THE TIMES
ILLUSTRATED
HISTORY of
EUROPE

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From early in the second millennium BC, Crete played host to the highly developed Minoan culture, whose rulers built impressive palaces such as that at Knossos. By the 15th century BC, however, the Cretan palaces were destroyed, by natural disasters or invasion. Until the 12th century BC, the Aegean was dominated by a culture from the Greek mainland, that of the Mycenaeans map right.

The Aegean, 2500-1200 BC

- frontiers of Mycenaean world c. 1300 BC
- major Mycenaean palaces (c. 1500-1200)
- major Minoan palaces
- smaller Minoan palaces
- other Minoan settlements
- core area of the Minoan civilisation
- maximum extent of Minoan cultural influence
The Celtic peoples who dominated northern Europe in the 1st millennium BC may well have been the long-established inhabitants of France, Germany and the Alpine regions, but during the later centuries BC Celtic invasions reached into Iberia, Italy, Greece and Anatolia. This brought their sphere right up against the margins of the Mediterranean world, whose shores the Greeks had been colonising since the 9th century BC.
From the first century BC the Roman empire expanded to absorb many of the cultures which had been its potential rivals: Iberians, Celts, Illyrians and Thracians. These peoples resisted or collaborated, but were ultimately incorporated. Left in resentful exclusion on Rome’s periphery, however, the Germans and Slavs were deprived of the fruits of a civilisation which, 300 years later, they were to devastate.
The main thrust of Christian expansion into Europe was north and east from the line of the Rhine and the Danube. In both directions the Frankish church took the lead. Meanwhile, Rome and Constantinople competed for the allegiance of the Balkans.

The spread of Christendom, from the 8th to the 12th centuries

- **Yellow arrows**: main route of mission
- **Red dot**: metropolitan see
- **Red square**: bishopric
- **Blue dot**: monastery/hermitage
- **Pink**: Frankish realm 714
- **Pink with blue**: furthest extent of Frankish empire 814
The inhospitable lands of the north successfully resisted absorption into Islamic Spain map left. The Asturian kingdom became home by the ninth century to a rich culture, and, as the kingdom of León, formed one of the nuclei of Christian expansion southwards from the tenth century. By the eleventh century, Christian states were well-established in the north of Spain, which could effectively challenge the increasingly enfeebled Muslim states to the south.
Although by the eleventh century Christendom seemed to be making gains at the expense of the Muslims and pagans who had previously threatened to engulf her, the church remained divided between eastern and western communions. Bitter competition for the allegiance of the Balkans was exacerbated by theological differences. In 1054 a formal schism occurred, with the excommunication of the orthodox patriarch by a papal legate.
The Hanseatic League map left, led by Lübeck in the Baltic, promoted trading privileges and monopolies for its member towns. From its beginnings in the twelfth century, the League grew to 70 members and around 200 associated cities. The cities were ideally placed for access to markets where Mediterranean produce and commercial interests met those of the Baltic and the North Sea.
Turkish raiders first devastated, then occupied large tracts of the Byzantine empire in Asia Minor from the mid-thirteenth century, crossing over into Europe from the mid-fourteenth. This 16th-century fresco left depicts the results of one such raid in 1352: the monks of the monastery of Saint Simón are martyred by the turbanned invaders. The expansion of the Ottoman Turks into the Balkans map right would take them as far as the gates of Vienna by the early sixteenth century.
London
- Court of Henry VIII
- Humanism: visits of Erasmus, 1505-11, to the circle of Thomas More, Erasmus, Cranach, and Anthony Woodville, the Earl of Rivers. The Earl of Rivers is known for his patronage of the arts.
- Medieval architecture: construction of Westminster Abbey begins in 1245.
- Renaissance architecture: the Royal Courts of Justice are completed in 1571.

Brussels
- Court of Mary of Hungary
- After Ottoman conquest of Hungary in 1526, Mary brings the court of Matthias Corvinus to Brussels, patronising art and architecture from Bruges and Florence.
- From the 1540s, the city becomes a centre for the arts, with a large collection of paintings by Titian.

Paris
- Fontainebleau
- Court of Francis I
- During Francis I's Italian campaign in 1515, he sees "all the best works in Italy" and acquires the services of Leonardo da Vinci and other artists. He later acquires a collection of Italian artworks, including the Louvre and the Louvre Palace.
- Humanism: visits of Erasmus to England and France.

Basel
- Humanist printers patronised:
  - Holbein visits Lombardy c. 1520
  - Correspondence of Erasmus and other Basel humanists with Venice, Florence, and Rome
  - Trade in engravings

Augsburg
- Fugger family patronise arts:
  - 1505, Hans Burgkmair visits Venice and Milan
  - 1515, Herman and Peter Vischer visit Rome
  - Stefan Lochner, a Fugger chaplain, studies in Italy
  - Indirect Italian influences on engravings: direct Italian influences become strong only with the arrival of painter Leoni in 1546.

Toledo
- Influence of Andrea Navager, Venetian ambassador in Spain
- Italian verse forms introduced (1520s)
- Boccaccio and De la Vega (both exiled to Naples, 1532)
- Classicising Hospital de Tavara built by de Covarrubias, 1541.

Seville
- Classical influences mediated via Toledo and Granada:
  - Classicising tomb of Cardinal Mendoza (1510) and Town Hall by Vazco (1527)

Granada
- Close contacts with Italy reflected in classicising buildings:
  - By de Silos (1528) and palace of Charles V by Pedro Machuca (1531).

The spread of Renaissance influence from Italy before c.1540
- Italian centres of Renaissance influence:
  - Lombard
  - Tuscan and Umbrian
  - Venetian
  - Neapolitan
  - Papal States and Ferrara
- Diffusion of Renaissance ideas to other centres in Europe

Cracow
- 16th-century court of Sigismund I and II
- Marriage of Sigismund I to Bona Sforza, 1516
- Reinforces links with Italy, initiated with the travels of Florentines Beccari and Della Lora to Cracow in 1507, when they begin work on Wawel Castle (completed 1536).
- Contacts with Italy reinforced by Jagiellonian University: Copernicus studies in Padua.
- Vindus becomes court of Sigismund II to 1548

Regensburg
- Civic and imperial patronage of humanists:
  - German scholar Aventinus has humanist contacts with Milan, Florence, and Rome.

Northern Habsburg court
- Prague:
  - Court of Anne, wife of Ferdinand I
  - Leopold I’s Palace begun 1538
- Vienna Court of Ferdinand I:
  - Collection of antiquities assembled, especially Roman coins. Scholarship patronised.
- Innsbruck 34 Roman busts made or collected for museum of Maximilian I by Jörg Kärlicher, c.1540.
Amsterdam: works in shipyards of Dutch East India Company for four months. Studies surgery with Reynis.

Zaanandam: takes carpenter's job in shipyard.

Travels: visits Dutch whaling fleet; becomes disillusioned with Dutch shipbuilding.

Leiden: studies anatomy with Boerhaave.


Landskron: hires at Deptford to study shipbuilding.

Koppensbrugg: dies with electrocution. Sophie and Sophia Charlotte learn western etiquette.

Berlin: buries through trying to establish insurrection.

Dresden: visits Kunsthäuser of the Electors of Saxony.

Vienna: visits Jesuit presses.

Venice: project visits to study galleys. Construction aborted because of effects of scurvy on home.

Königsberg: interview with Elector Frederick (the future Frederick I of Prussia). Studies botany with van Steenbold.

Museum: opens 20th March 1497, returns 21st September 1498.

EUROPEAN TRAVELS of PETER THE GREAT
Religious divisions, 1560

- date of change from Catholicism to Lutheranism
- date of change to Calvinism or Zwinglianism
- delegates sent to last session of Council of Trent
- Anabaptist minorities
- Calvinist minorities
- Lutheran minorities
- Roman Catholic minorities
- Muslim minorities

Scattered Jewish communities existed in the Ottoman empire, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Bohemia and Italy.

The heroism of the commonplace: bourgeois family values are painted by Frans Hals in plain clothes and muted colours lest as if in parody of aristocratic group portraits.

In the early stages of the Reformation, Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox versions of Christianity were thoroughly intertwined and hard to tell apart, but by the second half of the sixteenth century, an attempt can be made to map the distribution of the frontiers of the various confessions, map this page, as the principle became established that the religion of the state was that of the ruler.
The expansion of European railways, 1850-1914

- railway network developed by 1850
- railway development 1850-1870
- railway development 1870-1914
- areas of industrial concentration 1870-1914
- frontiers, 1914
Yielding four times as much carbohydrate as wheat, the potato spread rapidly after its first arrival in 1565. By the late eighteenth century it had penetrated almost all parts of the continent.
In 1820, the principal centers of population were the industrialized centers of the United Kingdom, and a few cities in France, Belgium, Italy and Germany.
Democracy in Europe, 1884-1907

Methods of election to the lower houses of national legislatures
- fully democratic
- virtually democratic
- democratic principle acknowledged
- little democratic progress
- no democratic progress

Democracy in Europe map above. The principle of universal or near-universal male suffrage, which in 1884 was excluded from most of the continent, had by 1907 become highly generalised.
European alliances

- Austro-German Alliance (the Dual Alliance) 1879-1918
- Three Emperors' Alliance 1881-95
- Austro-German-Romanian Alliance 1883-1916
- Franco-Russian Alliance 1894-1917

From 1871 until 1914 a flexible system of multi-faceted diplomatic alignments and
Social and political change in Europe, 1929-39

Political regimes
- fascist or communist
- repressive or not fully democratic
- democratic

Percentage of industrial workers unemployed

Major movements of protest and dissatisfaction, 1929-39
- strike wave
- riot or demonstration
- right-wing activity

- 1928 onwards: state organised wave of mass annihilation of civilians and party cadres
- 1929: Berlin riot
- 1930: clashes between Nazis and communists
- 1931-32: Nazi stormtroopers officially permitted to operate: clashes with communists follow
- 1932: Nazis come to power
- 1932-34: growing fascist (Reich) activity
- 1932: Nazi activity amongst Siemens
- 1932-34: unsuccessful fascist coup in Styria
- 1932-35: unannexed by Germany
- 1932-34: Italian civil war
- 1934: general strike
- 1934-35: Spanish civil war
- 1934-35: Venetian uprising
- 1935-36: Metaxas coup
- 1935-36: Fascist 'Iron Guard' tolerated and financed by Carol II
- 1935-36: Bucharest railway strike bloodily repressed
- 1935-36: Boris establishes royal dictatorship
- 1936: Alsace-Lorraine annexed by Germany
- 1936: significant industrial disturbances
- 1936: Mahometan insurrection
- 1937-1938: wave of industrial strikes - 3 million workers participate
- 1937-1938: 'stay-down' strikes against company unions
- 1931-32: serious industrial disturbances
- 1934-35: demonstrations against Romans in Suddendastland
- 1934: attempted fascist coup in Styria
- 1934: unsuccessful Nazi coup
- 1934: annexed by Germany
- 1932-34: growing fascist (Reich) activity
- 1932-34: Nazi stormtroopers officially permitted to operate: clashes with communists follow
- 1932: Nazis come to power
- 1932: Nazi activity amongst Siemens
As the German Wehrmacht was overwhelmed by the strain of fighting on two fronts, Allied advances cut deep into Deutchsland.