

German Foreign Policies 1870 - 1890.

Background:

Two important questions from the past:

How was
Germany
United?

How politically
stable
was Germany?

Not at all!

How politically
stable
was Germany?

39 different states
1815.

Liberal
Revolution
1848.

Minor
Revolts
1817
1830,
1832

Junkers.

Socialist
movements
1848 -

Religious
division.

Nationalism
and no
Austria.

How was
Germany
United?

Industrial Power.

War.

Liberals and
Socialists
upset..

Excluding
many
Germans
(Austria)

By Prussian
Junkers.
Conservatives,
Authoritarians.

Worries
other
states.

Problems w
Nationalism.

How was
Germany
United?

+

How politically
stable
was Germany?

Domestic and Foreign Policies in Germany 1870 - 1890.

Domestic and Foreign Policies in Germany 1870 - 1890.



Otto von Bismarck
1815 - 1898

- Born in the **Junker Class** in Prussia.
- **Ambassador to Russia** 1859 – 1862.
- **1862** Minister-President of Prussia.
- 1871 – Chancellor of Germany.
- **Not a German Nationalist.**
- Wanted Austria out and Prussia in.
- **Feared German Liberals** since they would create an united Germany where Prussia couldn't dominate.
- **Hated Socialists** and Internationalism.
- Knew that he could please the nationalists by uniting Germany.
- *"Not kennt kein Gebot"* (Necessity knows no law.) **REALPOLITIK.**
- *"the great questions of the day are not to be solved by speeches and parliamentary debates, but by iron and blood."*



In 1863 good relations with Russia in Alvensleben Convention

In 1866 war with Austria, forcing North German states into a Confederation.



In 1864 WAR with Denmark

1870 War with France. Getting the Southern States to join Germany

Treaty of Frankfurt May 1871:

- Indemnity of £200 000 000
- Occupying German Army until Indemnity paid.
- France ceded Alsace-Lorraine to Germany.

The One condition that got the French really upset is the last.

Why did Bismarck?

Perhaps he wanted to antagonise the French in order to make a new French war likely. In order to scare the Catholic states to stay in line.

The Nationalists demanded the German speaking territories.

What happened now in Germany?

The German
Constitution.

The German
Industrialization.

The German
Foreign Policies.

... and most important, was our old problems solved?

The German Constitution 1870 -1919.

The Chancellor had very much power.

The Parliament had very little power.

The Constitution was called "the fig-leaf of absolutism".

The Chancellor was responsible to the Emperor, not the Reichtag.

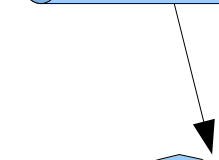
The Reichtag is not without power though, it is at least a political forum, as such it is pretty powerful.

Bismarck gets increasing problems with Social Democrats in the Reichtag.

THIS INCREASE TENSION WITHIN THE GERMAN SOCIETY RATHER THAN SOLVING ANY OF THE PRIOR PROBLEMS.

The German Industrialization.

By 1900 Germany had overtaken Britain as the leading European Industrial Power.



Socialism
becomes
stronger



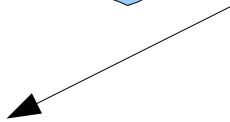
Liberalism
stronger



Need for
colonies
stronger



Social-Conservatism.
Takes care of the
citizens.



German
Colonies



The German Foreign Policies 1870 - 1890.

"We have done enough for our generation" Bismarck 1871.

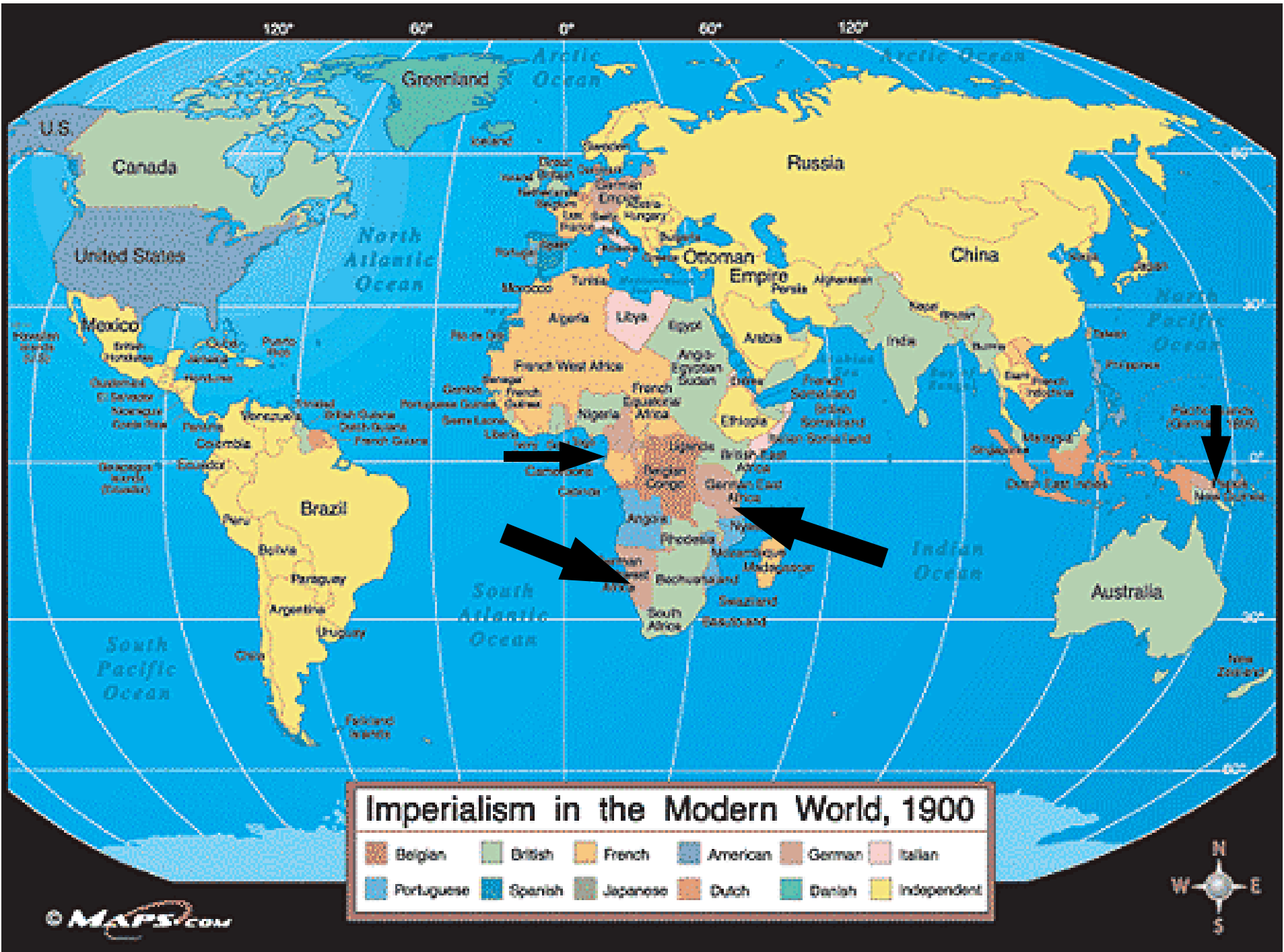
**Kulturkampf
against
Catholics.**

**Aware of French
threat.**

**Concerned with
Austrian-Russian
tensions
in the Balkan.**

Getting Colonies.

**Maintained peace with the
use of Congresses and
Alliances.**



Now go to

<http://www.bfley.com/ecolint-history/Germany1815%20-%201918.htm>

and find the following part .” **Bismarck's foreign policy 1871-90.** (See the chapter on International Relations.) ”

read until you get to Wilhelmine Germany.

After reading the Chapter make sure you understand:

WHY did Bismarck and Germany do what they did in the different conflicts and conferences/alliances?

HOW MUCH of the action taken was controlled by political aims and goals and how much was a necessity given the internal situation in Germany?