

Chapter 7

World War 1

Foreign Policy

- **Foreign policy: a course of action that a sovereign nation takes in its conduct with other nation-states or international organizations.**
- Sometimes, conflicts can arise because of contending national interests. Political leaders and governments that believe one of their primary responsibilities is to provide their citizens with an adequate standard of living.
- The problem that can arise from this goal is that there is a finite quantity of resources available to satisfy the needs and wants of nation-states. Most nations must deal with other nations in order to meet their people's needs and wants, including security, and it is in this way that foreign policy comes into play.
- **What happens when they don't "get what they want" or they don't agree on how to reach their goals?**

World War 1 - Overview

- **What:** The first global scale war involving multiple nations
- **When:** Began in June 1914 and ended in November 1918
- **Where:** Occurred mostly on the continent of Europe
- **Why:** M.A.N.I.A.
- **Who:** Various Nation-States
 - Allied Powers = Great Britain, France, Russia (later Italy and US)
 - Central Powers = Germany, Austria-Hungary, The Ottoman Empire
- **How:** Huge scale attacks with new deadly technology including mechanized weapons, chemical weapons, long range artillery and air power
- **Other:**
 - Also known as the “Great War”

World War 1 - Causes

Militarization

Alliances

Nationalism

Imperialism

Assassination

World War 1 – Causes – Militarization

- **Arms Race:** building up armaments *“What if we are attacked by others? We must keep up, if not surpass and be stronger. We must continue to develop our technology.”*
- **Symbols of Prestige and Status:** this became of increased importance for governments, therefore they increased their spending on it. *“How can we allow [nation-state] to be stronger than us? We must show them that we no less.”*
- **Balance of Power:** if one country increased military strength, so would the others. *“In order to make sure [nation-state] does not feel that they are the strongest, we must balance out the power and be on par with their military strength.”*

World War 1 – Causes – Alliances

- **Security Measure:** taken as a precaution *"If [nation-state] attacks us tomorrow, we have other nation-states that will have our back. They have arms they will help us."*
- **Deterrent:** a thing that discourages or is intended to discourage someone from doing something. *"If we band together, [nation-state] will not risk taking us all on as it would harm them in more than one way. Going to war with us, would mean going to war with the others as well."*
- **Agreements:** many allies were tied together through agreements or obligations, meaning they would have to enter a war. *"[Nation-state A] is going to war with [nation-state B]. I must also go to war with [nation-state A] because we signed the [agreement]."*

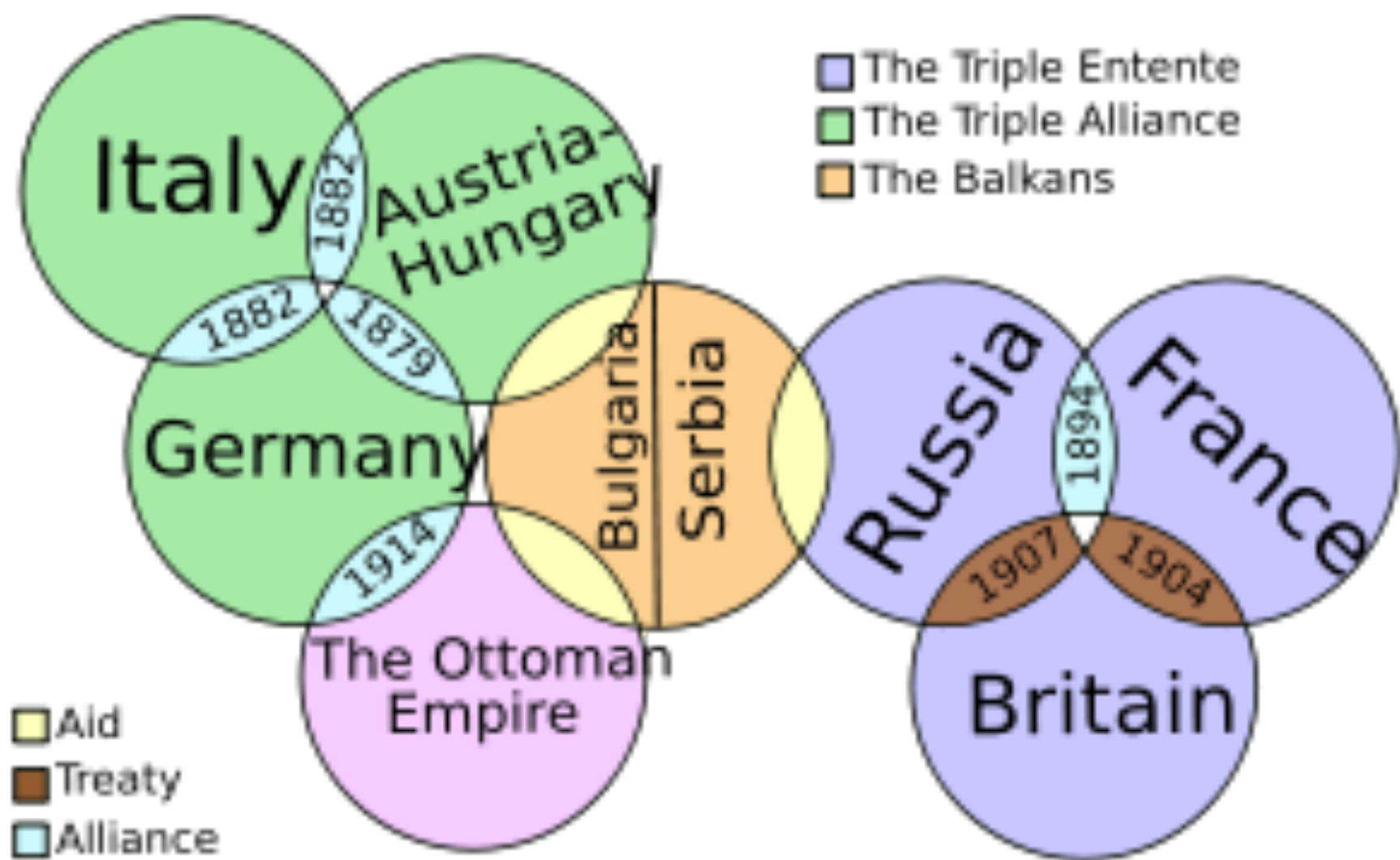
World War 1 – Causes – Alliances

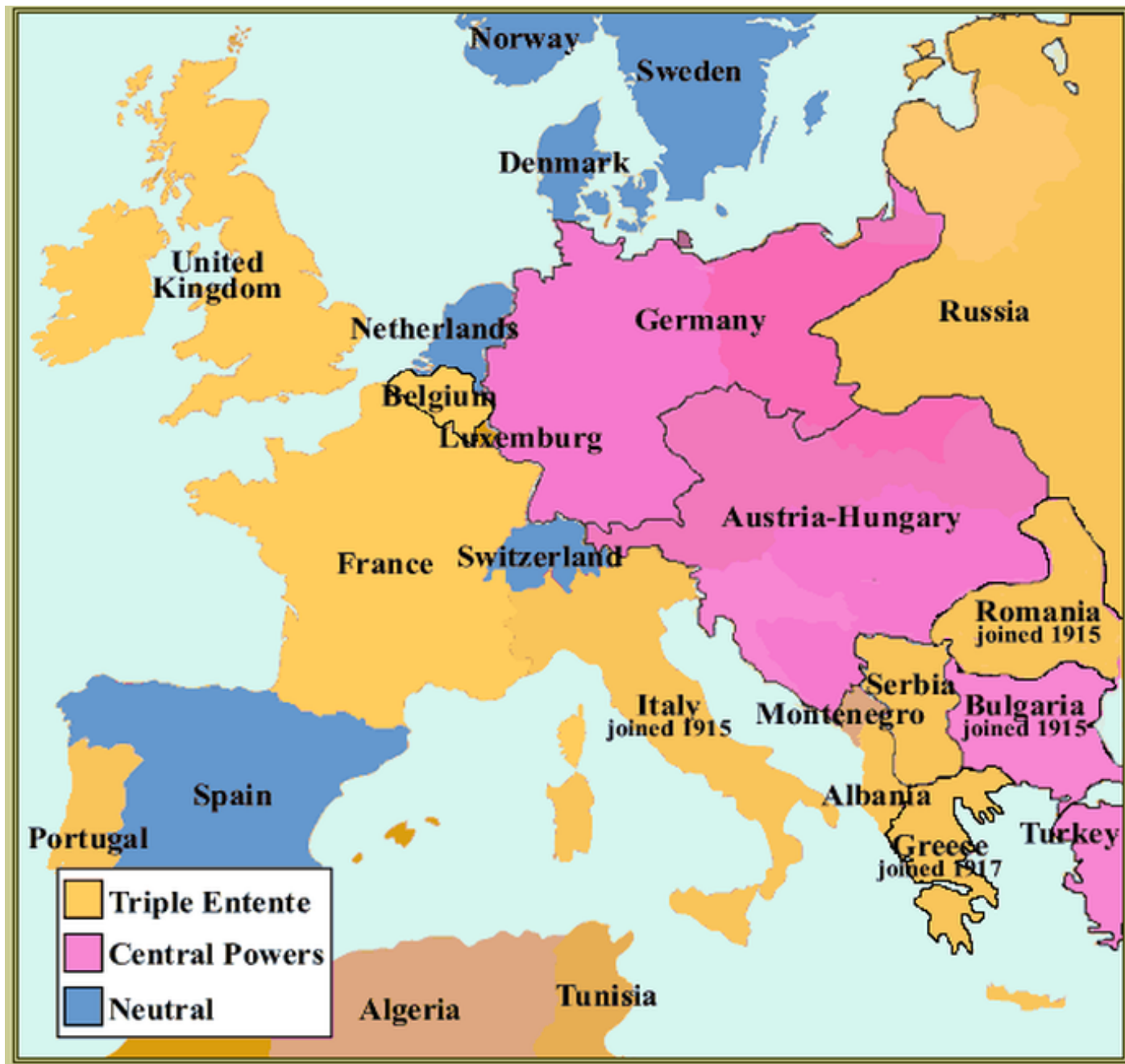
Triple Alliance (Central Powers)

- Germany
 - Austria-Hungary
 - Italy
 - (later) Turkey
- *Brought together by the “Dual Alliance”*

Triple Entente (Allied Powers)

- Britain
 - Russia
 - France
 - (later) Italy
- *Brought together by the “Entente Cordial” (friendly relations” agreement between Britain and France*
- *Britain and Russia have their own agreement*

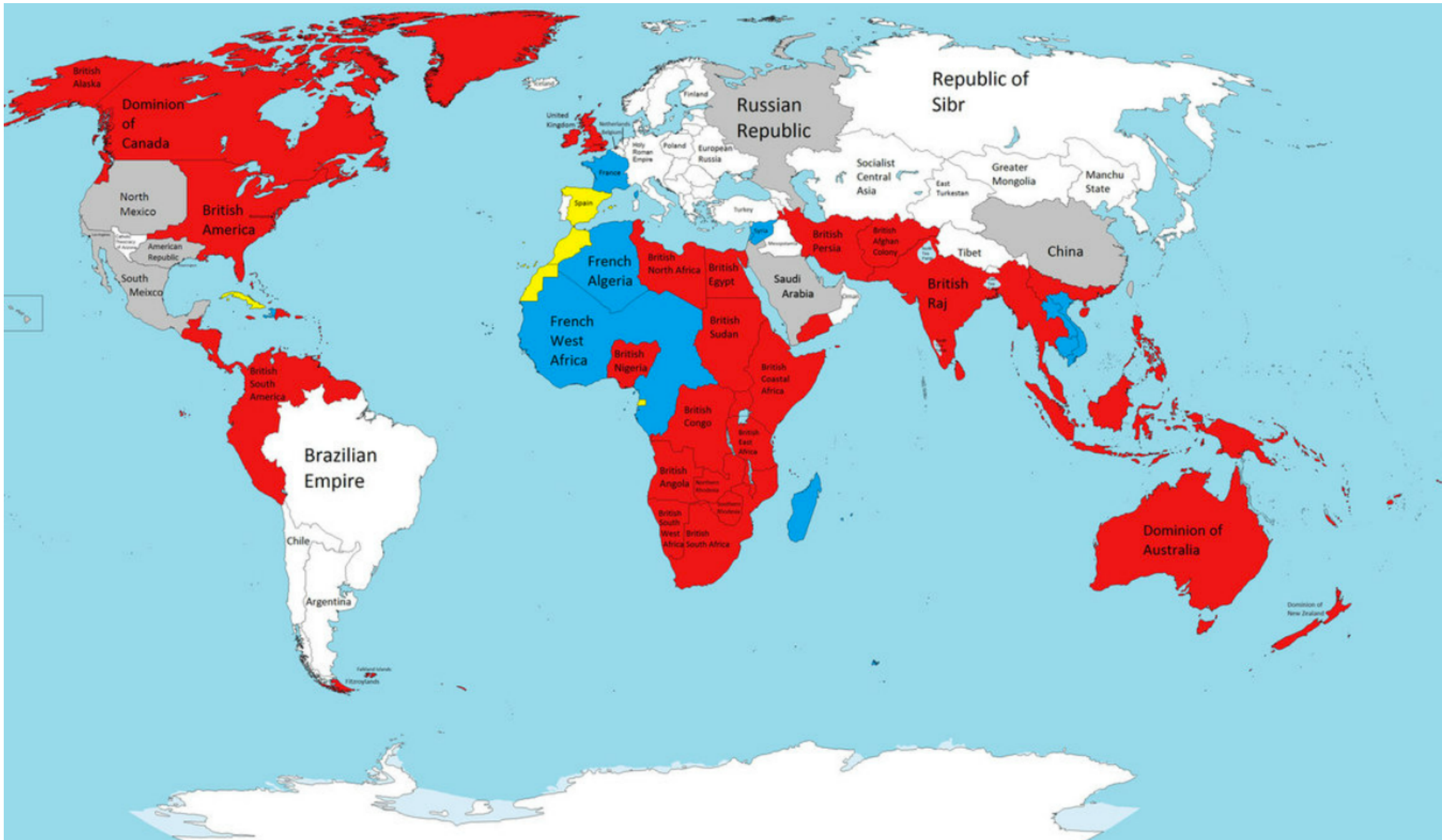






World War 1 – Causes – Nationalism

- Pride in one's country is very strong at this time in Europe. This is reflected in several things: anthems, politics, ethnocentrism, etc.
- War is seen as a source of pride for nations. *"Look what I can take on."*
- **Germany:** wanted to become a superpower, and in order to do this, they needed: more colonies, a large army, and a navy comparable to Britain's. Germany wanted to pursue its "place in the sun."
- **France:** lost territory during the Franco-Prussian war to Germany and wanted it back. Morocco also wanted freedom from France and Germany supported this sentiment.
- **Britain:** believed in their identity as the "Great British Empire" and disliked the tension between the countries who wanted to rival their power *"The sun never sets on the British Empire."*



British Alaska

Dominion of Canada

North Mexico

British America

American Republic

South Mexico

British South America

Brazilian Empire

Chile

Argentina

Falkland Islands
FitzRoy Islands

United Kingdom

Netherlands
Belgium

France

Spain

Italy

Germany

Austria

Prussia

Denmark

Sweden

Portugal

Japan

China

India

British India

British East Africa

British West Africa

British South Africa

British East Africa

British West Africa

British South Africa

Russian Republic

Republic of Sibir

Socialist Central Asia

Greater Mongolia

Manchu State

Tibet

China

Saudi Arabia

British Persia

British Afghan Colony

British Raj

Dominion of Australia

Dominion of New Zealand

World War 1 – Causes – Nationalism

- **Serbia:** becomes an independent country in 1878. Many Serbians and people of Slavic background are spread out in other countries under Turkish and Austrian rule.
- Serbia desires all Serbs to be under its control and has Russia's backing of this policy of Pan Slavism
- This nationalism movement leads to the creation of terrorists groups and rebellions against Austrian-Hungarians in the Balkans

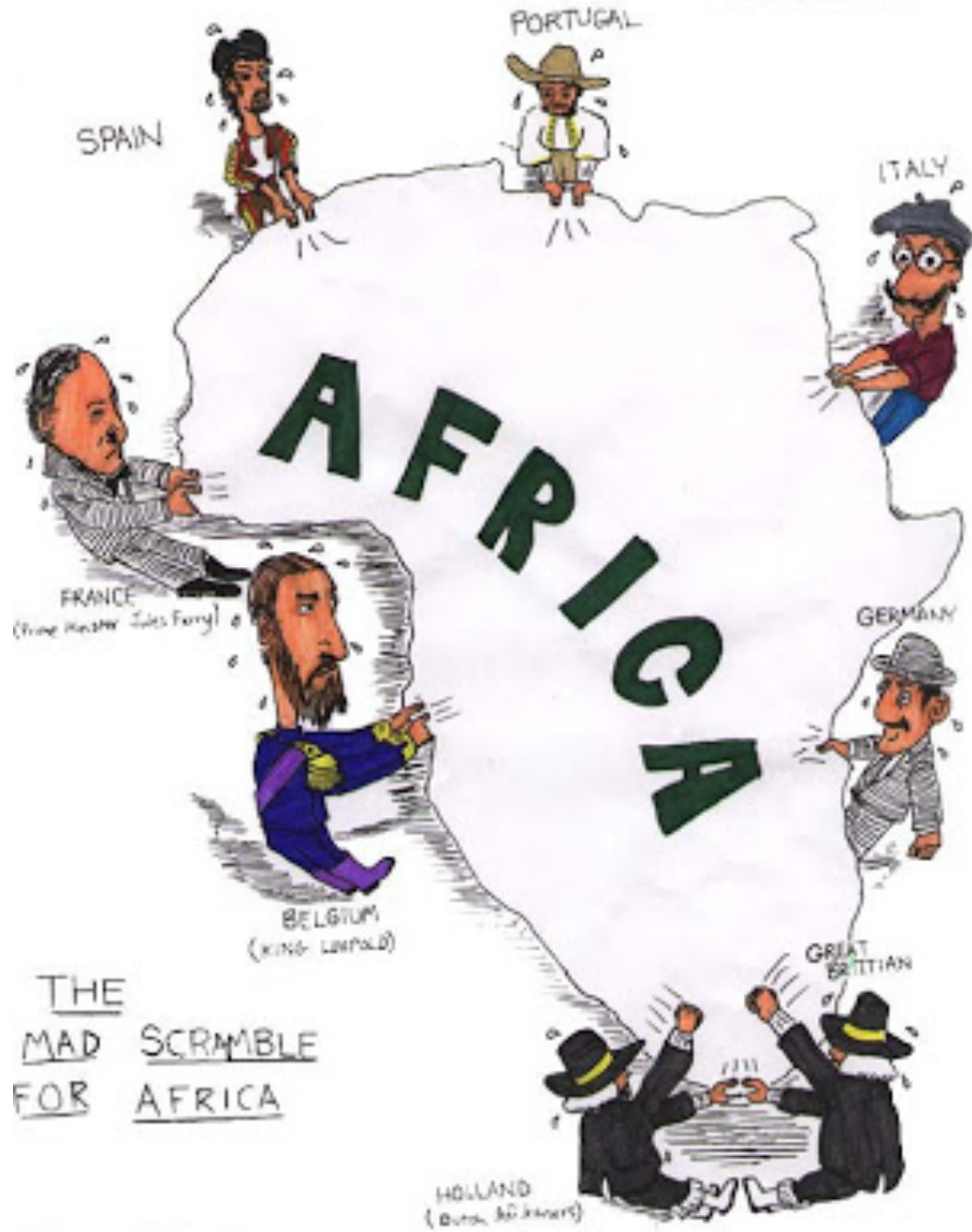


World War 1 – Causes – Imperialism

- **Imperialism:** a policy of extending a country's power and influence through diplomacy or military force.
- European powers competed for control of colonies that possessed raw materials and strategic importance
 - Recall the “Scramble for Africa”



DAVID BANBRIDGE



Colonialism (1914)



World War 1 – Causes – Assassination

- June 28, 1914: Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary is assassinated by Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip. Princip belong to a “terrorist” group fighting for independence from Austria-Hungary.

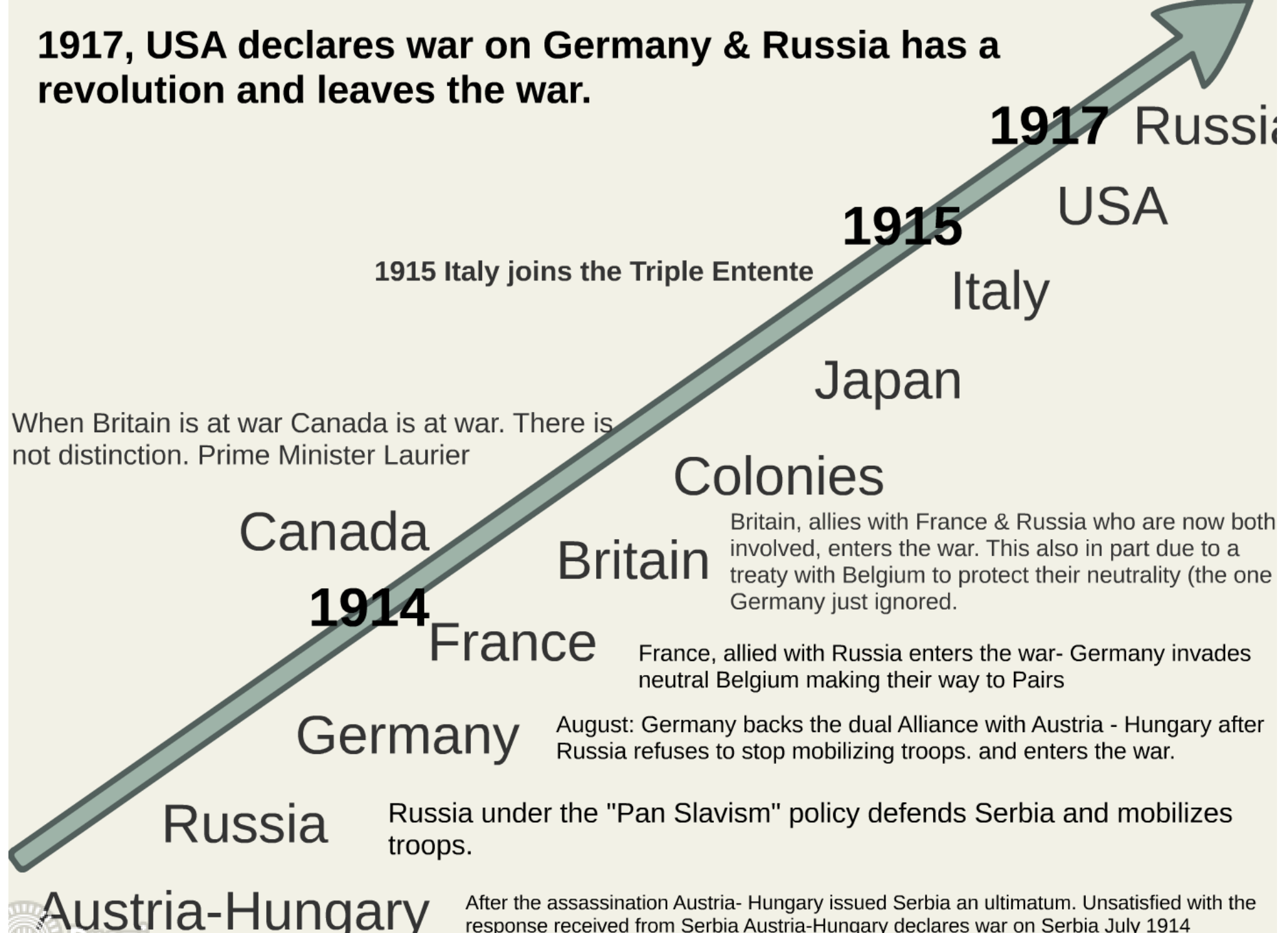


National Interest = Internationalist Problem

The Domino Effect



1917, USA declares war on Germany & Russia has a revolution and leaves the war.



The Schlieffen Plan

- Consider Germany's location on the map...
- Germany is facing a mutli-front war, so they devise a plan before the Russian troops can be on the western and eastern fronts (a battle they knew they would lose)
- Carrying through with the **Schlieffen Plan** takes German troops through Belgium, this violating their neutrality... Which brings Britain into the war



Then What?

- Germany loses.
- World War One ended at 11 am on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, in 1918. Germany signed an armistice (an agreement for peace and no more fighting) that had been prepared by Britain and France.
- Germany is forced to sign the **Treaty of Versailles** at the **Paris Peace Conference**. Essentially, this treaty forces Germany to acknowledge and take blame for all of the death and destruction caused during the war...
 - **What could go wrong?**