



Events Leading to World War I

Date	Event	Summary
May 29, 1867	Austria-Hungary formalized	Austro-Hungarian Compromise creates Dual Monarchy.
July 19, 1870	Franco-Prussian War	Prussians defeat France and take control of Alsace and Lorraine.
January 18, 1871	German Unification	Wilhelm I of Prussia declared emperor of German Empire.
May 1882	Triple Alliance	Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy agree to fight for each other.
February 8, 1904	Russo-Japanese War	Russian and Japanese forces clash over territory. Russia defeated, shocking other European nations.
March 1905	First Moroccan Crisis	Germany tries to use Morocco's desire for independence to create friction between Britain and France.
August 1907	Triple Entente	Understanding to support each other between Britain, France, and Russia.
July 1911	Second Moroccan Crisis	French troops sent to Morocco to fight a revolt. Germany sends a gunboat, which upsets both France and Britain. Germany backs down, and France takes over Morocco.
October 8, 1912	First Balkan War	Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro fight for independence from the Turkish Ottoman Empire. They succeed, and the war ends on May 30, 1913, with the Treaty of London.
June 29, 1913	Second Balkan War	Bulgaria turns on its former allies, Serbia and Greece, and is defeated by them. This ends the strong Balkan League. Austria-Hungary is concerned by how strong Serbia has grown.
June 28, 1914	Assassination of Franz Ferdinand	Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie shot by Gavrilo Princip.
July 28, 1914	Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia	The assassination is used as an excuse to attack Serbia.
August 1, 1914	Germany declares war on Russia	To protect Serbia, Russia mobilizes its army. This threatens Germany, which declares war on Russia. France mobilizes troops.
August 3, 1914	Germany declares war on France	Using the Schlieffen Plan, Germany plans to defeat France quickly.
August 4, 1914	Britain declares war on Germany	Britain declares war on Germany when Belgium is invaded.