

Fall of Collective Security

Wilson's Idealism

After WWI President Wilson led a group that believed the atrocities of the war were not tolerable. Therefore to stop a World War from occurring again he developed a goal of developing international institutions to govern world order. This group believed that democracy could make the world safe again. This idea led to Wilson's 14 Point Plan and the League of Nations. The 14th point guaranteed independence for nations.

How is collective security brought about?

1. outlaw offensive war between states
2. bring together a coalition of non-aggressive states
3. punish states that commit aggressive actions toward others

Five articles of the League of Nations worth noting:

#10 – pledged to protect all member nations against aggressors

#11 – war was a concern of all member states

#12/15 – disputes would be sent to arbitration between member states and war would not be an option until three months after arbitration

#16 – any war disregarding procedures would be a war against all members. The state that began any actions against others would be subject to economic sanctions and possible military measures

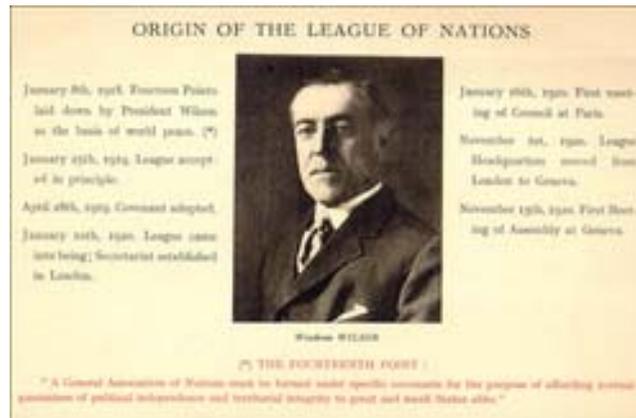
Problems with the League

All members must agree to sanction against another state

Each state had veto power

International law was difficult to abide by

States saw League as **voluntary compliance** with world order **not mandatory**



United States Opposition to League

- After WWI, opponents of the League wanted a 'return to normalcy'
- Some opponents cited the **Monroe Doctrine of 1823** limiting US involvement to the Western Hemisphere
- Other opponents referred to **George Washington's** warning of the US becoming entangled in alliances
- **Henry Cabot Lodge** leads the opposition to the League
- He believed that membership in the League would dilute the US Senate's ability to declare war and that the will of the League would be more important than the **will of the US public**.

- The US does not join the League
- The void left by the US hurts the ability of the League to govern and its legitimacy

Division of Europe

Germany

- ❖ After WWI Germany **lost 7 million people, 25000 square miles of territory**, and their army was reduced to 100,000 men and allowed no air forces.
- ❖ Germany was blamed for WWI with the **war-guilt clause**
- ❖ Reparations to be paid to other states by Germany exceeded **3 billion dollars**

Germany was not able to pay this exorbitant amount and consequently did not pay. Because of their refusal to pay reparations France occupied the Ruhr industrial area of Germany. Inflation was so high that it destroyed the German middle class and economy.

Italy

- Changed sides in 1915 to the Allied side of the war for the **guarantee of future lands**
- At the end of WWI Wilson opposed Italy's claims for land
- **Fascists and Mussolini** take over in 1922- their goal was to build a new Roman Empire

Along with the League of Nations, there were other attempts by the heads of state to eliminate the threat of war. These included the **Washington Naval Conference** (1921), which tried to have countries eliminate part of their naval forces by agreeing to a ratio of naval tonnage, and the **Kellogg-Briand Pact** (1928) that stated that adhering countries would forgo war as a means of foreign policy.

Failures of League

Japan

- Became an **imperial power** in the early 1900's with the defeat of Russia in 1905 and the colonization of Korea in 1910
- Also joined the allied cause during WWI
- Japan wanted the League to affirm racial equality and looked to become a major force in world politics
 - ✓ During the 1920's China and Japan became increasingly hostile toward each other and had factions inside their respective countries attempting to seize power
 - ✓ In **Japan the military was successful in seizing power** and effectively run the government
 - ❖ September 1931 **Japan invades Manchuria** (part of China) claiming to protect its interests
 - ❖ Japan set up a puppet government and renamed the province **Manchukuo**
 - ❖ China appealed to the League, however, Japan was able to block a vote to remove its troops from China and **withdrew from the League altogether**

Ethiopia

- ❖ Italy planed to **annex Ethiopia** which was near its colonies in Eritrea
- ❖ Ethiopia also prevented Italy from colonizing in 19th century and Italy wanted to correct this wrong
 - 1935 **Italy provoked incidents** on the Ethiopia/Eritrea in order to stage an invasion and protection of its interests
 - Even though Italy had a peace treaty with Ethiopia and was part of the League
 - Sanctions were applied to Italy by the League for the invasion
 - The **sanctions had little effect and Italy** did not pull out of Ethiopia

- Italy was **still able to buy oil, steel, and coal** under the sanctions and the British did not close the Suez Canal
- **Britain and France did not want to alienate Italy** in order to keep them on their side in the event of Germany rebuilding and rearming under Hitler
- The League fails to secure Ethiopia

