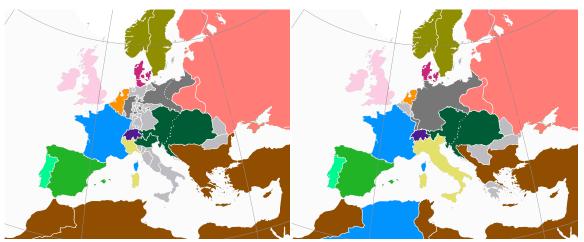
I. The Changing Face of Europe (1848-1914)

- 1. When Napoleon was defeated in 1815, the other major powers of Europe forced France to accept the return of its traditional monarchy.
- 2. Until 1848, the new kings were able to stay in power, first by being absolute rulers, and then to avoid another revolution, by granting a constitution, but none of these measures satisfied the French.
- 3. When the nephew of Napoleon, named Louis Napoleon, presented himself as the solution to France's woes, "Bonapartism" swept France again, and a revolt against the monarchy in 1848 provided the opportunity Louis Napoleon needed to take power. When protests flooded the streets, King Louis Philippe simply abdicated and evacuated from France, not willing to suffer the same fate as Louis XVI. Louis Napoleon was elected as France's new president.
- 4. Like Napoleon before him, Louis Napoleon was a charismatic leader who saw an opportunity to grab more power. He appealed to the people that he needed the power to create new laws to give them the "right to work" that France's new legislators did not agree to. Louis Napoleon was re-elected in 1852 with these new powers, and he seized the moment to declared the Second French Empire, with himself as Napoleon III. (Napoleon had had a son, known as Napoleon II.)
- 5. Both Italy and Germany saw the rise of a new Napoleon as a chance to bring about their national unifications once and for all. Italy's leaders offered Napoleon a region called Savoy, (which was traditionally French, but had been taken away after the original Napoleon's defeat) as a bribe to help the Italians expel the Austrians, who had occupied northern Italy after Napoleon. This succeeded, and a charismatic Italian leader named Giuseppe Garibaldi then led a small force down to southern Italy to combined the rest of the country into one by 1871.
- 6. For German leaders the rise of a new Napoleon represented a different kind of opportunity: it gave them the common enemy they needed to finally unite into a nation. Charismatic leader Otto von Bismarck had organized the northern German state according to a philosophy of militarism, which he called "blood and iron." He fooled Napoleon III into attacking Germany by pretending to be seeking the union of Prussia (northern Germany) and Spain by the combination of their hereditary monarchies. The combination of Napoleon's reckless aggression and of Bismarck leadership gave Prussia the edge in the *Franco-Prussian War* of *1870-1*, and propelled Prussia's king to the head of the new *German Empire*.



After the defeat of Napoleon (1815, left map) Italy and Germany had still not combined into nations. The rise of a new Napoleon revived the dream of a French empire, starting with the conquest of Algeria in northern Africa, but it also gave Italy a temporary ally to defeat Austria and unify. Finally, and most importantly, it gave Germany's leaders a common enemy to rally the still un-integrated parts of Germany into the *German Empire*. By 1871 (right map), the map of Europe had changed dramatically.

- 7. As German unification proceeded, the Austrians realized that they would be left out, and that their own empire could not be sustained in the long run. Increasingly, the different non-German people within the empire were looking to become independent.
- 8. The Austrians, who made up 1/4 of the Empire's population decided to ally themselves with the Hungarians, who made up 1/5 of the population, in order to control the rest.
- 9. The Austrian Empire thus became the Austro-Hungarian Empire, a.k.a. Austria-Hungary.
- 10. Once all these pieces were in place, the scene was set for World War I. (This has already been covered in our story of European history 1.0, and you can review the headline events on page 14 of the notes from before).
- J. American Intervention in Europe and a New Concept for Peace
 - 1. Americans greatly valued their political separation from Europe. They were so relieved not to be involved in the war that they re-elected the popular president Woodrow Wilson on a platform entitled "He kept us out of war!"
 - 2. But then a new concept of political *interconnection* was put forward by Wilson. His idea was that America could use its strength to make the world a better place. As expressed by president

Wilson, American could make the world "safe for democracy."

- 4. Although Americans were not all convinced that was a good idea, Woodrow Wilson was the president, and he was able to win approval for the idea. Starting in 1917, over two *million* American men were sent to fight in a European war.
- 5. The positive outcome of this intervention was that Germany and Austria were defeated and the war was brought to an end.
- 6. Following World War I, Europe's leaders examined the history that had brought them to the calamity, which they called the "Great War" at the time, and they concluded that "imperialism" was to blame. If one looks at a map of Europe before WWI, it's easy to see how they might think that.
- 7. These same leaders still believed in nationalism, so they tried to reject empires while embracing nations as the proper building blocks of Europe. This meant redrawing the map to make nations, and then, to help them maintain peace, fostering their integration through institutions (such as a parliament of nations) where they could discuss their disputes in a civilized way and wars could be avoided.
- 8. This idea of political *interconnection*, paired with nationalism is known as "internationalism."
- 9. To encourage political interconnection, a "League of Nations" was created in **1920** (the prototype of the United Nations of today).

