

CHAPTER

1800–1920

Nationalism in Europe

THE BIG PICTURE

In the 1800s, nationalism sparked revolutions across Europe. New nations, such as Germany and Italy, formed along cultural lines. Absolute monarchies fell. These nationalist revolutions forever changed the map of Europe—and Europe's balance of power.

Theme GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP

The growth of nationalism in the 1800s had major effects on government and citizenship in Europe. In this chapter you will learn how old governments fell, how new governments were created, and how these changes affected citizens.



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Italian Unification

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Italian Unification

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Italian Unification

Main Idea

In the 1800s, Italian states rebelled against Austria and unified as the Kingdom of Italy.

Reading Focus

- How did nationalism stir in Italy after the Congress of Vienna?
- What role did Cavour and Sardinia play in the path toward Italian unification?
- How did Garibaldi and the Red Shirts help unite Italy?
- What challenges did Italy face after unification?

Stirrings of Nationalism

Italian Peninsula had not been unified since fall of Roman Empire

- Most spoke same language, but peninsula divided into competing states, each with own government
- Napoleon invaded Italy
 - United many states under one government
 - Unification did not last
 - After Napoleon's defeat, Congress of Vienna split Italian states
- Spirit of nationalism began to rise through Europe

After Congress of Vienna

- Austrian Prince Metternich wanted Congress of Vienna to maintain old Europe, old relationships
- 15 years after Congress, old order destroyed beyond repair
- 1800s, nationalism a growing force in Europe, fostered by decisions made at Congress of Vienna

National Groups Ignored

- Congress had ignored national groups, placing them under control of large empires; some empires included different ethnic groups
- Italians split into three groups—much of northern Italy under Austrian rule, other states under Hapsburgs, still others under a French ruler
- Italian nationalism grew in opposition to these conditions

ELEMENTS OF NATIONALISM

QUICK
FACTS

In Europe in the 1800s, devotion to one's national group, or nationalism, swept through the continent. The elements of nationalism listed below help bond a nation together.

How is history an element of nationalism?

Culture Shared beliefs and a way of life create a common bond.

History A shared past connects people as a group.

Religion A common religion helps unite people.

Language A common language is a key element of nationalism.

Territory A shared land gives people a sense of unity.

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Mazzini and Young Italy

Secret Societies

- Italian artists, writers, thinkers became interested in celebrating Italy's cultural traditions
- Others formed secret societies to work for political change, plotted to overthrow Austrian government in Italy

Young Italy

- 1831, popular writer, **Giuseppe Mazzini**, launched nationalist group called Young Italy to fight for unification of Italian states
- Mazzini had been exiled but smuggled patriotic pamphlets into Italy
- Young Italy attracted tens of thousands of Italians to cause of unification

Define

What is nationalism?

Answer(s): devotion to one's national group

The Path Toward Unity

As Italian nationalism grew, some Italians led unsuccessful rebellions. Then two men rose to lead a successful movement to unify Italy.

Uprisings, Revolutions

- 1848, nationalist-inspired revolutions spread throughout Europe
- In some Italian states, citizens rebelled against Austrian rule
 - Piedmont declared war against Austria, fought for year, was defeated
 - Others seized Rome, 1849; French troops helped pope regain control

Cavour and Sardinia

- Only successful revolt was in Sardinia
- Rulers forced to grant new constitution; Sardinia remained independent
- One of most important leaders of Italian unification emerged, **Camillo di Cavour**
- Founded nationalist newspaper, // *Risorgimento*—“resurgence” or “rebirth”

Sardinia and Italy

Kingdom of Sardinia

- 1852, Cavour became prime minister of independent Kingdom of Sardinia
- Believed thriving economy important for Italy to be reborn

Ally

- Cavour in position to cultivate powerful ally
- Supported France in war with Russia; gave France provinces of Savoy, Nice

Economy

- Cavour worked to build Sardinian economy
- Believed Italy should be reborn as monarchy

France's Support

- France agreed to support Sardinia in war against Austria
- 1860, northern Italian states liberated from control of Austrian Empire

Identify Cause and Effect

How did Cavour help Sardinia break free from the Austrian Empire?

Answer(s): He cultivated an alliance with the French.

Garibaldi and the Red Shirts

Sword of Italy

- Many Italians consider Cavour “brain” of Italian unification, Mazzini “heart”
- **Giuseppe Garibaldi** has been called “sword” of Italy
- Garibaldi joined Young Italy movement, 1833

Exile

- Nationalist activities forced Garibaldi to flee Italy twice
- Learned techniques of guerilla warfare while living in South America
- Returned to Italy often to continue fight to free Italy from Austrian domination

Return

- 1854, Garibaldi returned for good
- Cavour asked to lead part of Sardinian army in war against Austria
- After bitter fighting, Austrians agreed to give up Lombardy, retaining Venetia

Control and Elections

The Red Shirts

- Followers known as **Red Shirts** because of colorful uniforms
- By July 1860, using guerilla warfare, Garibaldi, Red Shirts gained control of island of Sicily
- September, Garibaldi, Sardinian troops conquered Naples
- Red Shirts now controlled southern part Italian peninsula
- Garibaldi offered Kingdom of Two Sicilies to Sardinian king **Victor Emmanuel**

Unification

- 1861, territories held elections, all agreed to unification
- Holdouts were Venetia, still belonging to Austria; Papal States, under French troops supporting pope
- 1866, Prussia defeated Austria, gave Venetia to Italy
- 1870, Prussia forced French to withdraw from Rome
- Italian troops entered Rome, completed unification under King Victor Emmanuel



Find the Main Idea

What actions led Garibaldi to be called the “sword” of Italian unification?

Answer(s): He used guerilla tactics to gain control of the southern Italian states.

Challenges After Unification

In the years after unification, Italy faced many new challenges. Although politically unified, Italy had to deal with a number of social and economic problems.

Social, Economic Problems

- Strong regional differences led to lack of unity
- Southern Italians resented being governed by Rome
- Catholic Church did not recognize Italy as legitimate nation

Poverty, Emigration

- Poverty serious problem, caused many to emigrate
- 1880s, large numbers left Italy, many for Americas
- Unemployment, rising taxes led to rioting, violence

Reforms

- Voting reform a major priority
- 1870, only wealthiest Italian men could vote
- By late 1800s most adult male taxpayers could vote

Reforms and Empire

- As Italy industrialized, particularly in north, government passed reforms including laws limiting work hours, prohibiting child labor
- Government encouraged building transportation, water systems to improve cities, encourage industry

A New Foreign Policy

- 1882, Italy formed military alliance with Austria-Hungary, Germany
- Agreed to defend each other against any possible attack
- Arrangement known as Triple Alliance; this, other alliances, brought Europe to war in 1914

Empire Building

- Italy tried to build empire
- Tried to gain control over Ethiopia
- Failed after being defeated by larger Ethiopian army, 1896
- 1911, Italy declared war on Ottoman Empire; gained territory in Africa

Summarize

What problems did Italy face after unification?

Answer(s): Regional differences kept the nation from being truly united; pope did not recognize Italy as a legitimate nation; widespread poverty caused many Italians to emigrate.