
Treaty of Versailles. Ideas and structure of League of Nations.

Prepared by Zhansaya Dossymbetova

The Treaty of Versailles, signed in June 1919 at the Palace of Versailles in Paris at the end of World War I, codified peace terms between the victorious Allies and Germany.

1. It consisted of 440 articles
2. four groups:

territorial

military

financial and
economic

punishment

The Fourteen Points

- ❖ U.S. President Woodrow Wilson
- ❖ January 1918, Wilson laid out his idealistic vision for the post-war world.
- ❖ national self-determination for Europe's different ethnic populations
- ❖ proposed the founding of a "general association of nations" - League of Nations.



Wilson's Fourteen Points

1. Diplomacy should be public, with no secret treaties.
2. All nations should enjoy free navigation of the seas.
3. Free trade should exist among all nations, putting an end to economic barriers between countries.
4. All countries should reduce arms in the name of public safety.
5. Fair and impartial rulings in colonial claims.
6. Restore Russian territories and freedom.
7. Belgium should be restored to independence.
8. Alsace-Lorraine should be returned to France and France should be fully liberated.
9. Italy's frontiers should be drawn along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.
10. People living in Austria-Hungary should be granted self-determination.
11. The Balkan states should also be guaranteed self-determination and independence.
12. Turks and those under Turkish rule should be granted self-determination.
13. An independent Poland should be created.
14. A general association of nations must be formed to mediate international disputes.

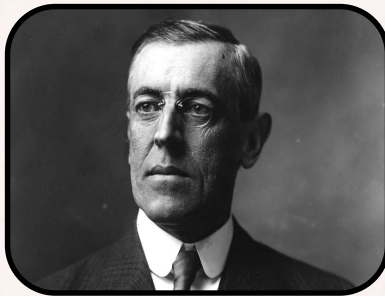
The Paris Peace Conference

The Paris Peace Conference opened on January 18, 1919, a date that was significant in that it marked the anniversary of the coronation of German Emperor Wilhelm I, which took place in the Palace of Versailles at the end of the Franco-Prussian War in 1871.



The Terms of the Versailles Treaty

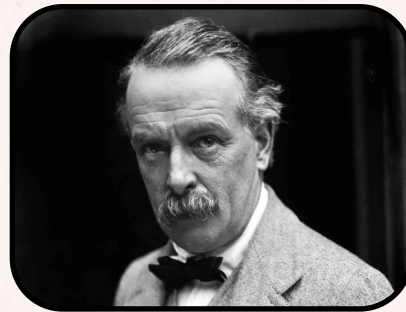
The “Big Four” leaders



Wilson of the
United States



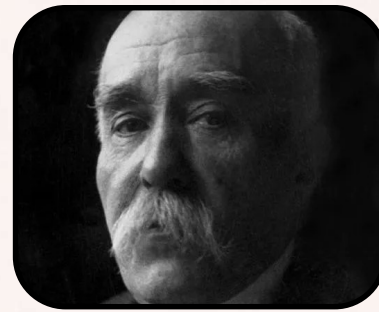
to create a new world
order along the lines
of the Fourteen Points



David Lloyd
George of Great
Britain



rebuilding of Germany as a
strong trading partner for
Great Britain



Georges
Clemenceau of
France



protect France from yet
another attack by Germany



Vittorio Orlando
of Italy



to expand Italy's
influence

Criticism of Versailles Treaty

In the years following the Treaty of Versailles, many ordinary Germans believed they had been betrayed by the “**November Criminals**”.

Radical right-wing political forces—especially the National Socialist Workers’ Party, or the Nazis—would gain support in the 1920s and ‘30s by promising to reverse the humiliation of the Versailles Treaty. With the onset of the Great Depression after 1929, economic unrest destabilized the already vulnerable Weimar government, setting the stage for Nazi leader Adolf Hitler’s fateful rise to power in 1933.