Southern Italy the people voted to unite with the north.





# ITALIAN UNIFICATION

Victory over Austria awoke nationalist feelings among the states of Central Italy.

A plebiscite held in 1860, determined the incorporation into the kingdom of Sardinia of the states of Parma, Modena and Tuscany.





# ITALIAN UNIFICATION

- In March 1861, a parliament of all of Italy except Rome and Venetia, agreed on unifying Italy with Victor Emmanuel as its first king. Rome was declared Capital of Italy, despite that it was not even in the new Kingdom. Three months later Cavour died. Before dying, Cavour purportedly said: "Italy is made. All is safe."[\[](#)





# ITALIAN UNIFICATION

- In 1866, Italy joined Prussia in a war against Austria. When the Prussians won, Italy's reward was Venetia.
- When, in 1870, French troops withdrew from Rome so they could be used to defend France against Prussia; Italian forces seized Rome, which became the capital of the kingdom. Italian unity had at last been obtained more by diplomacy and astute timing than by military greatness.





# CHALLENGES AFTER UNIFICATION

- Tension between the industrial north and agricultural south.
- Different ways of life.
- Different dialects of Italian.
- Disorganized political parties caused an unstable parliament.
- Strikes and riots in the south.

Italy entered the 20th century as a poor country.



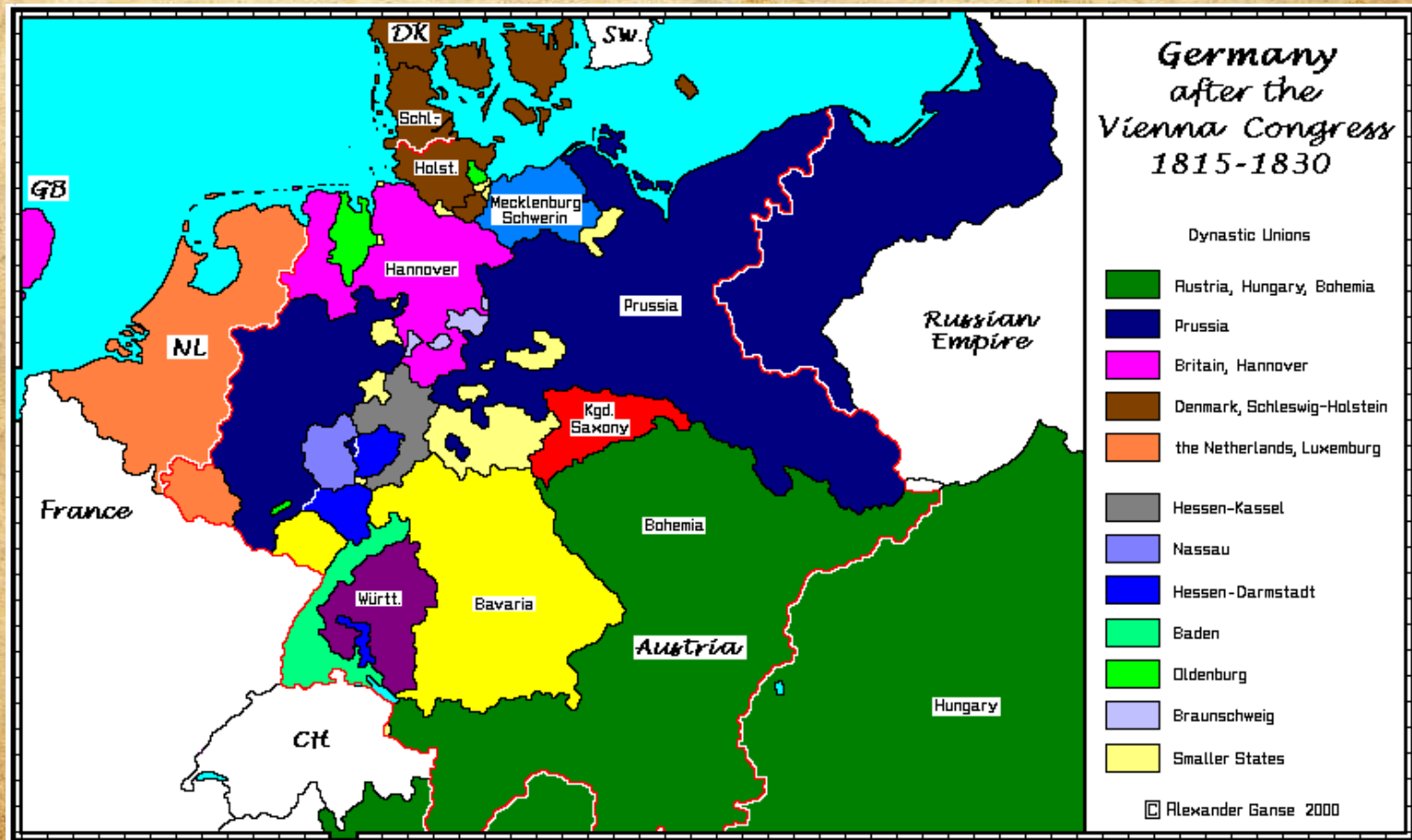
# NATIONALISM, A FORCE FOR UNITY: GERMANY





# GERMANY

- Following the Congress of Vienna, 39 German States formed the German Confederation. Austro-Hungarian Empire and Prussia dominated the Confederation.





# GERMANY

- Prussian advantages:
  - Mainly German population
  - Most powerful army in Europe
  - Industrialized faster than other German states

Friendship between the two German states would turn to conflict in an attempt to unify Germany.



# GERMANY

- 1848: Democratic revolutions broke out all over Europe.
- As a result, Prussia created a liberal constitution to limit the power of the King.





# GERMANY: LEADERS OF THE UNIFICATION

- King Wilhem I (King of Prussia)
  - Succeeded Frederick William to the throne in 1861.
  - Supported by the Junkers:
    - » Wealthy landowning class
    - » Strongly conservative and opposed liberal ideas.





# LEADERS OF GERMAN UNIFICATION

Wilhem I

- Wanted to increase the size and strength of the military (Parliament refused to give him the money)
- Decided to pick a new Prime Minister in order to get what he wanted.



# LEADERS OF GERMAN UNIFICATION

- Otto von Bismarck  
(conservative junker):
  - Became Prime Minister in 1862.





# LEADERS OF GERMAN UNIFICATION

- Bismarck:
  - Realpolitik (“the politics of reality”): politics that leave no room for idealism.
  - Known as the “Iron Chancellor” for his realpolitik and his powerful rule.





# LEADERS OF GERMAN UNIFICATION

- Bismarck. First speech as prime minister to the members of the Parliament:

“Not by speeches and votes of the majority, are the great questions of the time decided — that was the error of 1848 and 1849 — but by iron and blood.”

Other quotes:

- Hit the Poles so hard that they despair of their life; I have full sympathy with their condition, but if we want to survive, we can only exterminate them; the wolf, too, cannot help having been created by God as he is, but people shoot him for it if they can.
- A conquering army on the border will not be stopped by eloquence.
- Politics is not an exact science.
- Politics is the art of the possible.



# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1864-1866.
  - Alliance between Prussia and Austria.
  - War against Denmark to win two border provinces: Schleswig and Holstein.
  - Quick victory. Prussia governed Schleswig and Austria, Holstein.





# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1866-1867: Seven Weeks War

Bismarck purposely stirred up border conflicts with Austria over Schleswig and Holstein. (Secret agreement between Italy and Prussia)

The tensions provoked Austria into declaring war on Prussia in 1866.



# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1866-1867: Seven Weeks War

The war was over quickly. Prussia humiliated Austria.

The Austrians lost the region of Venetia (given to Italy).





# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1866-1867: Seven Weeks War

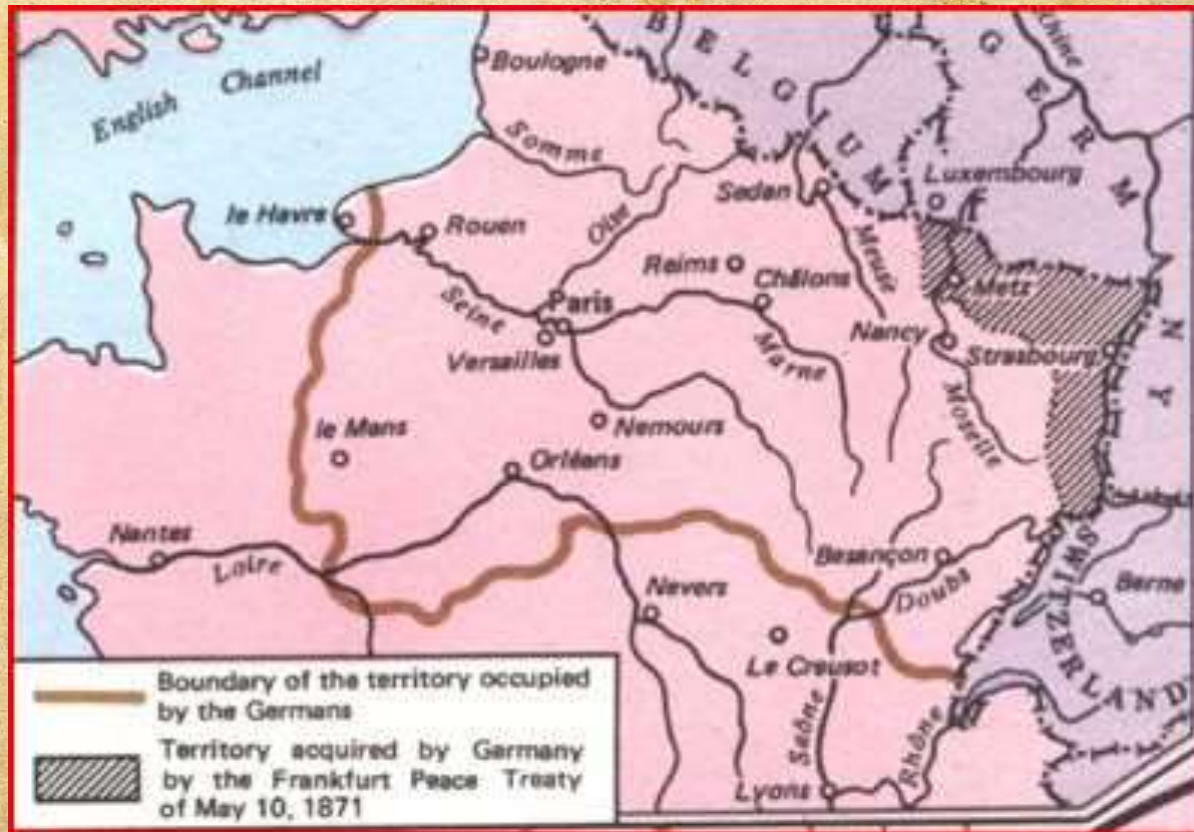
Prussia took control of northern Germany. In 1867, the remaining states of the north joined a North German Confederation (dominated by Prussia)





# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1870-1871: The Franco-Prussian War





# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1870-1871: The Franco-Prussian War.
  - By 1867, a few southern German states remained independent of Prussia. Bismarck felt he could win the support of southerners if they faced a threat from outside: a war with France would rally the South.
  - He published an altered version of a diplomatic telegram he had received from France. Wilhelm seemed to insult the French. Reacting to the insult, France declared war on Prussia on July 19, 1870.



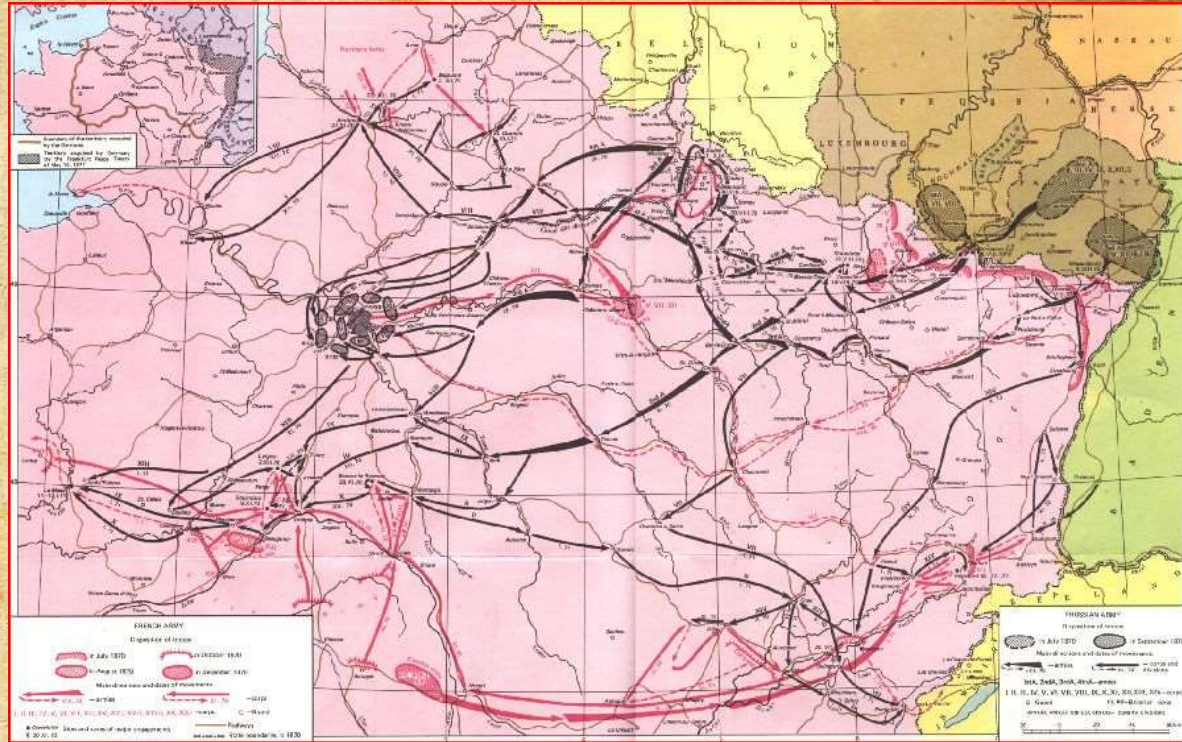




# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1870-1871: The Franco-Prussian War.

For four months, Parisians withstood a German siege. Finally, hunger forced them to surrender.





# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

- 1870-1871: The Franco-Prussian War.

The Franco-Prussian War was the final stage in German unification. Now the nationalistic fever also seized people in southern Germany. They finally accepted Prussian leadership.



# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

Over a six-year period, Bismarck created a united Germany. He made skillful use of diplomacy and warfare to accomplish this task.





# STEPS TO GERMAN UNIFICATION

JANUARY 18, 1871

- Wilhem I is crowned kaiser (Emperor) at the Palace of Versailles (Picture)
- Second Reich: name given to the new German Empire (Holy Roan Empire was the First Reich; Hitler eventually created the Third Reich)





# THE BALANCE OF POWER SHIFTS

- The Congress of Vienna established five Great Powers in Europe: Britain, France, Austria, Prussia and Russia.
- By 1871, however, Britain and Germany were clearly the most powerful. The European balance of power had broken down.

