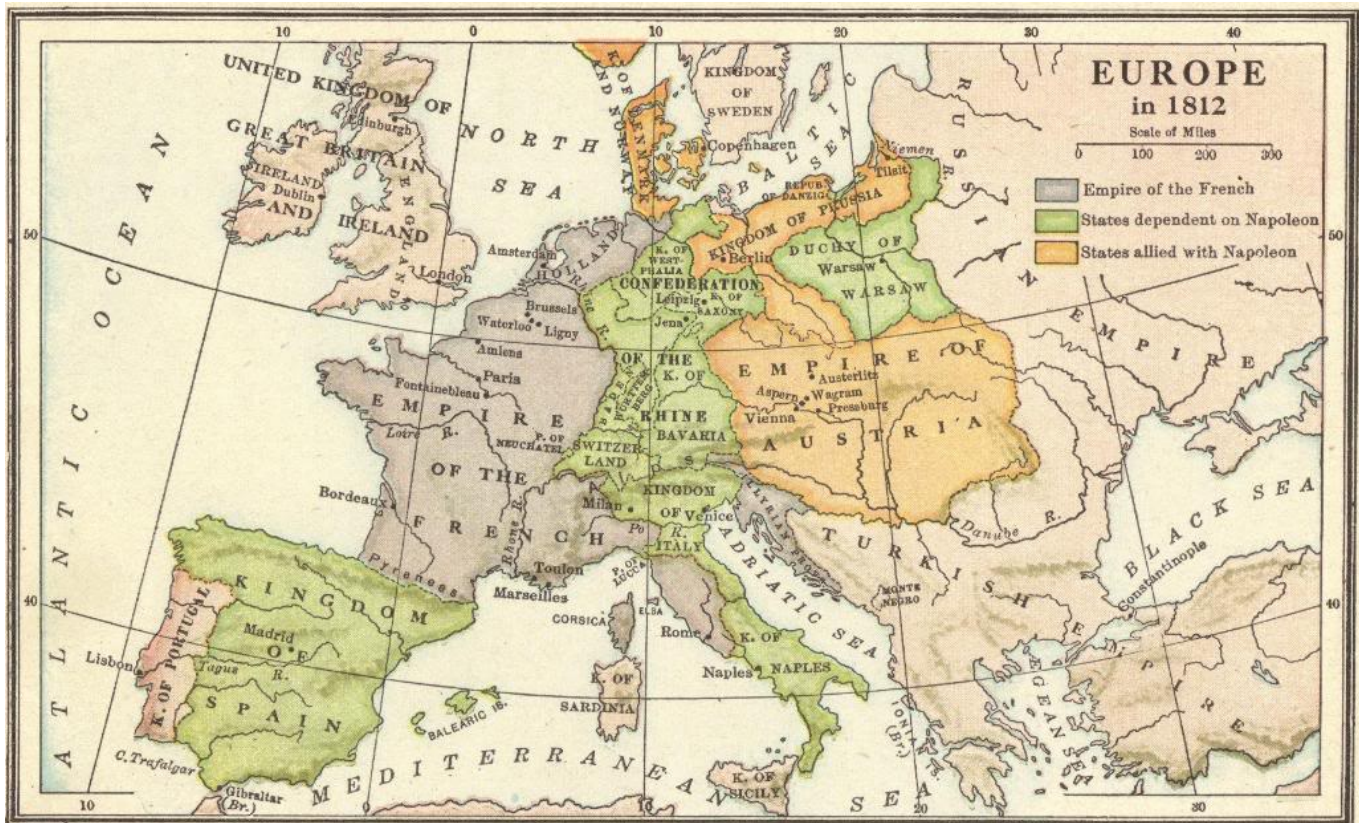


Growth of Nationalism in Europe

Adapted from Article by Mamta Aggarwal

A nation may be described as a community having a common homeland, a common culture and common traditions. European **nationalism** arose from the desire of communities to assert their unity and independence. In the 19th century there began a determined struggle to realize nationalist **aspirations**. Serious musicians in those nations or countries began to build into their compositions the folk music tunes that everyday people danced to and sang. Their music was popular with the people because it was familiar and had the unique sound of their country.



In the late 1700's the French Revolution inspired people all over Europe with its ideas of liberty and equality. Napoleon, the French leader following the revolution, decided that he must take over all of Europe to spread his vision to other countries. For a period of time, Napoleon's **empire** gave much of Europe political unity.

The people who were conquered didn't like the French control. They began to look at the qualities of their own culture with a new interest which sparked the spirit of nationalism. This new spirit bound people together with a sense of belonging and unity within their country. Napoleon's armies eventually lost control of countries outside France. Throughout the 1800's, nations began to be formed by groups of people who shared common traditions and homelands.

Europe in 1871



The Austrian Empire was composed of a number of kingdoms inhabited by different races, speaking different languages and having different cultures. With the rise of nationalism, that empire started splitting into many smaller countries. In 1867, Hungary was recognized as an independent kingdom. A nationalist movement had also started in Prague. There the Czechs rose in a nationalist revolt demanding self-government for their kingdom. The Austrian Emperor was forced to recognize the Czech Government.

The Unification of Italy

Like the Austrian Empire, Italy was made up of many small

kingdoms and **principalities**. Napoleon, through his conquests, brought the country under a single administrative unit. The fall of Napoleon again led to the **disintegration** of the unified Italy. But the people had a sense of belonging together for the first time in many centuries. Their revolution started in 1848, but finally succeeded by 1870 when the whole of Italy was united with Rome as its capital city.

The Unification of Germany

Like Italy, Germany was also composed of about three hundred small kingdoms and principalities whose people had a similar **ethnic** background. When Napoleon conquered Germany, he formed the Confederation of the Rhine which organized these kingdoms into thirty-nine states. Under Napoleon's rule, the Germans became familiar with democratic and nationalist ideas. After Napoleon, these thirty-nine German kingdoms became part of a loose German Confederation under Austria's control. Prussia was dominant among these German kingdoms and its Prime Minister wanted to have Germany be independent. Otto von Bismarck's strategy was to create national spirit by attacking his neighbors – Denmark, Austria and France. Finally, in the war of 1866, he succeeded in defeating Austria.



Otto von Bismarck

Napoleon III of France declared war on Prussia in 1870. The Germans joined the Prussians to defeat France. Their victory led to the political **unification** of Germany. The Prussian king, William I, was **proclaimed** Emperor of Germany. The spirit of nationalism unified the German people. Within a short time a united Germany became a powerful force in Europe.

21st Century Europe

After two world wars, the formation and breakup of the Soviet Union and multiple conflicts in what had been the Ottoman Empire, the current map of Europe reflects an even larger number of independent European countries than in 1871. On the map are the names of some significant composers who wrote in the spirit of nationalism. List some of the countries on the map below that were not on the 1871 map.



American Nationalism

Adapted from <http://americanns.weebly.com/index.html>

American nationalism was heightened after the **War of 1812** when America defeated Britain for the last time. James Monroe was elected twice with little competition. Because there was only one strong political party, the country had little political **strife**.

America had just broken away from the British crown that had ruled them for so long. For the first time people began to consider themselves "Americans." Before this time people had recognized their alliance to the union, but still considered themselves "Rhode Islanders" or "Virginians"; not "Americans." This newfound pride to belong to America constituted nationalism. In addition, the improvements to the country's **infrastructure** during this time inspired the American people.



James Monroe



During this time an **industrial revolution** was starting in the North. The status of America was strengthened as a whole. The economy was growing because of new inventions and transportation improvements. The North was more and more dependent on machines to do physical labor rather than human labor.

Although there was little open political strife, there was still tension among Americans, primarily because of slavery. Cotton plantations were the basis of the southern economy and this cash crop required physical labor which was provided by slaves. The differences in their attitudes about slavery would be an increasing source of conflict between the North and the South until the Civil War broke out in 1860.

THE NORTH BEFORE THE WAR

- The North had a more diverse economy
- Industry flourished
- Openly opposed slavery in the South and the new territories
- More urbanized than South



BOSTON HARBOR

THE SOUTH BEFORE THE WAR

- Rural plantation economy
- Relied on slave labor
- Southerners feared that the loss of slavery would result in loss of culture



Family working the cotton field on a Plantation

Vocabulary

allegro – fast tempo in music
aspiration – hope for the future
bel canto – beautiful singing style
conquest – attempt to take over
crescendo – music getting louder
diminuendo – music getting softer
disintegration – falling apart
empire – a collection of countries unified by wars and ruled by a single leader
ethnic – based upon race and culture
forte – musical marking for loud
impose – force upon
industrial revolution – when an economy moves from farming to manufacturing
infrastructure – roads, bridges, and other structures built by government

largo – slow tempo in music
nationalism – feeling of pride in a country
piano – musical marking for soft
presto – very fast tempo in music
principality – an small area ruled by a powerful person
proclaim – dictate an order
strife – strong disagreements that usually lead to people fight each other
tempo – speed of the beat of a musical composition
unification – bringing together under one ruler
War of 1812 – a military conflict that lasted from June 18, 1812 to February 18, 1815, fought between the United States of America and the United Kingdom, its North American colonies, and its Native American allies

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