

EUROPEAN HISTORY.

European history is the study of the society, politics, economic and culture of the Europeans from the past . Europe includes current -day countries like united kingdom, France, Italy, Poland and Sweden .

The European history is divided into : prehistoric Europe, Accient Europe , middle age, Early modern Europe, From revolution to imperialism (1789-1914), 1914-1945: Two world wars, cold war era and Recent history.

The prehistoric Europe started when homo erectus migrated from Africa to Europe before the emergence of modern human Homo erectus georgicus which lived roughly 1.8million years ago in Georgia it's the earliest hominid to have been discovered in Europe.

The late pleistocene saw extinctions of numerous predominantly megafaunal species coinciding in time with the Early human migrations across continent. legznan -la -cebe in France ,orce in Italy in Spain, monte paggiolo in Italy and kozarnika in Bulgaria are among the oldest palaeolithic sites in Europe.

The earliest appearance of anatomically modern human people in Europe has been dated to 45,000 BC referred to as Early European modern humans .The earliest sites in Europe are Ripapo mochi (Italy) Swabian jura (Germany), and Isuriz (France).The early Europe modern humans appear in the fossil record about 48,000 years ago during the palaeolithic era . people from this period left behind numerous artifacts including works of art, burial sites and tools allowing some reconstruction of their society .

Settled Agriculture marked the Neolithic era which spread slowly across Europe from southeast, North and west . Later Neolithic period saw the introduction of early metallurgy and the use of copper -based tools , weapons and the building of megalithic structure as exemplified by Stonehenge.

During Indo European migration, European saw the migration from the east and southeast. Accient Europe also known as classical antiquity began with the emergence of the city states of Accient Greece. Some of the examples of literature, history and philosophy come from the writings of Accient Greece such as horner, Herodotus . Later the Roman empire came to dominate the entire Mediterranean basin.

The migration period of the German people begun in the late 4th century AD and made gradual incursion into various parts of the Roman empire. As these se migratory people settled down and formed states societies of their own, this marked the transition period out of the classical era . The fall of the western Roman empire in AD 476 Traditionally marks the start of the middle Ages.

While eastern Roman empire would continue for another 1000 years , the former lands of the western empire would be fragmented into a number of states . At the same time the early slavs began to become established as a distinct group in the central and eastern parts of Europe. Love

The first great empire of the middle Ages was the Frankish Empire of Charlemagne , while the Islamic conquest of Iberia established Al-Ahdalus . The Viking Age saw a second great migration of Norse people

Attempt to retake the Levant from the Muslim states that occupied it made the high middle Ages of the Crusades while the political system of feudalism came to its height.

The late middle Ages were marked by large population declines as Europe was threatened by the Bubonic plague, as well as invasion by the Mongol people from the Eurasian steppes. At the end of the middle Ages there was a transitional period known as the Renaissance.

The early modern Europe period is usually dated to the end of the 15th century. Technological changes such as gunpowder and the printing press changed how warfare was conducted and how knowledge was preserved and disseminated.

The Protestant Reformation saw the fragmentation of religious thought leading to religious wars. The age of exploration led to colonization and the exploitation of the people, resources and wealth to Europe. After 1800 the industrial revolution brought capital accumulation and rapid urbanization to western Europe, while several countries transitioned away from absolutist rule to parliamentary regimes. The Age of Revolution saw long-established political systems upset and turned over.

From revolution to imperialism (1789-1914).

The long 19th century from 1789 to 1914 saw the drastic social, political and economic changes initiated by the industrial revolution. The French Revolution and the Napoleonic wars. Following the reorganization of the political map of Europe at the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

Europe experienced the rise of Nationalism, the rise of the Russian Empire and the peak of the British Empire as well as the decline of the Ottoman Empire. Finally the rise of the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire initiated the course of events that culminated in the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.

1914-1945 World Wars. The First World War, Second World War and the Cold War started from 1914-1991. The First World War used modern technology to kill millions of soldiers. Victory by the British, France, the United States and other allies drastically changed the map of Europe. Ending four major land empires (the Russian, German, Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empire) and leading to the creation of nation-states across central and eastern Europe.

The October Revolution in Russia led to the creation of the Soviet Union (1917-1991) and the rise of the international communist movement. Widespread economic prosperity was typical of the people in 1914, and 1920-1929.

After the onset of the great depression in 1929 democracy collapsed in most parts of Europe.

The second world war was fought on a larger scale than the 1st war more people using more advanced technology .It ended with the division of Europe between east and west with the east under the control of the Soviet union and west.

The two sides engaged in the cold war with actual conflict taking place not in Europe but in the Asia in the Korean war and Vietnam war.

The imperial system collapsed The remaining colonial empires ended through decolonization of European rule in Africa and Asia.

The fall of Soviet communism (1989-1991)left the west dominant and enabled the reunification of Germany.It accelerated the process of Europe. The European union continues today but with Germany economic dominance.

The worldwide great recession of 2008 , European growth has been slow and financial growth crises have hit Greece and other countries. modern day Russia is weaker by military might compared when it had superpower as part of the Soviet union but has retained it's historical status as both great power and regional power confronting Ukraine.

During the cold war most of Europe became divided by the cold war. most part of Europe was divided by the iron curtain into two military blocs: NATO and the warsaw pact. The Warsaw pact has much ground force but the American British nuclear umbrellas protected NATO. Communist states were imposed by the Red Army in the east while parliamentary democracy became the dominant form of government in the west . Most historians point to it's success as the product of exhaustion with war and dictatorship and the promise of continued economic prosperity.

The end of cold war came in series of events from 1979-1991, mainly in Europe in Eastern Europe .

In the end these brought the fall of the iron curtain, the Germany reunification and the end of Soviet control over their Eastern satellites and their worldwide network of communist parties in a friendly chain reaction from the pan-European picnic in 1989.

The final brought the division of the Soviet union into 15 non- communist states in 1991. Italian historian Federico Romero reports that observes at the time emphasized that : The system and ideological confrontation between capitalism and communism had faded away .

The geopolitical portion of Europe was no more nuclear deterrence was morphing into a less armed, almost hypothetical version of it's previous self.

In 1993 the Maastricht treaty created single currency for most EU members. The Euro was created by 1999 and replaced all previous currencies in participating in states in 2002. The most notable exception to the currency union or Euro zone was the united kingdom which also did not sign the Schengen agreement .

The EU did not participate in the Yugoslavia war and divided on supporting the united states in 2003-11 Iraq war. NATO was part of the war in Afghanistan but a much lower level of involvement than the united states .

In 2004, the EU gained 10 members (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania which had been part of the Soviet union, Czech republic , Hungary, Poland Slovakia and Slovenia, five -communist countries.

They were followed by Bulgaria and Romania in 2007. Russians regime had interpreted these expansions as violations against NATO's promise to not expand " once inch to the east" in 1990.

Russia engaged in a minor war with Georgia in 2008. supported by the united states and some European countries Kosovo's government unilaterally declared independence from Serbia on 17 February 2008.

Public opinion in the EU turned against enlargement partially due to what was seen as over eager expansion including Turkey gaining candidate status.

The European constitution was rejected in France and the Netherlands and then (as treaty of Lisbon) in Ireland although a second vote passed Ireland in 2009.

The financial crisis of 2007-2008 affected Europe and government responded with austerity measures limited ability of the smaller EU nations (most notable Greece) To handle their debts led to social unrest , government liquidation and financial insolvency .

In 2010 the German parliament agreed to loan 22.4 Billion Euros to Greece over 3 years with the stipulation that Greece follows strict austerity measures see European sovereign debt crisis.

Beginning in 2014 Ukraine has been in a state of revolution and unrest with two breakaway regions (Donet and Lugansk) attempting to join Russia as full federal subjects (see Russo-Ukraine war).

On 16 March a disputed referendum was held in Crimea leading to the de facto succession of Crimea and its largely internationally unrecognized annexation to the Russian Federation as Republic of Crimea.

In July 2016 in a referendum in the United Kingdom on the country's membership in the European Union, 52% of voters voted to leave the EU, leading to the complex Brexit separation process and negotiations which lead to political and economic changes for both the UK and the remaining European Union countries.

The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020 later that year, Europe was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Wall Street Journal in 2021 Angela Merkel stepped down as the highly popular Chancellor of Germany after 16 years.

Today's EU by contrast is geographically and economically diminished.

Having lost the UK because of Brexit it faces deep political and cultural division, lags behind in the global race for innovation and technology, is increasingly squeezed by the mounting U.S.–China strategic rivalry. Europe has endured thanks in part to Mrs. Merkel's pragmatic stewardship but it has been battered by crises during her time in office.

Russia began an invasion of Ukraine on 24 Feb 2022 in a major escalation of the Russo-Ukraine war. It began in 2022 it's the largest conventional military attack in Europe since World War II.

