

Ben Palazzolo
Stephen Bregande
Luke Hennessey

In the early 1900s, powerful countries throughout the world began to focus on imperialism and Industrialism. Their goal, to become bigger and stronger, soon became a problem as native peoples began to unite and compete with each other for power. The need for power, people, and resources created tension as two countries competed for the same land. As some countries gained more power, they began to create militaries that were surpassing in technology and numbers. In turn, neighboring countries began to fear for their safety and began creating their own militaries. Tensions rose as countries began distrusting one another, and found safety in forming alliances. An alliance gave a country security, knowing that if war broke out, another military as well as theirs would protect them. Allies were sworn to protect another, and soon countries allied upon a common enemy. At this point, one disagreement could spark a whole continent against itself. This is exactly what happened in Europe that led to World War I.

As a group we analyzed the positive and negative sides of what we thought were the main three factors: militarism, imperialism, and alliances. We decided that militarism is crucial to technological advances, and important to the security of the world. Alliances are good, but only for trade and peace. Alliances could cause unnecessary tension. We found imperialism to be the least necessary, finding it to be the cause of angry societies, resistance, an impeachment of rights, and an unfair claim of power by a superior country. Of these three, we found two needing to be removed as much as possible from society: Imperialism and Alliances.

We believe that the only way to prevent another world war is to regulate Imperialism and Alliances. We considered the abolishment of both mentioned, we realize that it is not possible to fully eliminate them, we believe that if a superior organization, such as NATO or UN, to regulate countries in such a way that would not be harmful to them, but beneficial to all nations.

On the subject of Alliances, we propose that:

- Alliances must be approved by the UN or NATO
- Alliances may only be proposed on economic grounds
- Alliances may in no way provoke war or intentionally create tension between another country
- There shall be no military training between countries; every country may only train their own military without the help of allies.
- There shall be strict limits on military support and funding in times of peace and war.

On the subject of Imperialism, we propose that:

- No country should monopolize or control the economy of another nation
- Debt ceilings may not be raised more than twice without compensating a portion of the debt
- Imports and exports will be limited

References:

An Eyewitness History: The First World War. Kirchberger, Joe H. p 17-23.
Human Legacy. European Brink of War p 780.
In class documents.