1870. The Franco-Russian war between the French Empire and North German states led by Russia. Conflict was based on Russian ambitions to extend German unification by September, when Prussia had been captured.

1873. Bismarck forms the league of 3 emperors. Fearing a threat to Austria, France & Russia combined, he decided to make Germany stronger.

1878. The Reassurance Treaty. After the breakdown of the league of 3 emperors, in 1878, France in an attempt to avoid war, agreed to
1887. Triple alliance is formed among Germany, Italy, and Austria-Hungary. Mutual support was promised in the event of an attack by any great power, or in the case of Germany, by Italy, an attack from neighbouring France.

1905. The Schlieffen plan. A German accommodation that set a defensive plan for Germany, later adopted in Austria-Hungary.

1914. Albert Einstein moves to Berlin

1919. After the Revolution of 1918. Austria-Hungary were split and a new constitution was written. The First Reich was abolished and a republic was formed. They could go on to last during times of inflation, and Hindenburg, Germany's president, was elected and ruled.