

Were the peace treaties of 1919-23 fair?

Main Focus	Specified Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the motives and aims of the Big Three at Versailles? • Why did all the victors not get everything they wanted? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the impact of the peace treaty on Germany up to 1923? • Could the treaties be justified at the time? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The peace treaties of 1919–23: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the roles of individuals such as Wilson, Clemenceau and Lloyd George in the peacemaking process • – the impact of the treaties on the defeated countries • – contemporary opinions about the treaties

The big three

- **Georges Clemenceau, Prime Minister of France**
Woodrow Wilson, President of America
David Lloyd George, Prime Minister of Britain
- The different victorious powers wanted different things, so there is no way that they could ALL get what they wanted
 - **Wilson** insisted on a **League of Nations**, even though **Britain** and **France** did not.
 - **Clemenceau** wanted to destroy Germany with **huge reparations** **USA** and **Britain** did not.
 - They came from different countries who had been affected differently **public opinion** at home affected the leaders' decisions
 - **Wilson** was an **idealist** with different policies, **George** and **Clemenceau** were **imperialists** and realists- different ideas due to national self-interest

Country/Who	Aims	Motives
France: George Clemenceau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent disarmament -High reparations • Alsace-Lorraine and Saar Basin given to France • Rhineland to be an independent state so France would not share a border with Germany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If Germany was weakened they would not attack Europe and France again • France had suffered more than Britain or the US and there was a national desire for

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No League of Nations • Germany to be broken into small states 	<p>revenge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France shared a border with Germany and had already been invaded in 1870 and 1914
<p>Britain: Lloyd George</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wanted Germany to lose its navy and colonies as they threatened the British Empire • Reparations to be not too high as it would hurt Germany's economy • If Germany didn't have the Rhineland, where most of its industry was, they would not be wealthy enough to buy British goods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Britain had suffered direct attacks, 1 million casualties, food shortages and economy had suffered and so the public wanted revenge. Lloyd George had to reflect these views as a re-election was coming up • However, Britain needed Germany to have a good economy as they were a valuable trading partner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A weak Germany would be susceptible to communism
<p>USA: Woodrow Wilson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devised the 14 points in 1918 in which Wilson hoped would form the basis of the TOV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The US had not suffered as much in WWI, removed from the conflict, no territory had been invaded, only entered the war in April 1917, 800 civilians dead • If the treaty was too harsh on Germany then communism would take over, like in Russia 1917 and Germany would take revenge when their economy recovered

1. No secret treaties – had to lead to misunderstandings and suspicion in the past
- 2. Free navigation of the seas in peacetime and wartime**
3. Free trade between countries
4. **Disarmament for all countries** – build-up of weapons had been one of the causes of war
5. Colonies have a say in their own future
6. German troops to leave Russia
7. Independence for Belgium
- 8. Return Alsace Lorraine to France**
9. The frontier between Austria and Italy adjusted
- 10. Self-determination for people of Eastern Europe**
11. Serbia to have access to the seas
- 12. Self-determination for people in the Turkish Empire**
13. Poland to become an independent state with access to the seas
- 14. League of Nations to be set up**

Countries created by self-determination:

Treaty of Versailles	Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia
Treaty of Saint Germain	Czechoslovakia
Treaty of Trianon	Yugoslavia

Treaty of Versailles 28 June 1919

- ❖ **War guilty (Clause 231)** - Germany had to accept full responsibility for the war. This provides a justification for other clauses of the ToV.
- ❖ **£6.6 billion reparation:** The major powers agreed, without consulting Germany that Germany need to pay reparations to allies for the damage of the war. ❖ **Loss of territories and colonies**
 - German colonies became mandates controlled by LoN (Britain and France)
 - Alsace Lorraine given to France
 - Danzig in Polish Corridor became a free city by the LoN, that cut East Prussia from Germany
 - Saar Basin under LoN for 15 years, then a plebiscite to decide if it should be France, Germany or LoN. In the meantime, coal profits go to France ➢ Anschluss was forbidden
 - Estonia, Lavia and Lithuania were set up as independent countries. Treaty of Brest Litovsk cancelled

❖ **Restriction and reduction in military force**

- No submarines, tanks, or aeroplanes. Only 6 battleships are allowed.
- An army of 100,000 men. No conscription.
- Rhineland became a demilitarised zone.

Reaction to the ToV

● German

- German public felt cheated, stunned, hated, angry, unfair of these harsh terms in ToV (diktat).
 - The treatment was not in keeping with Wilson's Fourteen Points
 - A blow to Germany's pride and economy.
 - The Big Three had not negotiated with Germany in Paris - the German government didn't present the peace talks.
 - Germany's comments on the treaty were largely ignored.
 - Germany had not been invaded by the allies and German leaders had pretended that they were winning, right up to the signing of the armistice.

● Britain: some satisfaction

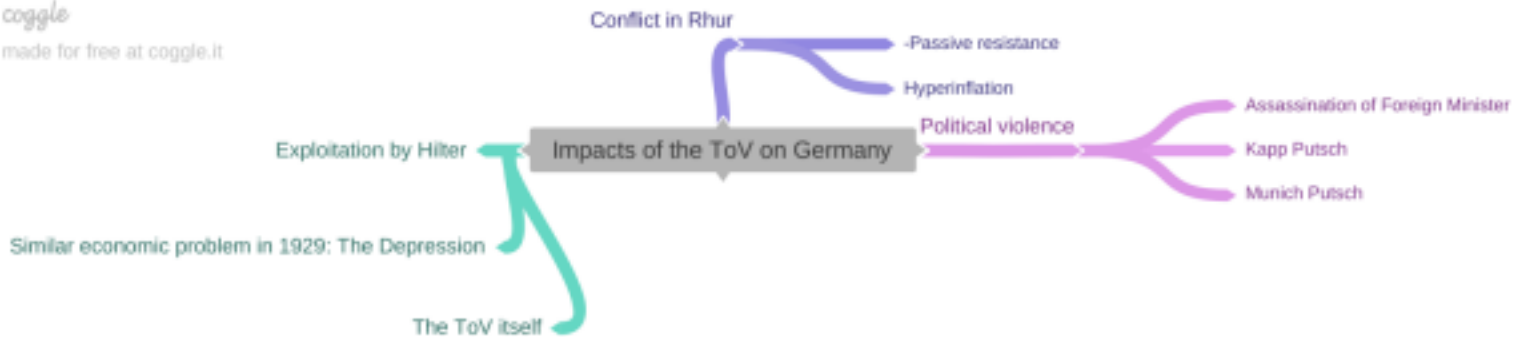
- Britain gained most of Germany's colonies which help it recover its wealth and power.

● France: not very satisfied

- They thought Germany was not weakened enough and would rise again in decades.

● The USA: refuse to ratify the treaty

- Congress which was mostly consist of Republicans refused to sign the ToV because:
 - Republicans against President Wilson (Democrat)
 - Republicans wanted isolation.



Justification

- Fair
 - Avoid future war started by Germany
 - Germany had the ability to pay reparation
 - By 1925 German steel production was twice that of Britain
 - Countries need reparation from Germany to rebuild infrastructures
 - With a population of 40 million, half a million died and 700 thousand were disabled.
 - almost one million British soldiers, sailors and airmen had been killed.
- Unfair
 - It is considered as diktat
 - German government didn't present the peace talks.
 - Germany's comments on the treaty were largely ignored.
 - The treatment was not in keeping with Wilson's Fourteen Points
 - It increased instability and life harder for ordinary people
 - Increased tax to pay reparations
 - The invasion of Rhur → job lost → savings wiped out

Austria: The Treaty of St Germain, 1919

- Massive territorial loss which was taken by newly independent countries: Bohemia-Moravia to Czechoslovakia; Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia to Yugoslavia; Galicia to Poland and the land to Italy.
- Its army was reduced to 30,000 soldiers.
- Supposed to pay reparation (never set though)
- Forbidding the union between Austria and Germany (Anschluss)

- Italy feared a resurgence of Austrian power in the region

- Significance of the treaty

- The treaty formalised the break-up of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. ● The harshness of the treaty contributed to the Austrian support for Hitler after he came to power.

- Impacts of the treaty

- The treaty had an economic impact because land given to Czechoslovakia contained much of Austria's industry. As a result, Austria's economy collapsed in 1921.
- Europe was impacted politically because eastern Europe was now made up of lots of newer smaller states, instead of several powerful empires. This meant there was a lot of instability.
- Europe was impacted socially because the new states formed as a result of the treaty contained a mix of different nationalities, who often clashed.

Bulgaria: The Treaty of Neuilly, 1919

- Bulgaria lost 10% land to Greece, Romania and Yugoslavia.
- Its army was limited to 20,000.
- £100 million in reparation.

Bulgaria had less harsh treatment because they were the first of the Central Power to surrender. However, many Bulgarians were governed by foreign powers by 1920.

The Bulgarian leader who signed the treaty was assassinated in 1923

Hungary: The Treaty of Trianon, 1920

- Hungary had to accept the break up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. ● Hungary lost land to Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Austria and Romania. ● Hungary lost more than two-thirds of its territory and a third of its population. ● Its army was limited to 35,000 troops.
- It was supposed to pay reparations, but its economy collapsed so they were never set.
 - Its industries suffered from the loss of population and raw materials.

Turkey: The Treaty of Sevres, 1920

- The Ottoman Empire lost substantial amount of land.

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- Parts of Turkey were defined as zones of influence controlled by the British, French or Italian.

- The tax system, finances and budget were all controlled by the Allies.
- The army was limited to 50,000 troops.
- The Ottoman Empire lost control of the Dardanelles Strait between the Black and Mediterranean seas, which became an international waterway.

Turkey had long been a great and proud empire, and Turks were angered and humiliated by the terms.

→ overthrow of the government

→ Britain did not want a return to war so they agreed to create the new Treaty of Lausanne.

- Significance of the treaty

- It showed the other treaties were not enforceable. If there were protests against a harsh settlement there was little the Allies could do as they were afraid to return to war, to enforce the treaties' terms.
- When Britain decided to create a new treaty that Turkey might consider fair, this was seen as acceptance the old treaty was unfair. Therefore it undermined all treaties created under the peace settlement.
- The Treaty of Sevres and its subsequent renegotiation gave Hitler and Mussolini an excuse to break international law.

To what extent was the League of Nations a success

Main Focus	Specified Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How successful was the League in the 1920s? • How far did weaknesses in the League's organisation make failure inevitable? • How far did the Depression make the work of the League more difficult? • How successful was the League in the 1930s? 	<p>The League of Nations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – strengths and weaknesses in its structure and organisation: work of the League's agencies/ humanitarian work – successes and failures in peacekeeping during the 1920s – the impact of the world depression on the work of the League after 1929

	– the failures of the League in the 1930s, including Manchuria and Abyssinia
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The organizations and membership of the League of Nations

<p><u>The Assembly</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The League's parliament • Met once a year • Decisions made had to be unanimous 	<p><u>The Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five times or more a year • Permanent members: Britain, France, Italy, Italy and Japan. • Each permanent member has a veto. • Powers: moral condemnation, economic sanctions and armed force from member countries.
<p><u>The Secretariat</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil service • Bring together experts from across the world 	<p><u>The Permanent Court of International Justice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim to settle disputes • Had no way of making sure that countries followed its ruling.

Four aims of the League of Nations

1. Discourage aggression
2. Encourage disarmament
3. Encourage cooperation
4. Improve living standards

How successful is the LoN in the 1920s?

Discourage aggression

Success	Failure
<p>Bulgaria incidence 1925</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greece invaded Bulgaria because their soldiers were killed on the border. - The secretary-general immediately called a meeting of the LoN in Paris. - League's judgement: Greece withdrew and pay 45,000 pounds in compensation 	<p>Corfu incidence 1923</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Italian General Tellini was killed on the border between Italy and Greece. Mussolini blamed Greece and demanded compensation. He then invaded the island of Corfu. - Council of the LoN → the Council of Ambassadors - Greece has to apologise to Italy and pay compensation.

Aaland Islands 1921 Vilna 1920

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Both Sweden and Finland claimed the island and were threatening war. - The LoN: the islands belong to Finland but the Swedish on the islands can decide in what ways they want to be ruled. - Sweden accepted this judgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poland took control of Lithuania. - The LoN told poles to leave, but they didn't. - France and Britain were not prepared to act.
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Encourage disarmament

Success	Failure
<p>The Disarmament Commission worked to persuade member countries to reduce the size of their armed forces and to cut down their stocks of weapons.</p>	<p>There is no disarmament conference until 1932.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nations disagree to disarm
<p>The Washington Conference, 1921-22 - Britain, Japan and the USA agreed to limit the size of their navies Locarno treaties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Germany accepted its western border as set out in the ToV. 	

Encourage cooperation

Success	Failure
<p>Economic recovery/trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daws plan - Marshall plan <p>The league helped to develop an internationalist mind-set among leaders - Pave the path for the UN</p>	

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Improve living standards

Success	Failure
<p>The Refugee Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduced 'Nansen Passport' which helped genuine refugees to travel across borders easier. - 400,000 prisoners were returned home by the League's agencies. 	<p>The Refugee Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of funds - Complicated international situation in the 1930s
<p>The International Labour Organisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New resolution: Maximum 48-hour week, 8-hour day - Banning poisonous white lead from paint 	<p>The International Labour Organisation -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only a few countries adopt the new resolution as the industrial cost would increase - Lack of funds → broke the resolution themselves
<p>The Health Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop vaccines and other medicines to fight deadly disease (leprosy and malaria) in research institutes they sponsored. - Advice on preventing plague in Siberia (USSR). 	

How successful is the LoN in the 1930s? Failure to a great extent

Invasion of Manchuria

- In 1931, China appealed to the League of Nations which condemned Japan and ordered its troops to be withdrawn. Manchuria should be returned to China. - Japan rejected this and left the League in March 1933.

→ Japan was a leading member of the League

→ Japan successfully trampled the League and the prestige of the League was damaged.

→ A great power using force, contrary to the Covenant, could only be stopped by a greater force, of which was found lacking.

The Great Depression in the 1930s: Britain and France suffered from serious economic problems and were reluctant to exert economic pressure on Japan or apply a trade boycott of Japan in case it led to war.

Abyssinia (Ethiopia)

- In 1934, the Italian army had built a fort at Wal-Wal, an oasis in Abyssinia. - There was a dispute between Italian soldiers and Abyssinian soldiers.

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- Mussolini claimed there was Italian territory and demand an apology. -

In Oct 1935, Italian troops invaded Abyssinia.

→ The sanctions did not include a ban on exports of oil, coal and steel to Italy.

→ the Suez Canal (supply route)which was owned by Britain and France was not closed to Mussolini's ships.

→ Small states lost all faith in the League and Hitler himself was encouraged to break the Versailles Treaty (remilitarise Rhineland)

→ Mussolini allied with Hitler to form Rome-Berlin Axis.

Effect/ Consequences

1. Undermind the authority of the LoN
2. Lose faith in the effectiveness of the League
3. Only work with backup of powerful countries
4. Show self-interest > collective interest
5. It succeeded in settling disputes between small nations, but the League failed to preserve peace among the major powers.

Reasons for failure

1. **Absence of major countries:** no major power = no authority = no effectiveness
 - a. The USA: isolationist policy
 - i. Economic sanctions against an aggressive nation could not be very successful if the United States continued to trade with it.
 - b. The USSR: ideology
 - c. Germany: the Treaty of Versailles is the source of pain for Germans. After WW1, resentment of Germany still existed.
2. **Self-interest > collective interest**
 - a. Britain: maintain peace and encourage economic recovery after the war.
France: potentially dangerous Germany
3. **The Great Depression:** Member nations became more concerned with solving their own economic problems than with preserving peace.
 - a. Some countries tried to protect their own industries by putting tariffs on imports. Trading partner so did the same thing and trade got even worse. b. Many countries started to rearm as a way to get industries working and giving jobs to the unemployed. But these new armies caused alarm and tension.
 - c. The internationalist spirit of the 1920s was replaced by a more exploiting my neighbors approach in the 1930s.
 - d. Countries put their own (domestic) affairs, especially economy, on top priority and help sort out international problems at low priority.

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4. Lack of power to enforce decisions

- a. it did not have the force to make countries stop fighting
- b. Unwillingness to impose economic sanctions on aggressive nations
 - i. It would harm their own trade as much as an aggressor's.
 - ii. The USA was absent.

Disarmament Conference 1932

- Achievement: limited the size of artillery, the tonnage of tanks and prohibit chemical weapons
- Failure: the bombing of civilians was to be prohibited, but all attempts to agree to abolish planes capable of the bombing were defeated (the proposal of ban the manufacture of chemical weapons).
- Germany withdrew from the Disarmament Conference and the LoN and started rearming secretly. Other countries also began to rebuild their own armaments. It finally failed in 1934.

Locarno Treaties 1925

Germany accepted its western borders as set out in the ToV. This was greeted with great enthusiasm, especially in France. It paved the way for Germany to join the LoN.

Why had international peace collapsed by 1939?

Main focus	Specified Content
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- The collapse of international order in the 1930s
- The increasing militarism of Germany, Italy and Japan
- Hitler's foreign policy to 1939:
 - the Saar
 - remilitarisation of the Rhineland
 - involvement in the Spanish Civil War
 - Anschluss with Austria
 - appeasement
 - crises over Czechoslovakia and Poland
 - the outbreak of war

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- What were the long-term consequences of the peace treaties of 1919–23?
 - What were the consequences of the failures of the League in the 1930s?
 - How far was Hitler's foreign policy to blame for the outbreak of war in 1939?
 - Was the policy of appeasement justified?

- How important was the Nazi-Soviet Pact?

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<p>- Why did Britain and France declare war on Germany in September 1939?</p>	
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Germany's rise

Hilter's foreign policy aims

- 1. Abolish the ToV
 - a. The root of economic, social, and political problems in Germany.
 - b. A constant of defeat and humiliation.
 - c. 'November Criminals'
- 2. Expand German territory
 - a. Anschluss (reunite with Austria)
 - b. Get former German land back
 - c. Lebensraum ('living space' for German)
- 3. Defeat communism
 - a. He believed that Bolsheviks had helped to defeat Germany in the WW1
 - b. He thought the Bolsheviks wanted to take over Germany.

<p>Terms of the ToV</p>	<p>What Hitler did and when</p>	<p>The reasons he gave for his action</p>	<p>The response from Britain and France</p>
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<p>Germany's armed force to be severely limited</p> <p>The Rhineland to a demilitarised zone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1933: Germany left the LoN and began to rearm secretly. - 1935: massive military rallies - 1936: conscription reintroduced - March 1936: Hitler marched German troops into the Rhineland with strict demands to retreat if French 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foreign policy aim: reverse the ToV. - 'Self defence': 100000 men was a small army and other nations had failed to disarm in 1934 - Reduce unemployment - The action was in defiance of the ToV and Locarno pact. - Hitler claimed Germany was under threat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Britain felt the terms of the ToV were too harsh: In 1934 the Anglo Naval agreement allowed the German navy to rearm 35% of the British navy, - Britain also thought a strong Germany would be a good buffer to communism. - Britain felt the ToV was too harsh and the Rhineland itself was comparable to 'their back garden'. - France had an
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	<p>retaliate.</p>	<p>because France and the USSR signed an agreement to protect each other from German attack.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The LoN was preoccupied with the Abyssinian crisis. 	<p>exaggerated view of the strength of the German forces - French leaders were about to hold an election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - France would only act with British support.
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<p>Germany forbidden to unite with Austria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In March 1938 Hilter marched into Austria: Mussolini and Hilter were allies → Hilter tried a union in 1934 but it was stopped by Mussolini - Nazi party stirred up troubles in Austria: riots and demonstrations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Austrian people were mainly German. - Austria was Hilter's homeland. - Fulfilled his foreign policy - Austria had soldiers, weapons and rich deposits of gold and iron ore. - Austria was economically weak. → unite German speakers in a strong Germany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - France and Britain were not prepared to go to war to defend a flawed treaty. - Austrian Chancellor Schuschnigg called a plebiscite after Britain and France failed to give support.
<p>The Sudetenland take into new state of Czechoslovakia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In May 1938 Hiler declared his intention to invade Czechoslovakia. - 15th Sep, Hilter said he was only interested in the parts of Sudetenland where Sudeten German live and want to join Germany through a plebiscite. - 22nd Sep, Hilter increased his demand, he wanted all the Sudetenland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foreign policy aim - A large number of German: once a part of the Austro-Hungarian empire. - Skoda factory and mineral resources. - Leave Czechoslovakia defenseless – next step to Poland and the USSR. - Justification: Czech government mistreated Sudeten Germans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Britain and France thought Hitler's initial demands were reasonable. → They put their plan to Czechs. - The British navy was mobilised.

<p>The Polish Corridor given to Poland</p>	<p>- On 15th March 1939, German troops marched into Czechoslovakia. - On 1st Sep 1939, the Germany army invaded Poland.</p>	<p>- Foreign policy: reverse the ToV. - After years of Appeasement, Hilter thought B and F would not risk a war.</p>	<p>- The end of Appeasement: B and F declared that if Hitler invaded Poland they would declare war on G. - On 2nd Sep, they declared war on G.</p>
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The Saar Plebiscite 1935

- The Saarland was run under the LoN for 15 years and was given a vote to decide if this region should be returned to Germany
 - 90% voted to return to German control
 - Genuine support for Hilter - Germans hated the ToV and loved Germany more than they feared the Nazi regime
- Hilter worried because many of his enemies fled to the Saarland ○ Goebbles mounted a massive campaign to persuade the people to vote for the Reich
 - 1700 Nazis threatened to invade the Saar and impose Nazi rule
 - The League was scared to confront violence

The Spanish Civil War 1936 - 1939

- Stalin's USSR supported the Republican government.
 - Weapons, aircraft, pilots, International Brigades
 - Hilter and Mussolini supported General Franco's right-wing rebels. ○ Nationalists won the war and a right-wing dictatorship ruled Spain for the next 36 years.
 - Devastating impact of modern weapons convinced Chamberlain and others not to intervene at all costs.
 - Hilter may form an alliance with Britain or persuade them (plus France) to remain neutral in future wars.
- Encourage Hitler in his main plan to reverse the ToV.
→ It gave combat experience to German and Italian forces.
→ It strengthened the bond between Mussolini and Hitler.

Militarism and the Axis

- Winston Churchill describe the 1930s as 'gathering storm'.
- Hilter and Mussolini's armed forces were effective.
- Mussolini was aggressively trying to assert his authority in the Mediterranean and North Africa.
- Japan was under the control of hardline nationalists such as General Tojo.

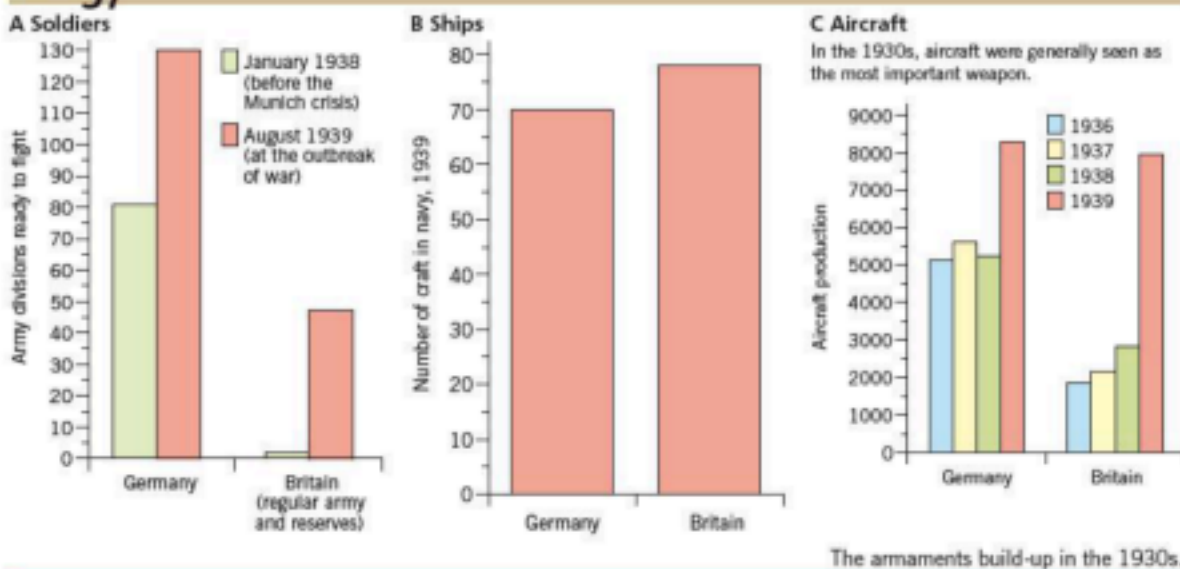
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- Japan was looking to expand an empire across Asia - In 1937 they invade China
- Japan, Germany (1936) and Italy (1937) signed an anti-Comintern pact, standing against communism called the **Axis alliance**.

Appeasement

For		Against	
Germany provide a buffer to communism.	Memories of the horrors of WW1 - avoid a repeat	Hilter could see other fascist leaders got away with the wrongs.	Stalin and the USSR's suspicious of Britain and France's
Mistaken idea that Hitler was trustworthy.	Countries see Germany was better armed than Britain or France.	Appeasement encouraged Hitler's aggression - he made increasing gambles.	willingness to let Hitler invade Russia → caused the Nazi-Soviet Pact.
Britain could not guarantee the support of its empire, the Commonwealth or the USA (isolation) - they required aid.	Many felt the ToV was unfair to Germany - once these wrongs were put right Germany would become a peaceful country.	Hindsight – Germany was not as strong as believed, B and F could have stopped war by acting far earlier.	A betrayal of the people of Czechoslovakia.
It gave Britain and France more time to rearm.	France and Britain had a huge amount of debts and huge unemployment,		

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The Munich Agreement 1938 after the Sudetenland incident

- The leaders of Britain, France, Germany and Italy announced that Czechoslovakia lose Sudetenland to Germany.
- They did not consult with the Czechs nor the USSR.
- On 1st Oct German troops marched into the Sudetenland.
 - Hitler went back on his promises. - 'undreamt-of triumph'
 - Britain would not risk a war.

→ Hitler would increase gambles

→ Chamberlain approved a massive increase in arms spending in preparation for wars.

→ Opinion polls in Sep 1938 show British people didn't believe Appeasement would stop Hitler.

The Nazi-Soviet Pact 24 August 1939

- To Hitler: the USSR was less sure if he moves toward Poland
 - Benefits:
 - Avoid a two-front war.
 - Gained half of Poland and reunite East and West Prussia.
- To Stalin: Fears and suspicions
 - Stalin could not reach any lasting agreement with B or F.
 - The LoN was too powerless to guarantee his security against G.
 - The Munich agreement: B and F were happy for Hitler to take over Eastern Europe → eliminating the threat of communism.
 - Benefits:
 - They agreed not to attack each other - time to prepare for an inevitable war with G.

→ G invaded P on 1st Sep 1939.

→ B and F declared war on G.

A. It showed that 'internationalism' had been completely abandoned.	B. It freed Hitler from the problem of a two-front war, which helped him to conquer Poland and most of Western Europe in 1939–40.	C. It exposed Britain and France's hope that Nazi Germany and the USSR would fight each other rather than them.
D. It showed that Britain feared Stalin's USSR as much as Hitler's Germany.	E. It gave Stalin time to build up forces for future war with Germany.	F. It gave Hitler the confidence to defy Britain and France and attack Poland.