



European Empires

TERMS & NAMES

nationalism

colonialism

Austria-Hungary

dual monarchy

MAIN IDEA

The beginning of the 20th century was a time of change in Europe, as feelings of nationalism began to take hold.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

Feelings of nationalism continue to lead to conflicts that change the map of Europe.



The Spread of Nationalism

Norway's independence from Sweden was a sign of new ideas that were sweeping across Europe at the time. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, **nationalism**, or strong pride in one's nation or ethnic group, influenced the feelings of many Europeans. An ethnic group includes people with similar languages and traditions, but who are not necessarily ruled by a common government.



Constitutional Monarchies In part, the spread of nationalism was fueled by the fact that more Europeans than ever before could vote. For centuries, many monarchs had unlimited power. In country after country, however, citizens demanded the right to elect lawmakers who would limit their monarch's authority. This kind of government is called a constitutional monarchy. A constitutional monarchy not only has a king or queen, but also a ruling body of elected officials. The United Kingdom is one example of a constitutional monarchy.

By 1900, many countries in Western Europe had become constitutional monarchies. Citizens of these countries strongly supported the governments that they helped to elect. When one country threatened another, most citizens were willing to go to war to defend their homeland.

The Defense of Colonial Empires At the beginning of the 20th century, many Western European countries—including France, Italy, the United Kingdom, Germany, and even tiny Belgium—had colonies in Asia and Africa. Colonies supplied the raw materials that the ruling countries needed to produce goods in their factories back home. Asian and African colonies, sometimes larger than the ruling country, were also important markets for manufactured goods.

Reading Social Studies

A. Contrasting
How does a constitutional monarchy differ from a democracy?

European Colonial Possessions, 1914



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting a Map

- Location** • Which Western European country possessed the most land?
- Location** • On which continent were most colonies located?



Location • In 1914, the United Kingdom could truthfully state that the sun never set on the British Empire. ◀

During this period of **colonialism**, Western European nations spent much of their wealth on building strong armies and navies. Their military forces helped to defend borders at home as well as colonies in other parts of the world. Colonies were so important that the ruling countries sometimes fought one another for control of them. They also struggled to extend their territories.

Spotlight on CULTURE

The Ballets Russes Begun in Paris, France, in 1909, the Ballets Russes (bah•lay ROOSE) brought together artists from all across Europe. Under the direction of the famous Russian producer Sergey Diaghilev (DYAH•guh•lev), this dance company became both a critical and a commercial success.

Many talented dancers and choreographers, such as Nijinsky, worked for Diaghilev. In addition, famous composers—including Claude Debussy (duh•BYOO•see) and Igor Stravinsky—wrote music for performances. The Ballets Russes also attracted Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, and other great artists to design its sets. It continued until Diaghilev's death in 1929.



THINKING CRITICALLY



1. Synthesizing

How did the Ballets Russes benefit the European art and theater communities?

2. Clarifying

How did the Ballets Russes represent more than a collection of dancers, musicians, and artists?



Austria-Hungary, 1900

GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting a Map

- Location** • Name three countries that bordered Austria-Hungary.
- Region** • What was the capital of Austria-Hungary?



Austria-Hungary By the end of the 19th century, most nations of Western and Northern Europe had become industrialized. The majority of Eastern Europe, including Russia, remained agricultural. These Eastern European countries imported most of their manufactured goods from Western and Northern Europe.

The largest empire in Eastern Europe in 1900 was **Austria-Hungary**. The empire was a **dual monarchy**, in which one ruler governs two nations. As you can see in the map above, Austria-Hungary also included parts of many other present-day countries, including Romania, the Czech Republic, and portions of Poland.

Reading Social Studies

B. Making Inferences Why do you think governing a dual monarchy was difficult?

SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

Terms & Names

- Identify:** (a) nationalism (b) colonialism
(c) Austria-Hungary (d) dual monarchy

Taking Notes

- Look at the map on page 330 that shows European colonial territories. Use a chart like the one below to list the major colonial powers and their colonies.

Nation	Locations of Colonies

Main Ideas

- Identify one reason for the spread of nationalism in Europe.
 - Why did Western European nations spend much of their wealth on armies and navies?
 - How did the nations of Eastern Europe differ from those of Western and Northern Europe at the end of the 19th century?

Critical Thinking

4. Drawing Conclusions

Why were their colonies so important to European nations?

Think About

- land and people
- competition among nations
- the production and sale of goods

ACTIVITY -OPTION-

Reread the information about the Ballets Russes. Write an **outline** of a story or book that might be a good choice for a ballet. Explain your choice.