

World War I - Origins

A Tumultuous Serbia

Lesson Objectives

- Describe the political conditions in Serbia in the early 1900s
- Begin creating a timeline of events connected to World War I
- Create a physical map of Europe



Iceland

Norwegian Sea

Atlantic Ocean

British Isles

Ben Nevis 1343

North Sea

Scandinavia

Scandinavian Mts.

Kola Peninsula

Pechora

Ural Mountains

Galdhøpiggen 2469

Saimaa

Lake Onega

Lake Ladoga

Vänern

Lake Peipus

Daugava

Jutland

Baltic Sea

East European Plain

Ural

North European Plain

Rhine

Elbe

Oder

Don

Volga

Loire

Podolian Upland

Dniester

Dnieper

Bay of Biscay

Sea of Azov

Caspian Sea

Mont Blanc 4807

Alps

Po

Moldoveanu 2544

Crimean Peninsula

Caucasus

Elbrus 5642

Iberian Peninsula

Mulhacén 3479

Pyrenees

Ligurian Sea

Apennines

Adriatic Sea

Balkans

Black Sea

Alboran Sea

Tyrrhenian Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Ionian Sea

Aegean Sea

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Black Sea

Serbia- Quick Background

1389 - Serb nobility decimated in battle of Kosovo Polje as Ottoman Empire expands.

15th - 18th centuries - Serbia absorbed by Ottoman Empire.

1817 - Serbia becomes autonomous principality.

1878 - Serbian independence recognised by international treaties.





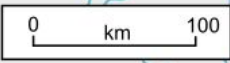
Europe Pre-World War I



Serbia in the early 1900s

Two competing dynasties: Obrenovic vs. Karadjordjevic

In 1903 the situation exploded. King Alexander and his wife were butchered in an army coup; the Karadjordjevic family was recalled to the throne; and the subsequent reopening of the political system ushered in an era of Radical cabinets. Serbian governments now openly sought non-Austrian trading partners; and when Vienna applied the traditional economic sanctions, the resulting breakdown in trade relations destroyed Austria-Hungary's dominance in Serbia for good. And after economic liberation came political divergence: no longer dependent on previous custom, Serbia gave increasingly free rein to nationalist, anti-Austrian policies. The stage was set for the succession of crises which ended in July 1914.



A Fractured Region

- Deutsche
- Ungarn
- Tschechen
- Slowaken
- Polen
- Ukrainer
- Slowenen
- Kroaten, Serben
- Rumänen
- Italiener, Ladinier

BEVÖLKERUNGSGRUPPEN IN ÖSTERREICH-UNGARN IM JAHR 1910

Archduke Ferdinand

The archduke traveled to Sarajevo in June 1914 to inspect the imperial armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, former Ottoman territories in the turbulent Balkan region that were annexed by Austria-Hungary in 1908 to the indignation of Serbian nationalists, who believed they should become part of the newly independent and ambitious Serbian nation. The date scheduled for his visit, June 28, coincided with the anniversary of the First Battle of Kosovo in 1389, in which medieval Serbia was defeated by the Turks. Despite the fact that Serbia did not truly lose its independence until the Second Battle of Kosovo in 1448, June 28 was a day of great significance to Serbian nationalists, and one on which they could be expected to take exception to a demonstration of Austrian imperial strength in Bosnia.

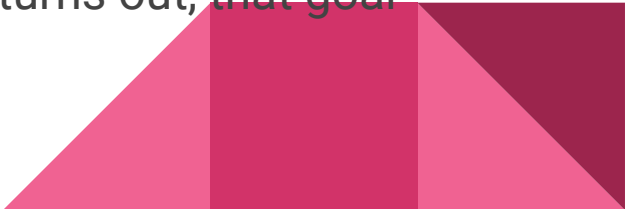
On June 28, 1914, then, Franz Ferdinand and Sophie were touring Sarajevo in an open car, with surprisingly little security, when Serbian nationalist Nedjelko Cabrinovic threw a bomb at their car; it rolled off the back of the vehicle and wounded an officer and some bystanders. Later that day, on the way to visit the injured officer, the archduke's procession took a wrong turn where one of Cabrinovic's cohorts, 19-year-old Gavrilo Princip, happened to be loitering.



The Assassination of Royalty

It is June 28, 1914. A young man is sitting inside a cafe in Sarajevo, the capital of Austro-Hungarian-ruled Bosnia. Under his coat he clutches a pistol. He has come here to end the life of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne.

Suddenly, the royal party arrives. The young man doesn't hesitate and shoots both Ferdinand and his wife. The assassin is Gavrilo Princip, a 19-year-old Serbian student. He obtained the weapon from a secret military society known as Black Hand, which was out to create a greater Serbia. But, as it turns out, that goal diverged from Princip's original aspirations.



Assassin

As a member of the Young Bosnia revolutionary organization, Princip strove for liberation from Austro-Hungarian rule and the creation of a state of united South Slavic countries, i.e., Yugoslavia. To this day, he is revered in Serbia as a national hero - and viewed as a terrorist elsewhere.





Escalation and War

June 28, 1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinand heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and his wife are assassinated in Sarajevo.

July 28 Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia.

July 31 As an ally of Serbia, Russia announces full mobilization of her armed forces.

August 1 Germany mobilizes her armed forces and declares war on Russia.

August 3 Germany declares war on France.

August 4 Germany declares war on neutral Belgium and invades in a right flanking move designed to defeat France quickly. As a result of this invasion, Britain declares war on Germany.

August 6 Austria-Hungary declares war on Russia.

Related Gradebook Standards

68.C.1 Rights, Roles, and Responsibilities in the Political Process. I identify and analyze the significant ideas and values that lead to the historical events I am studying and how they shape current values.

68.E.1 Nature and Function of Economic Systems. I interpret basic indicators of economic performance and conduct cost-benefit analyses of economic and political issues.

68.G.1 Spatial Thinking. I use a variety of maps and documents to identify physical and cultural features and to analyze the historical migration of people, expansion and disintegration of empires, and the growth of economic systems.

68.G.2 Connections. I compare and contrast significant events and cultures within geographic regions.

68.H.1 Historical Perspectives. I analyze how major events are related to one another in time.

68.H.2 Historical Perspectives. I construct timelines of key events, people, and periods of the historical eras I am studying to place events in context, identify patterns in events, analyze cause and effect, and identify major events.

68.H.3 Historical Analysis. I analyze the central issues and problems from the past, placing people and events in a matrix of time and place.

68.H.4 Historical Analysis. I understand and distinguish cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events, including the long- and short-term causal relations.

Some Sources

BBC Timeline-

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17913357>

Deutsche Welle Article-

<http://www.dw.com/en/serbia-wwi-and-the-question-of-guilt/a-17550497>

History Today-

<http://www.historytoday.com/ian-armour/roots-sarajevo-austria-hungary-and-serbia-1867-81>