



THE IMPACT OF EMPIRE 1815-1914

7. THE SCRAMBLE FOR AFRICA

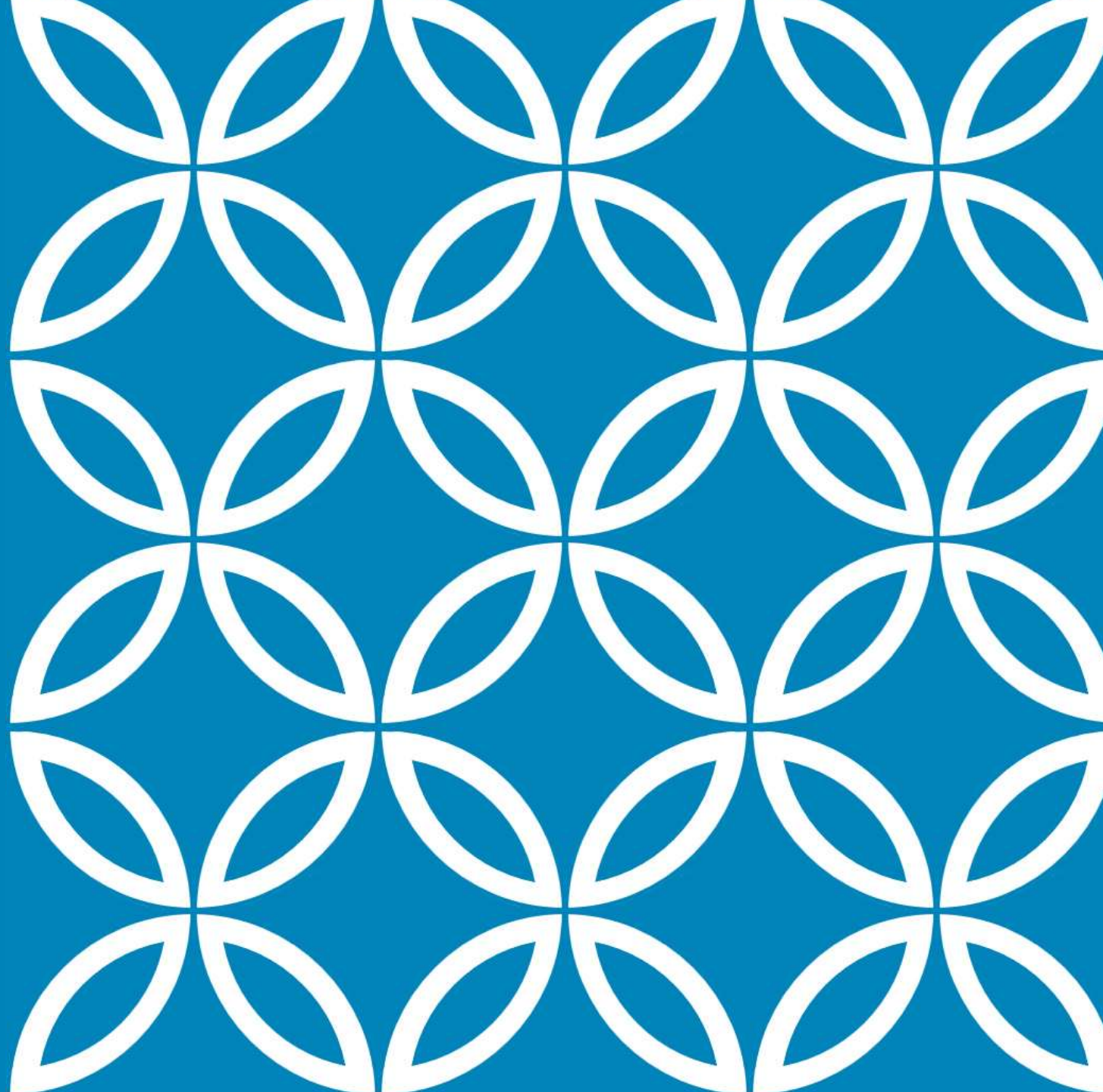


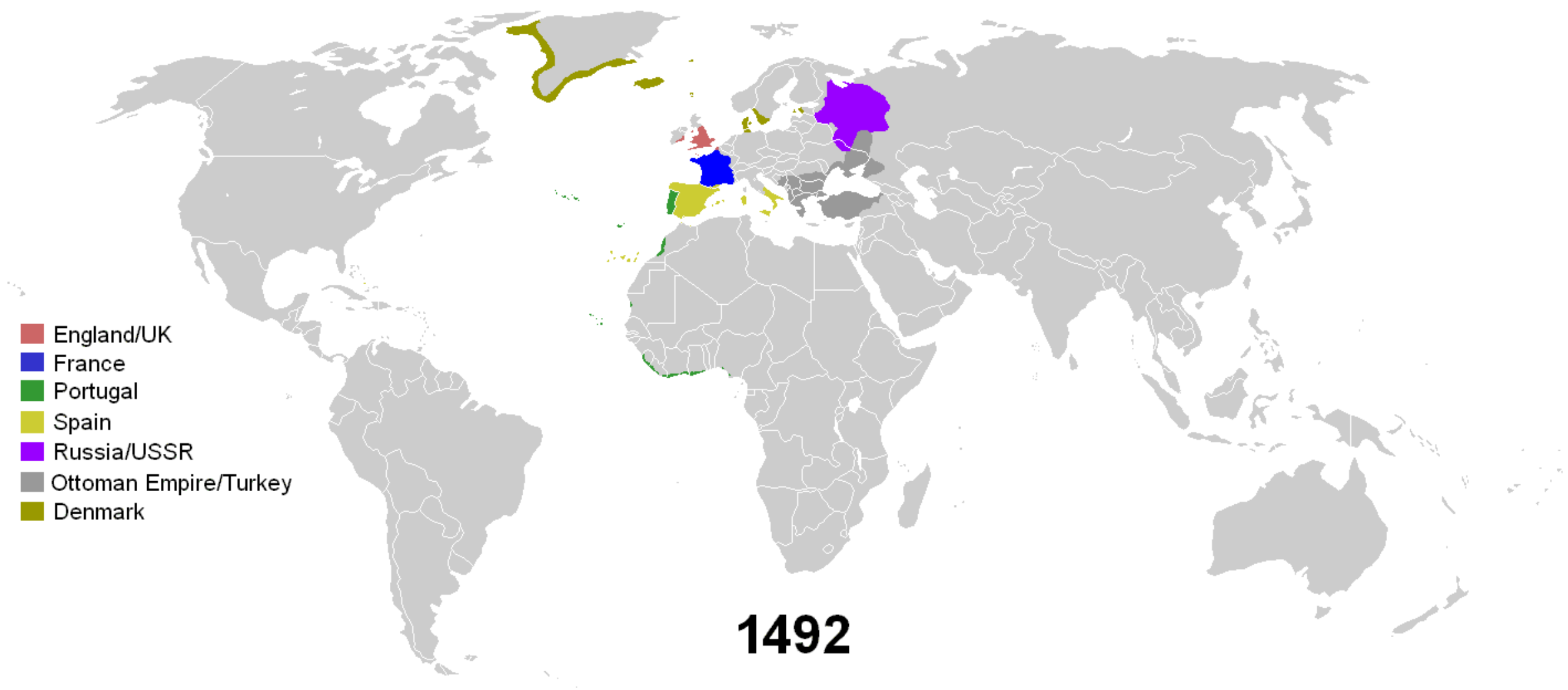
‘Expansion is everything ... these stars ... these vast worlds which we can never reach. I would annex the planets if I could’ – Cecil Rhodes

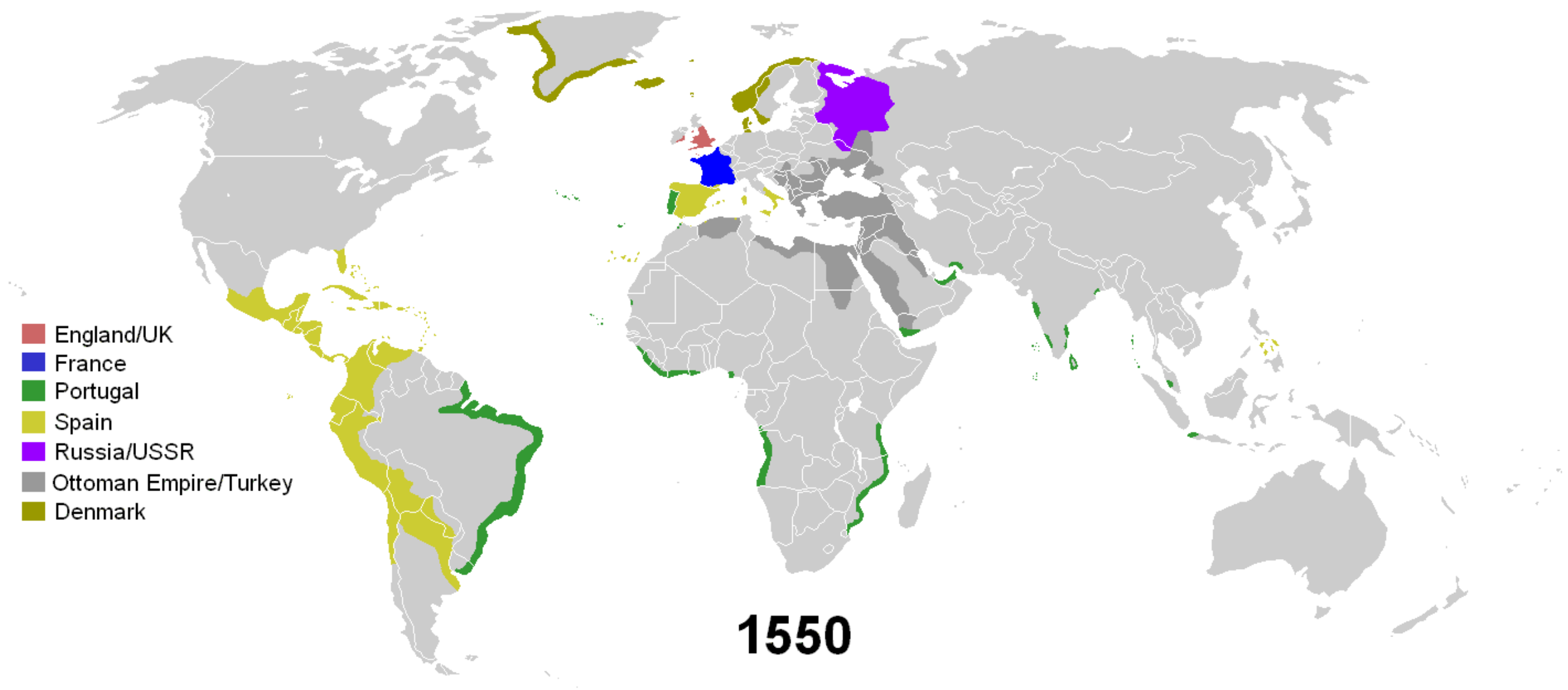
‘it may be justifiable to consider the whole period a preparatory stage for coming catastrophe’
– Hannah Arendt

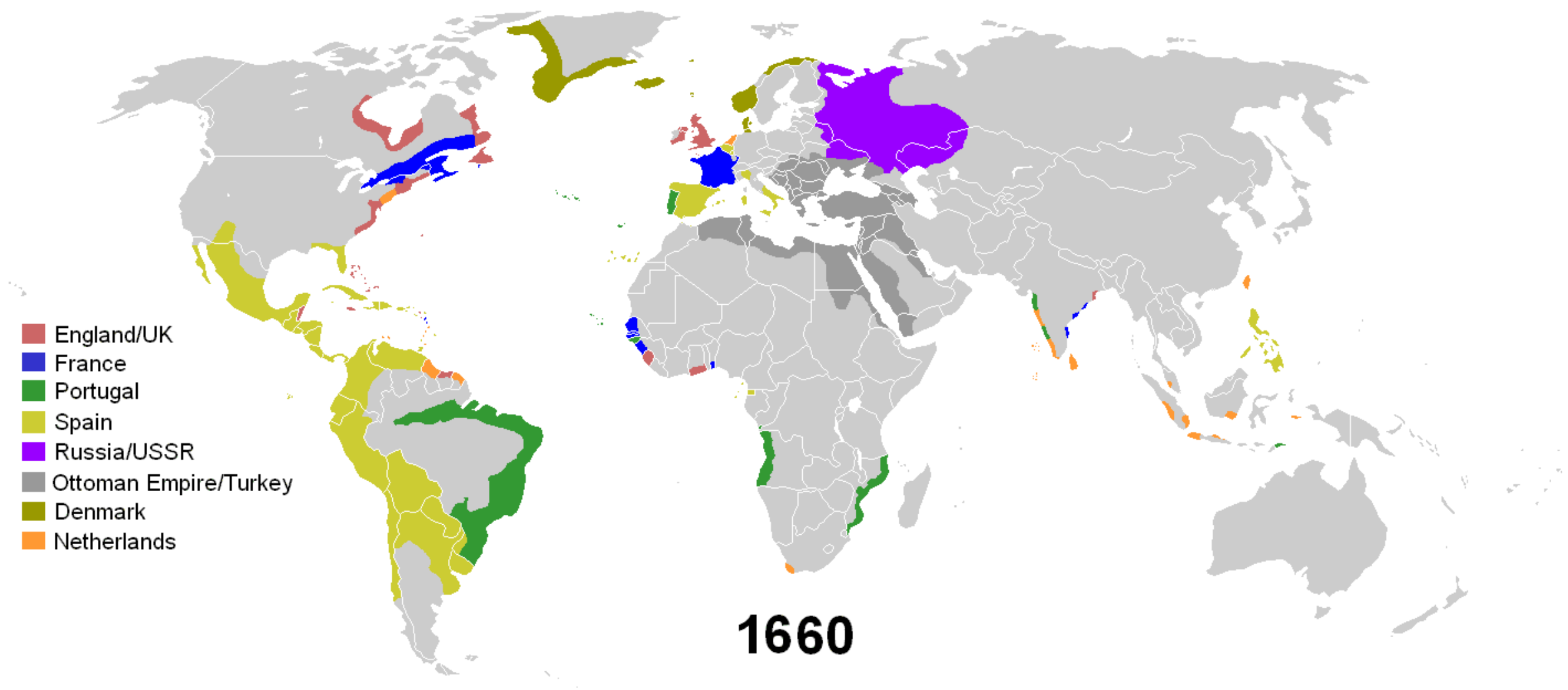
PLAN

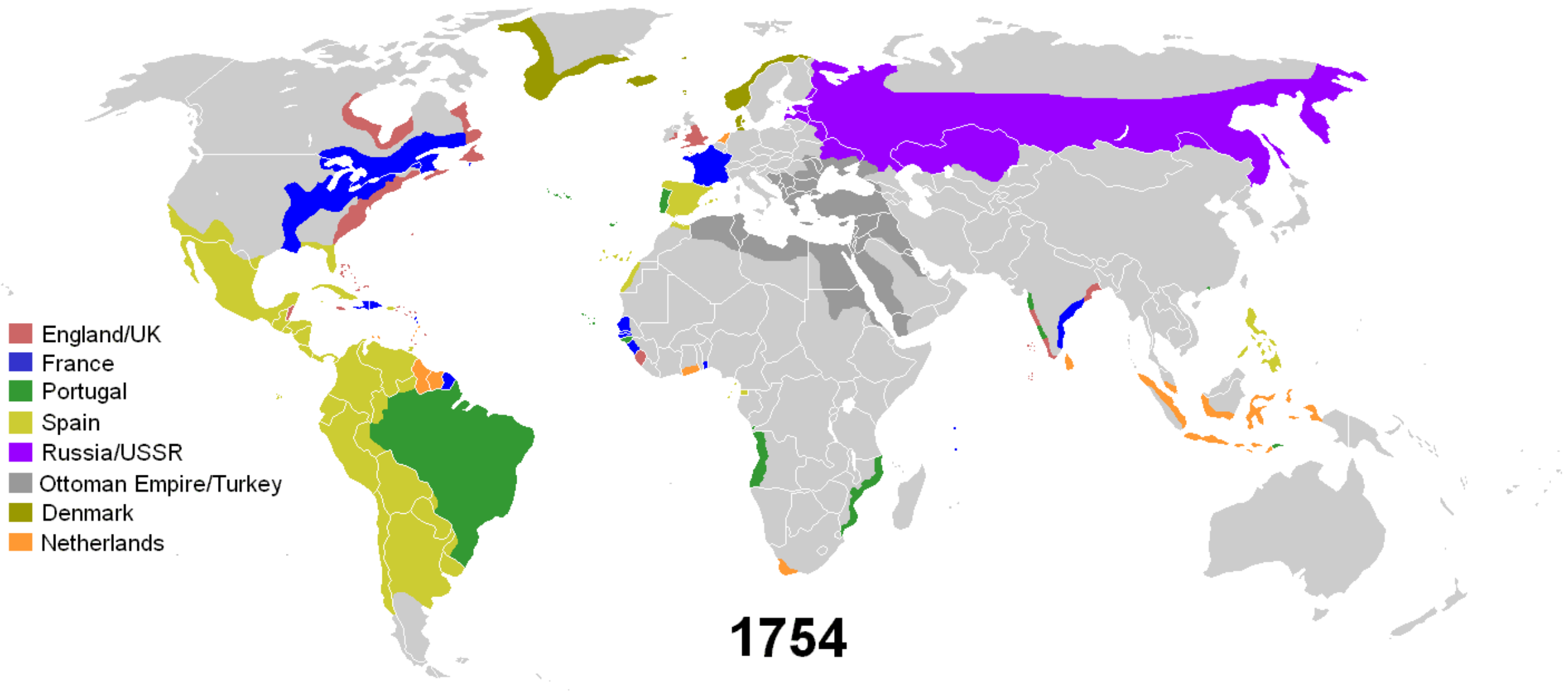
1. Imperialism: 500 years
2. “The Scramble”
3. Ideologies of Imperialism
4. Strains

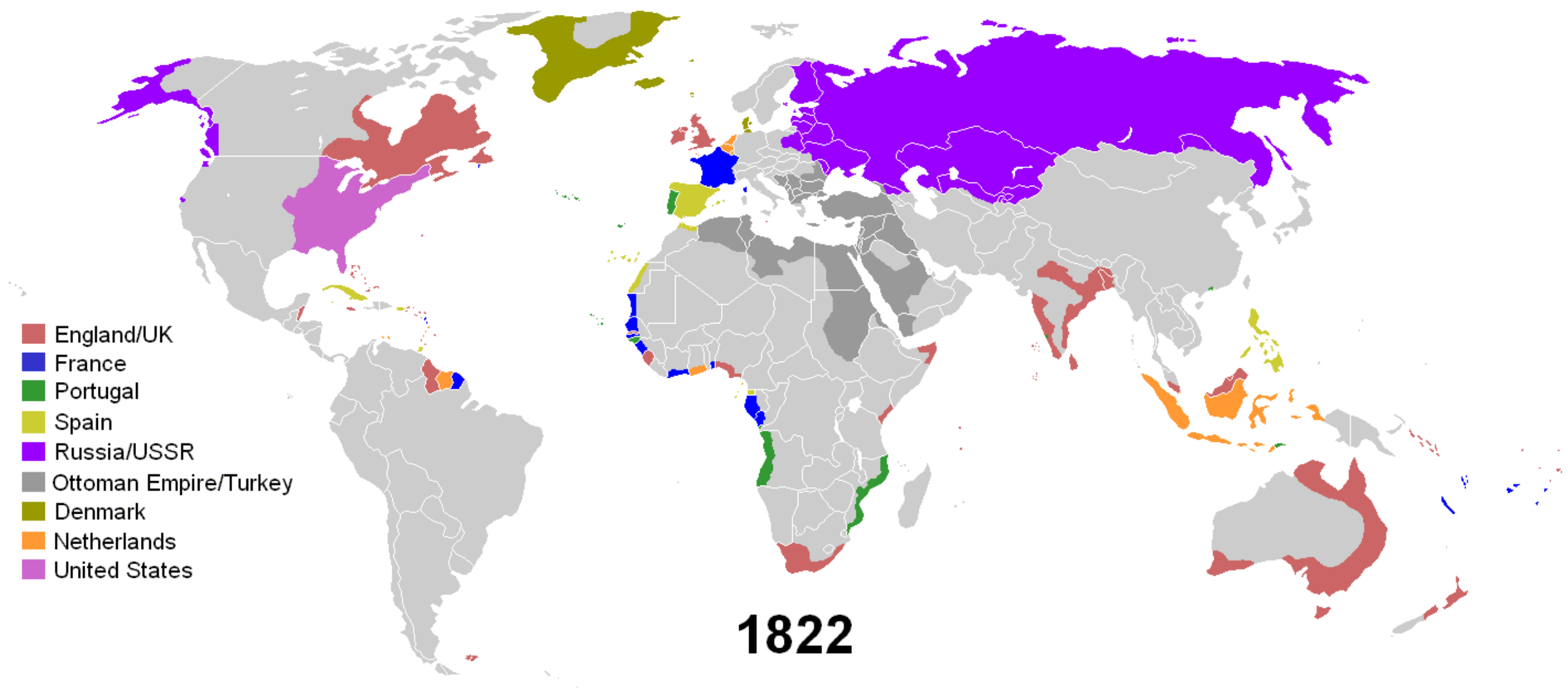


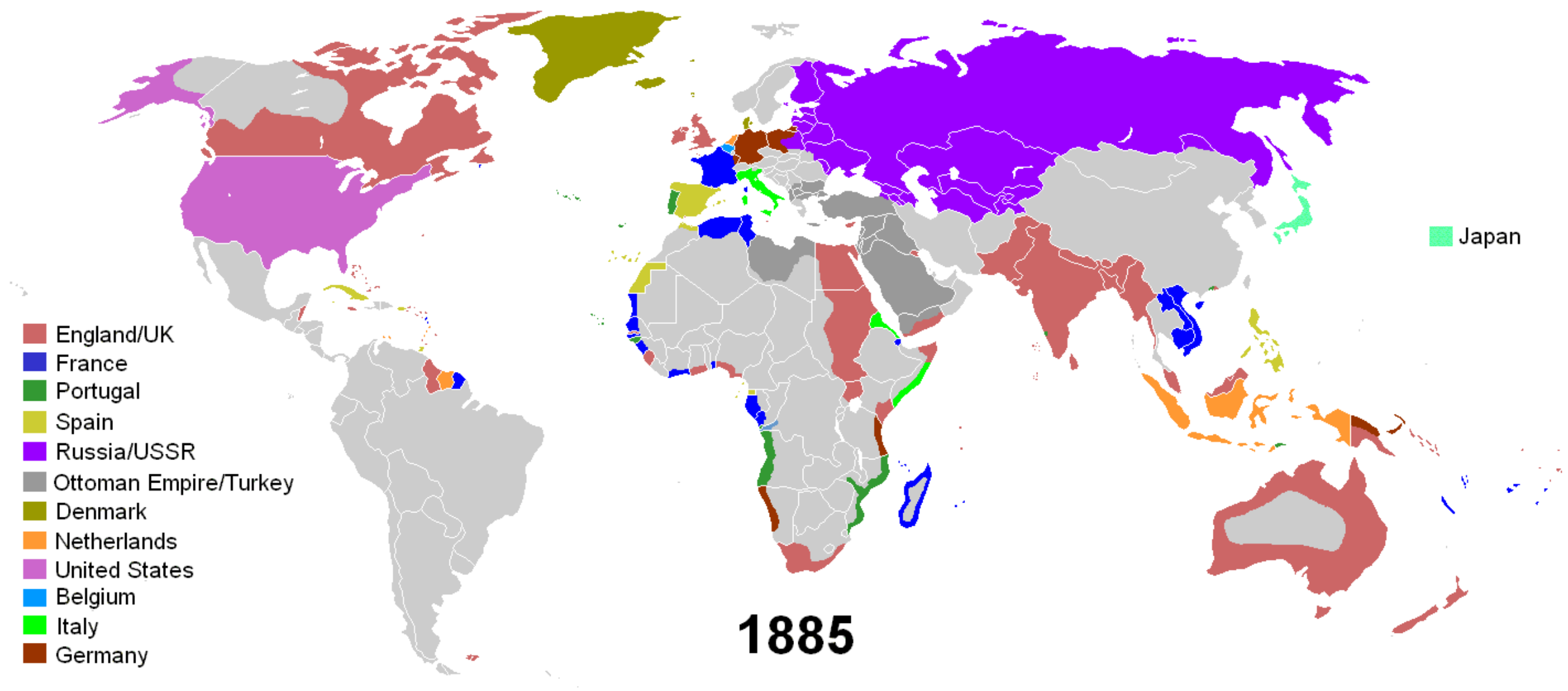




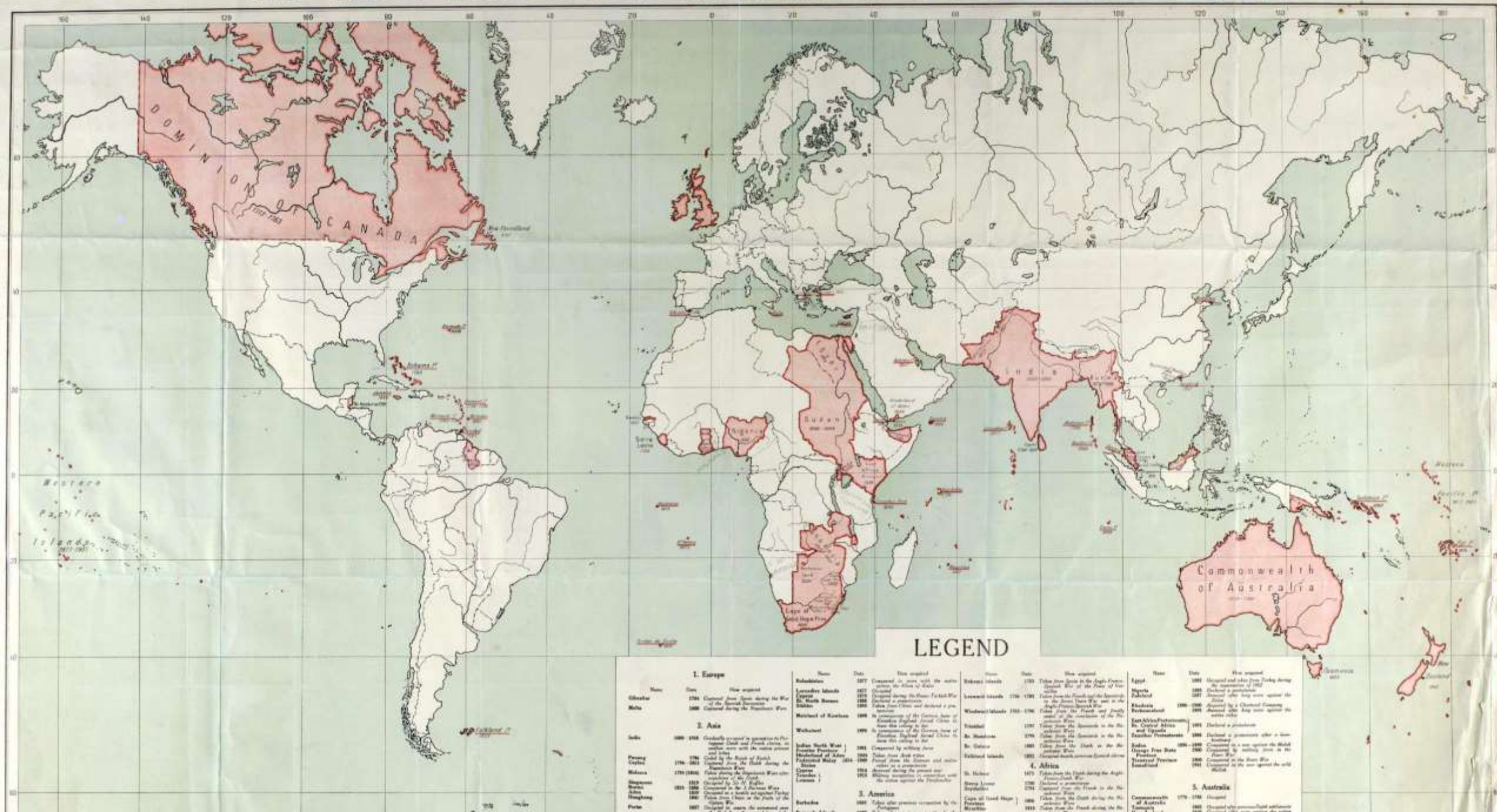


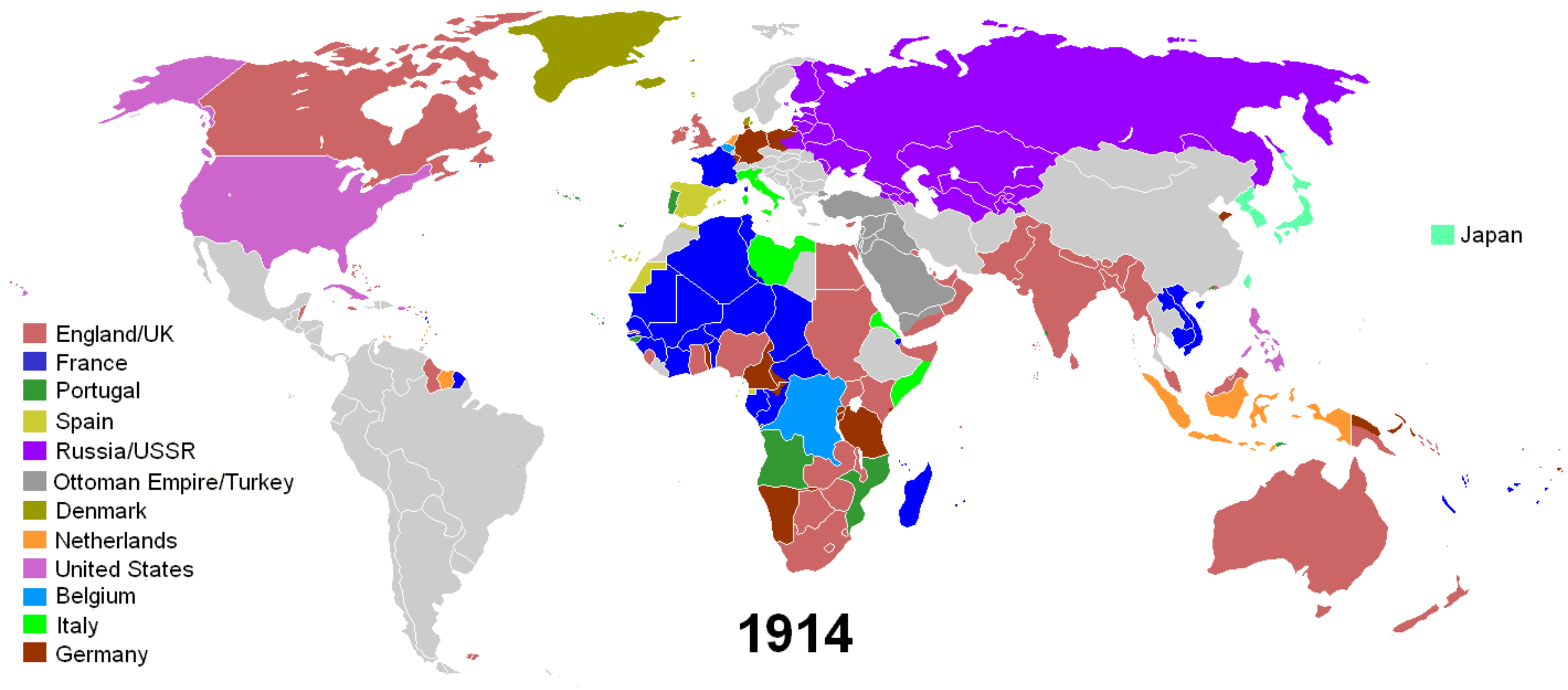


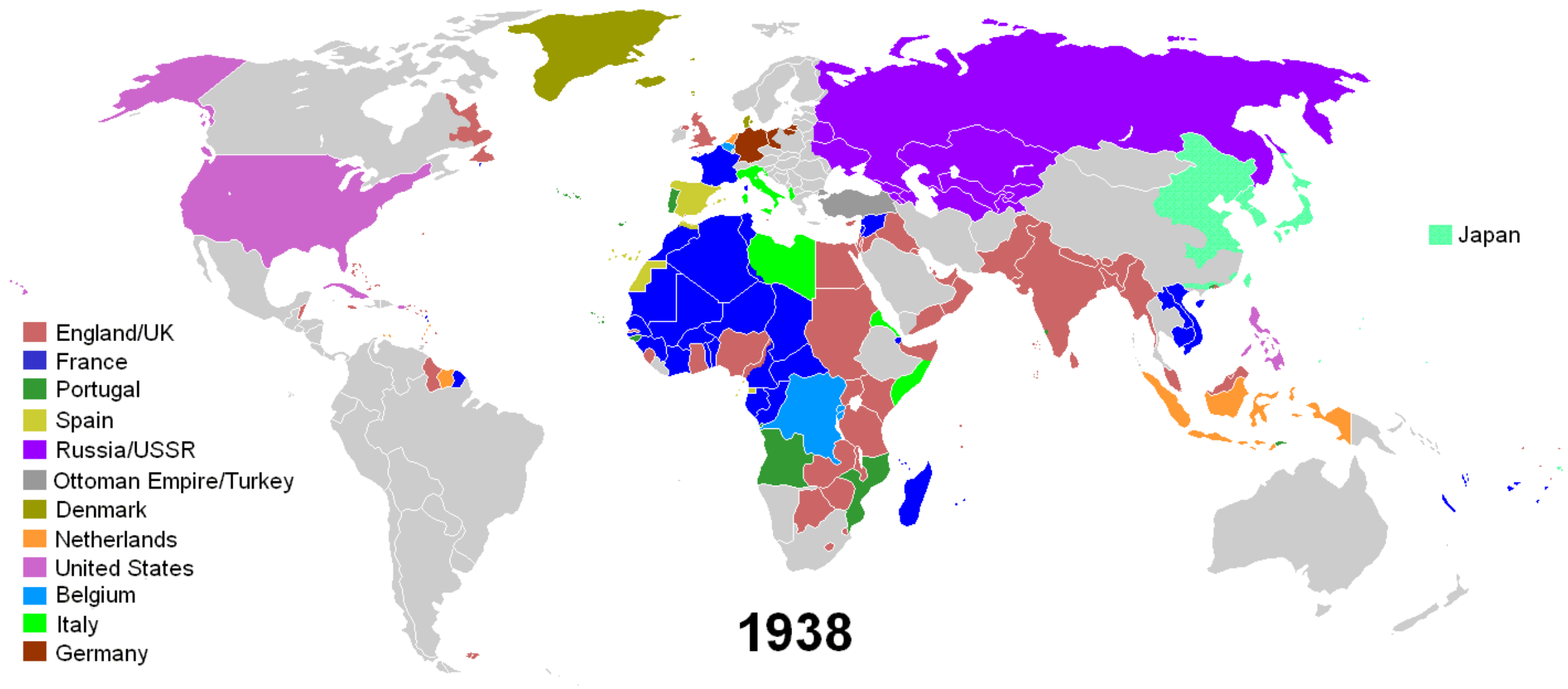


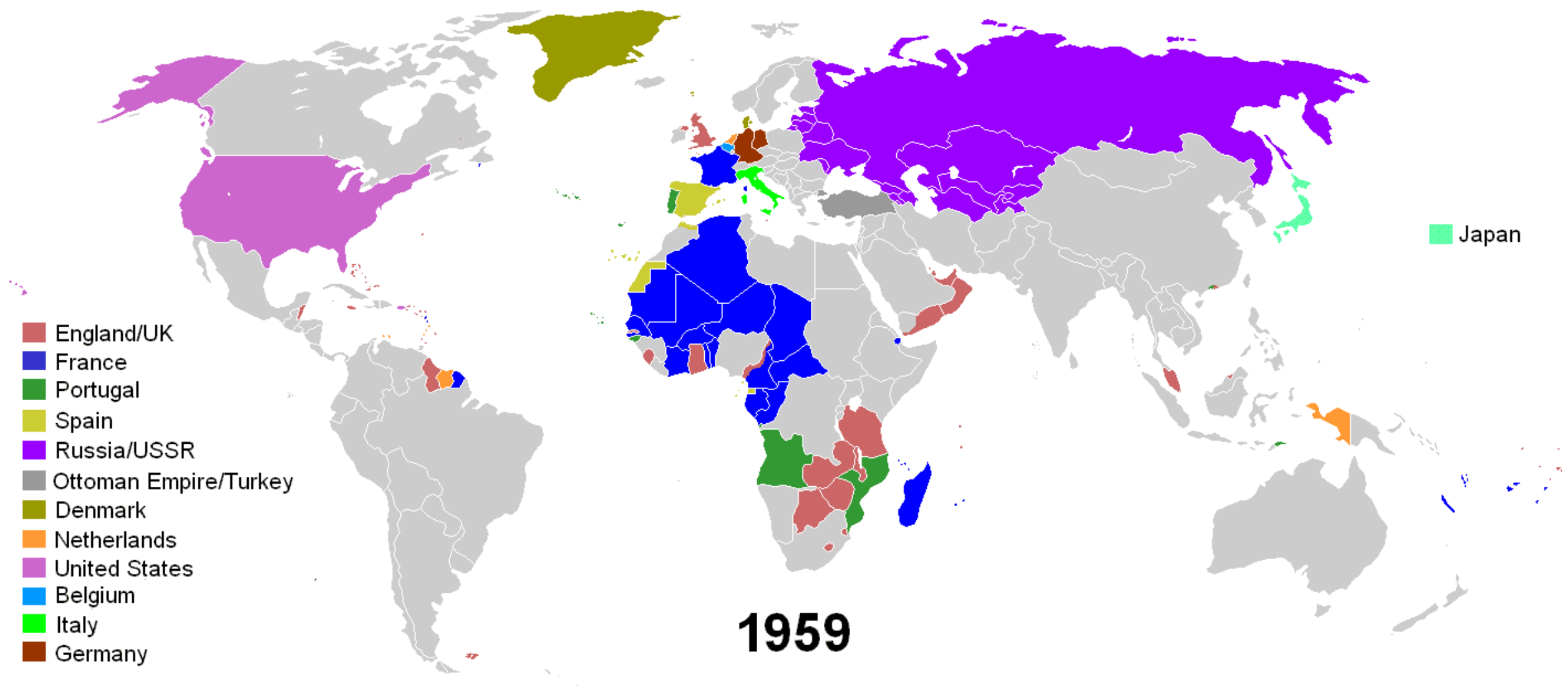


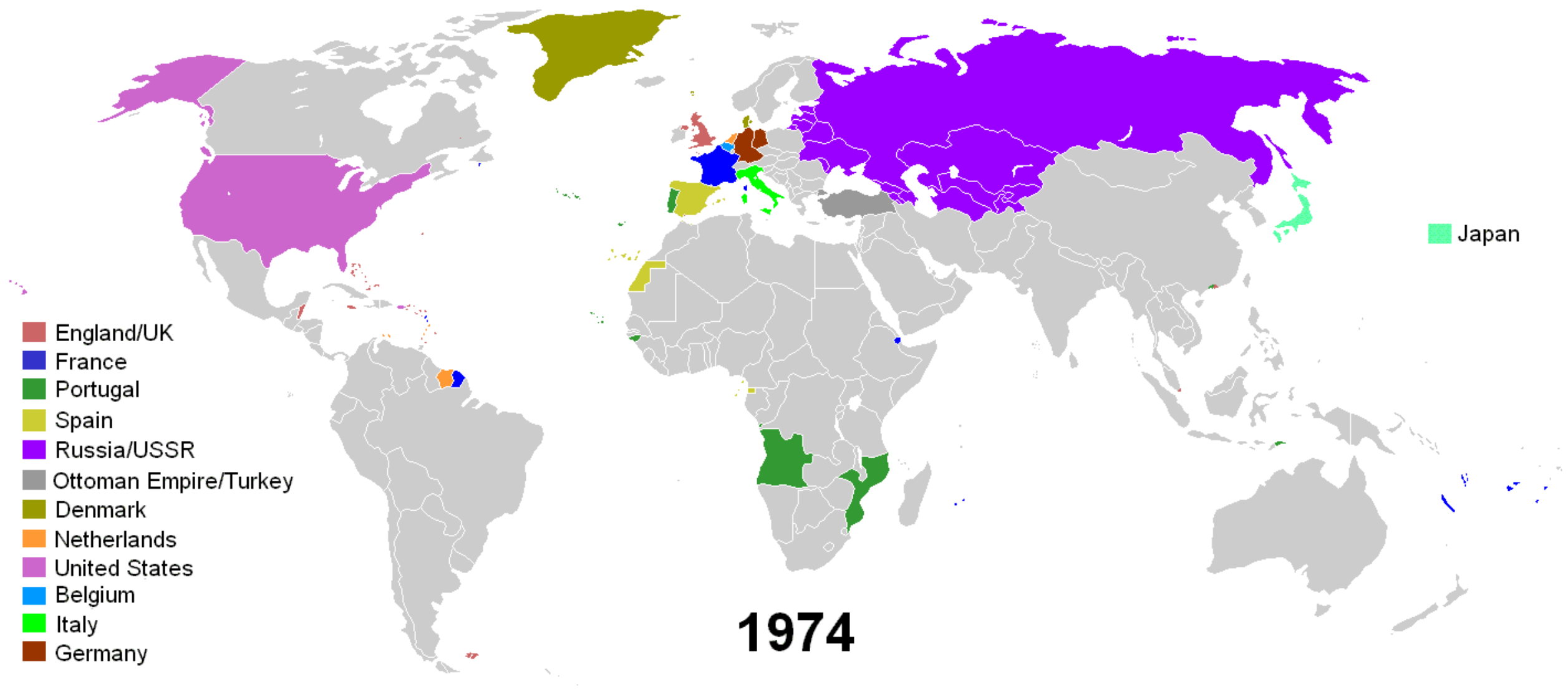
THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE





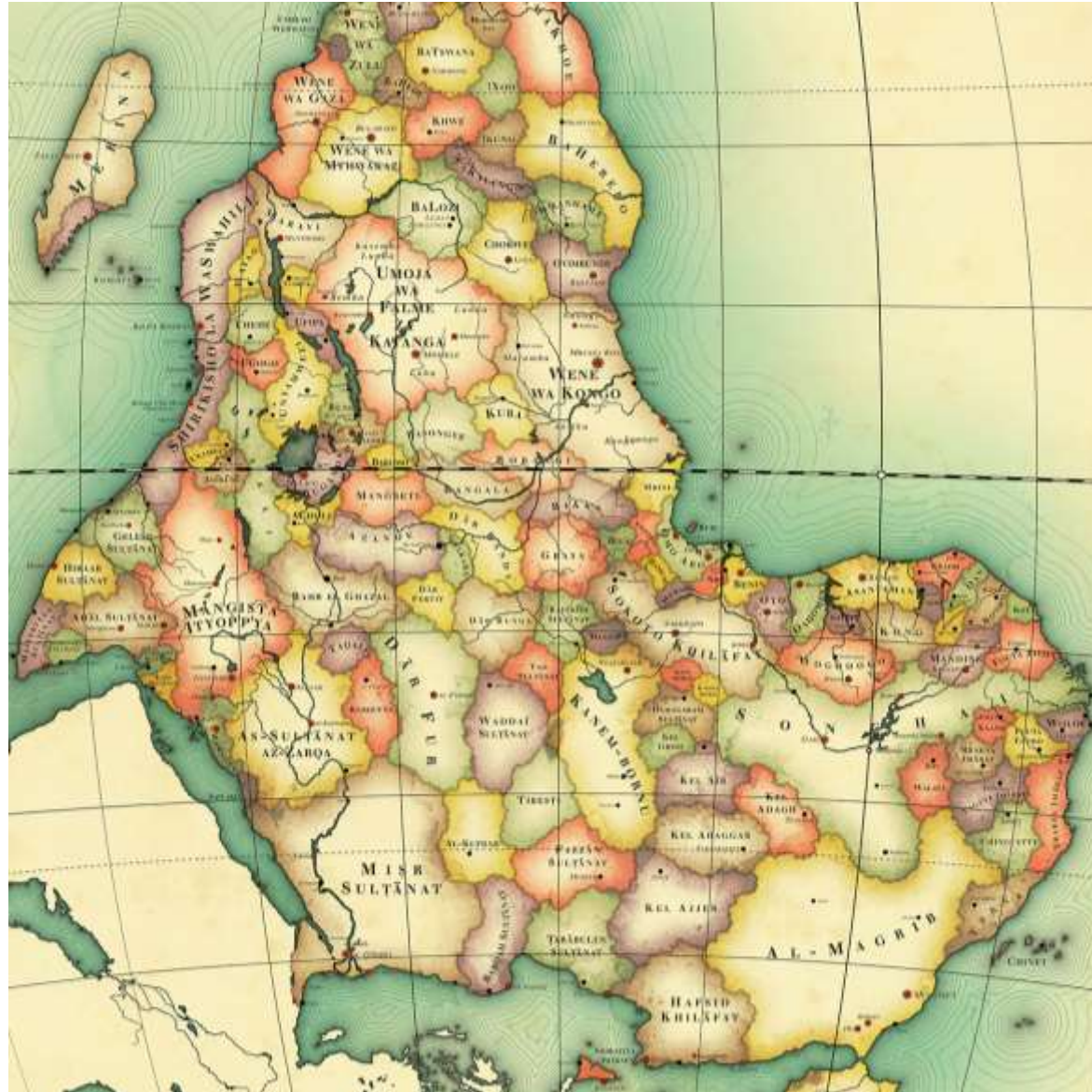




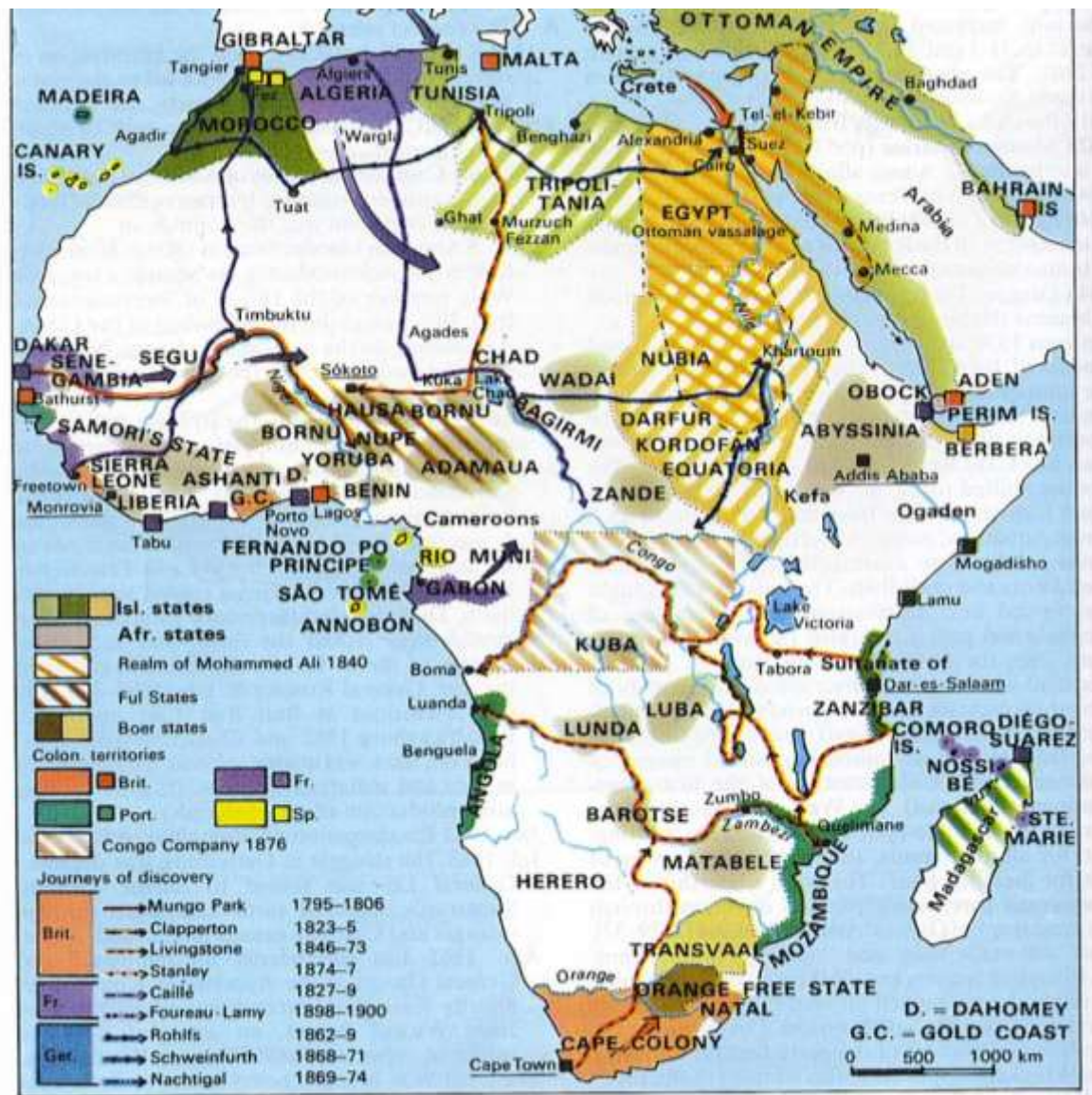




2. THE “SCRAMBLE”

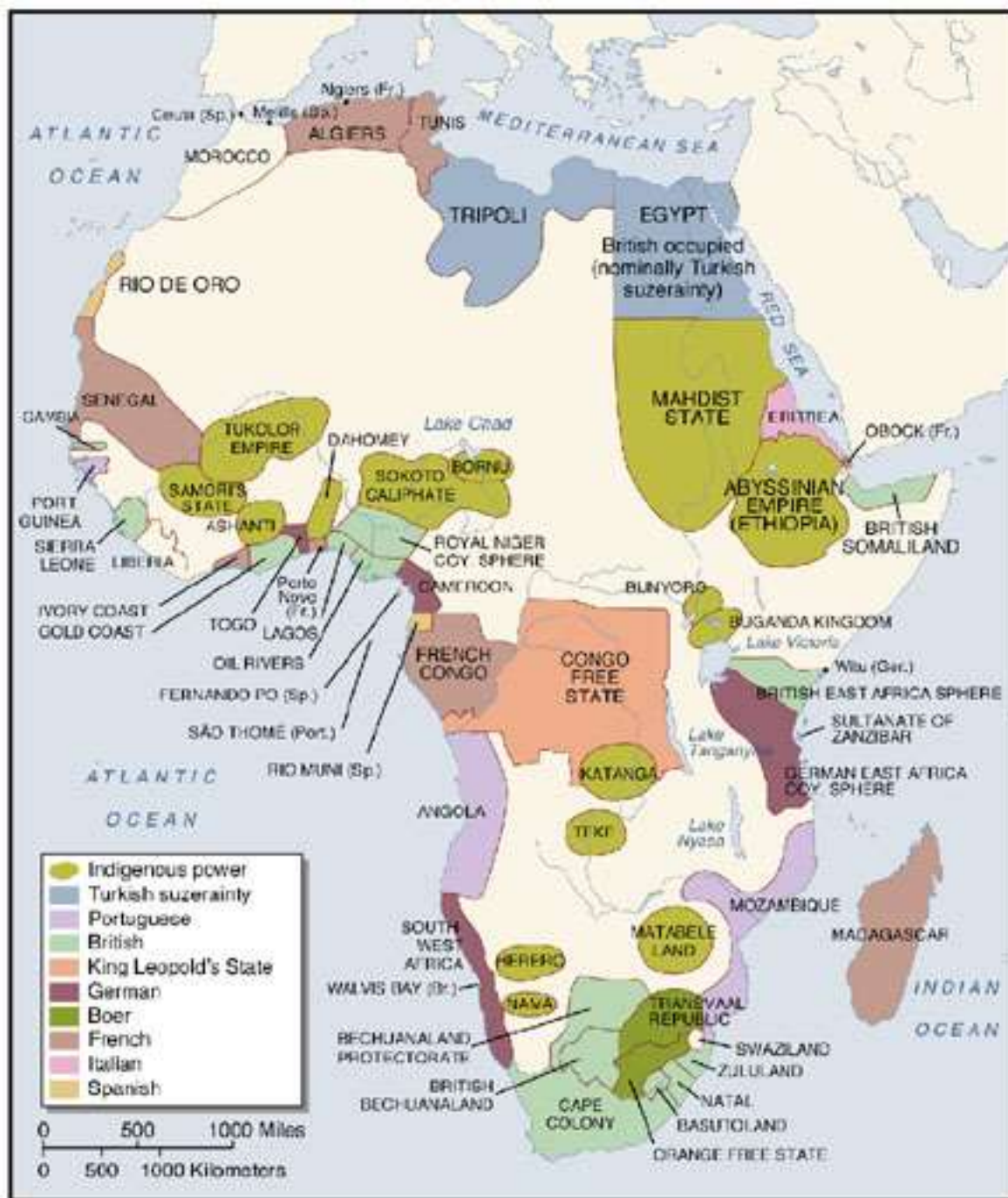


1844





1880



Africa, c. 1886



Africa, c. 1914

WHAT DRIVES IMPERIALISM?

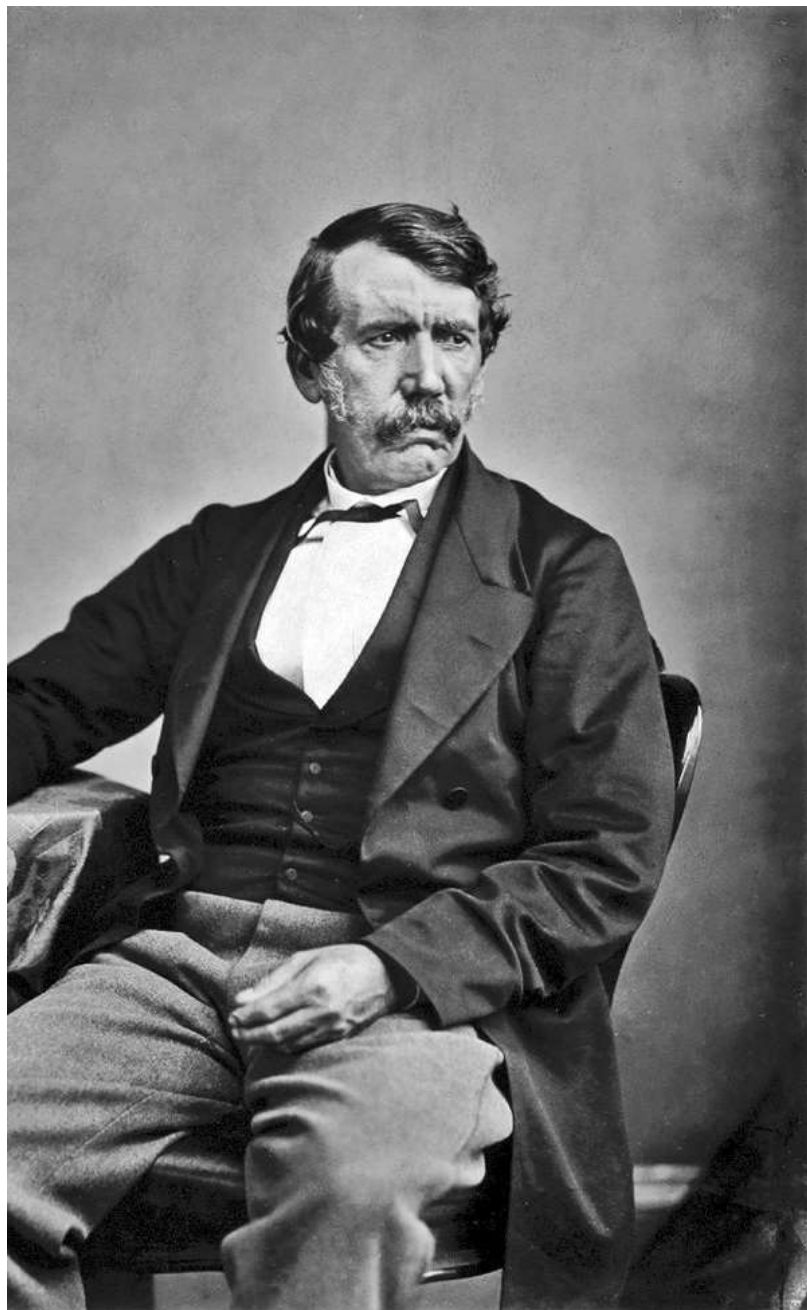
1875: Europeans control 11 percent of the continent

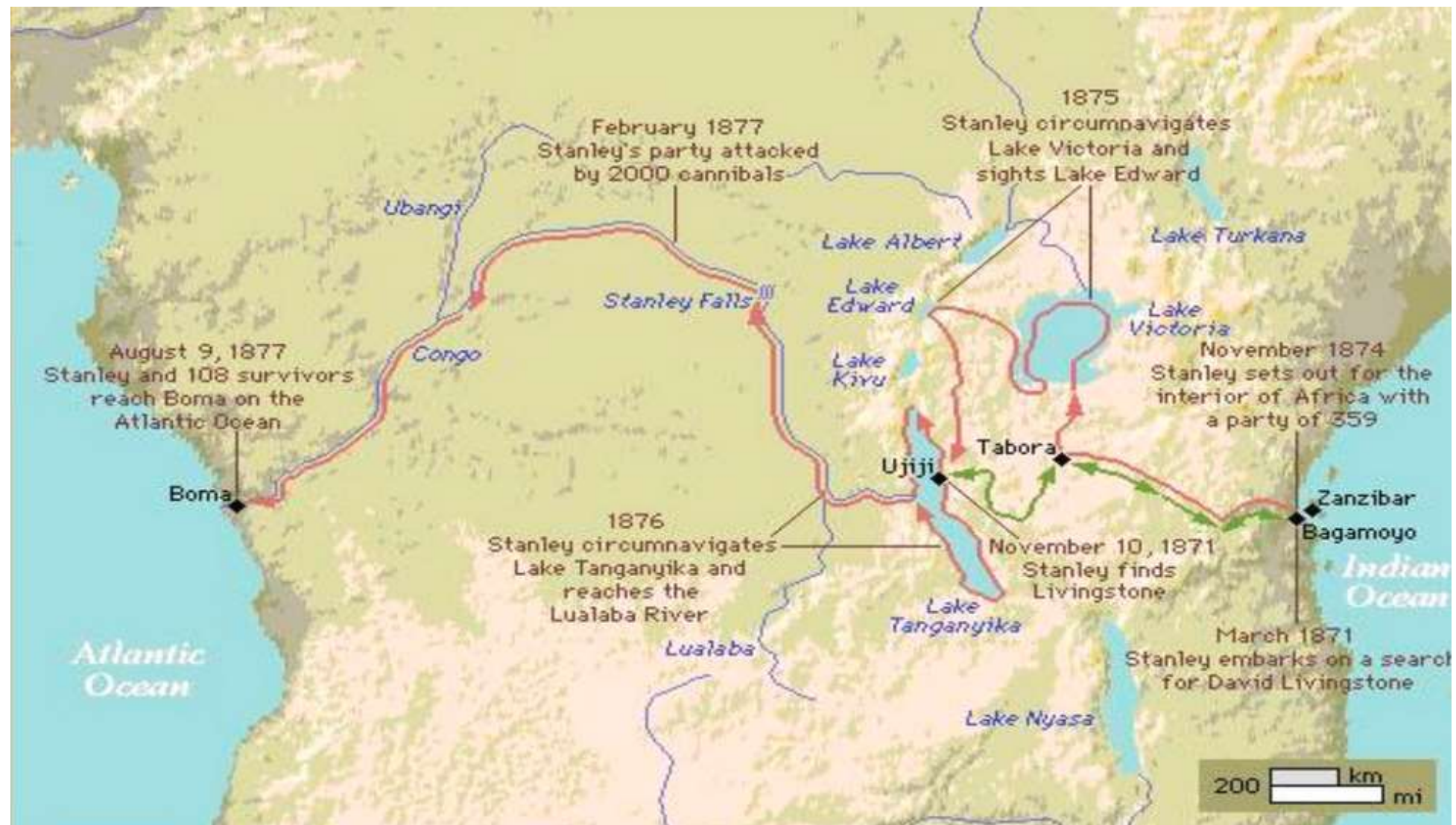
1902: 90 percent

1. **Technology:** steam-power, exploration, machine gun, rail, telegraphs
2. **Economics:** raw materials, new markets, quinine, “Long Depression” in the West (1873-96)
3. **Politics:** competition with rivals; military and naval bases; national prestige; ‘civilizing’ missions; divided peoples

THE SCRAMBLE — 1776-1890

1. Exploration and “civilization”: Stanley, Brazza and Leopold
2. Egypt 1882
3. Berlin, 1884-85
4. Cecil Rhodes





“EXPLORATION”

David Livingstone – Scottish missionary with the London Missionary Society, travels across southern and central Africa to end slavery using Christianity, 1845-73

Determined to find source of Nile to this end. Travels help Europeans map interior

Henry Stanley paid by American newspaper to track down Livingstone, 1871

King Leopold of Belgium hires Stanley (1878) to map the Congo area

Pierre de Brazza explores area north of Congo river for France



Leopold II, reigns 1865-1909

1860: "I believe that the moment is come for us to extend our territories. I think that we must lose no time, under penalty of seeing the few remaining good positions seized upon by more enterprising nations than our own."

1876: International Association for the Exploration and Civilization of the Congo

THE CONGO “FREE STATE” (1885-1908)

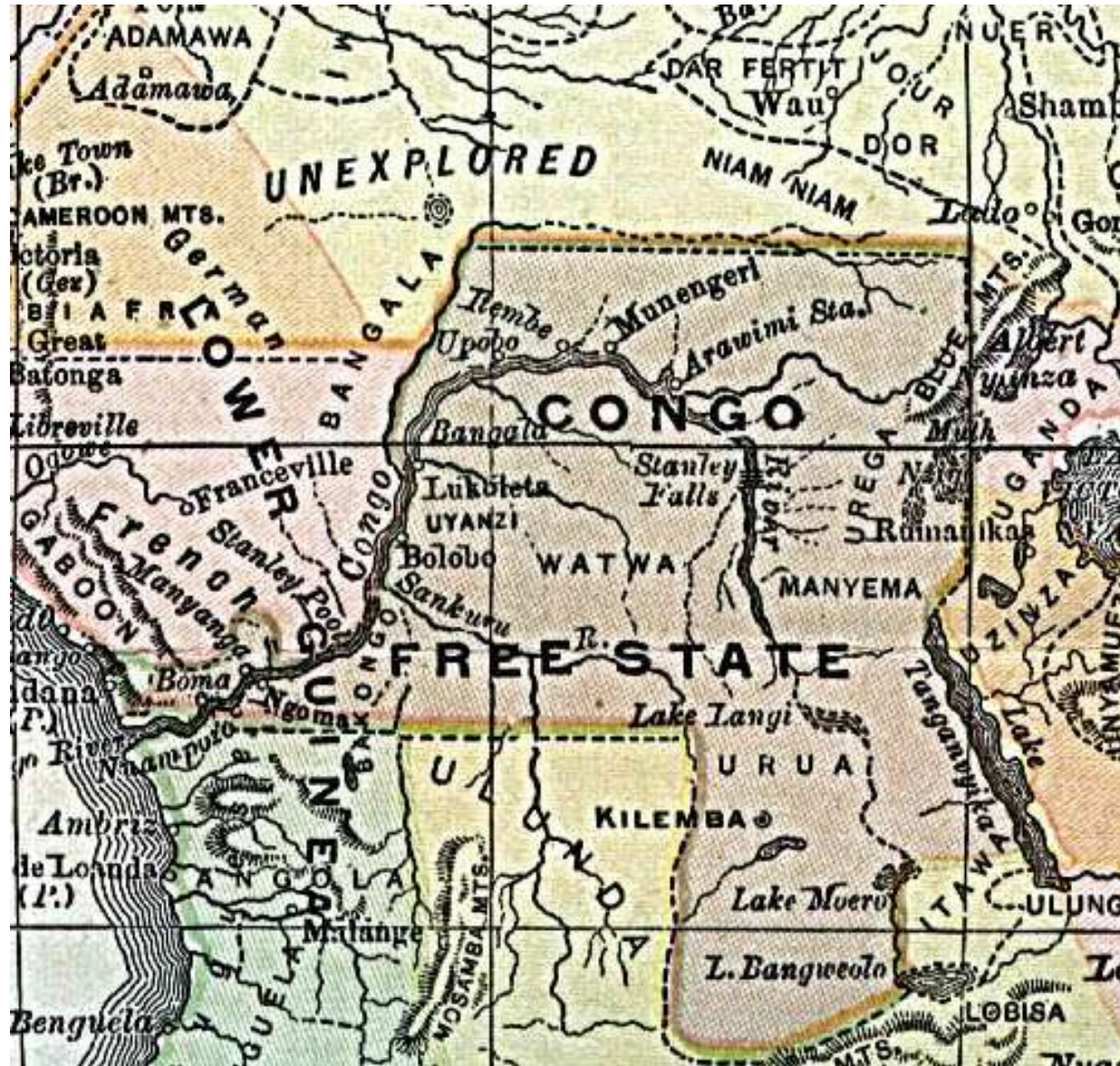
Swamps and disease deterrent (malaria/sleeping sickness)

“International African Association” – humanitarian façade

905,000 square miles. Almost doubled French/Portuguese appropriations combined.

Rubber, copper, ivory for export

"It is a question of creating a new State, as big as possible, and of running it. It is clearly understood that in this project there is no question of granting the slightest political power to the negros. That would be absurd.' Leopold to Stanley



BRUTALITY

Rubber Quotas

Punishments: Beatings, whippings, cutting off hands by Force Publique, deaths

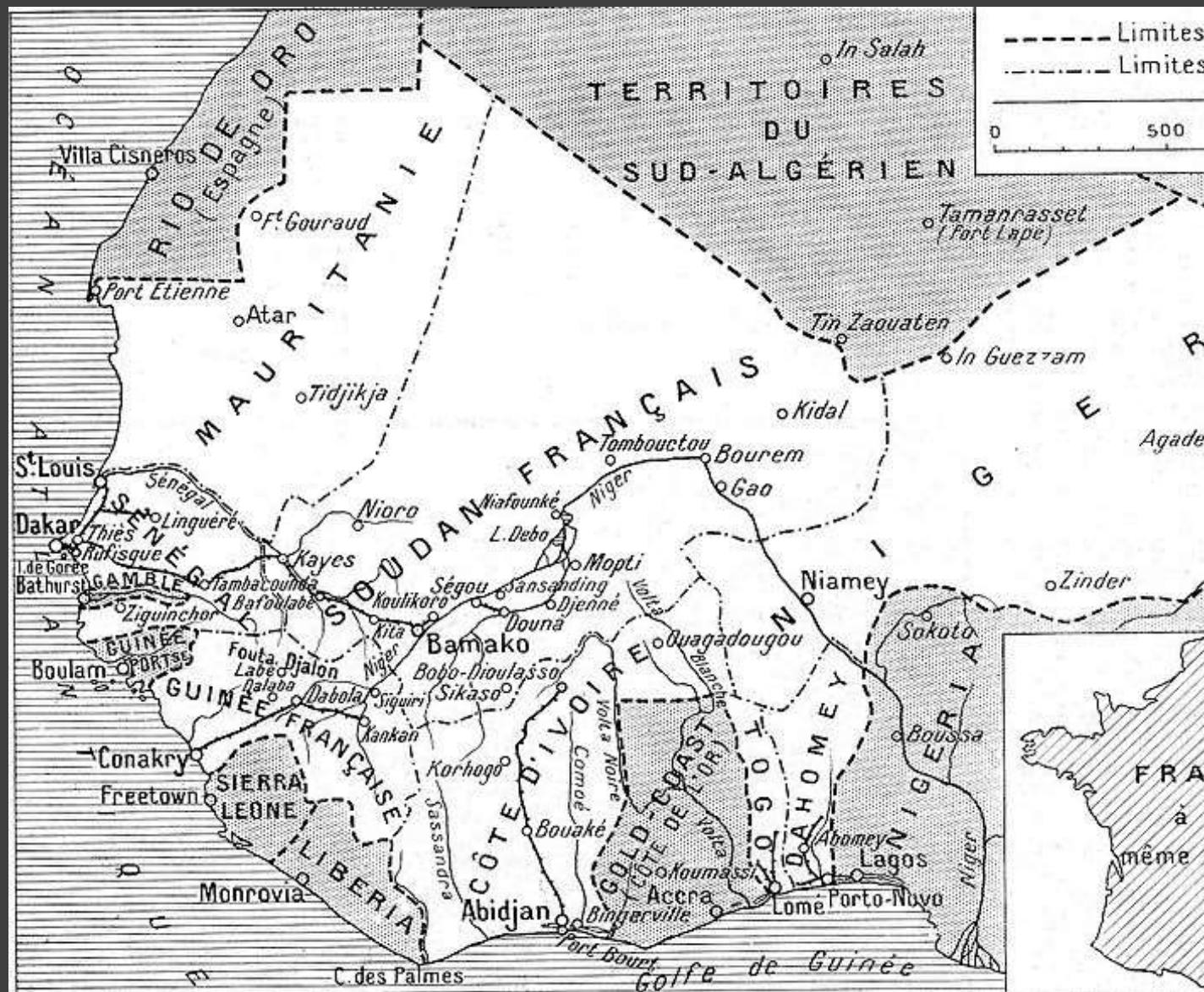
Between 5-10 million died of a 20m population: murder, disease, starvation

Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1899); growing outcry from missionaries

British investigation by Roger Casement, 1903-5

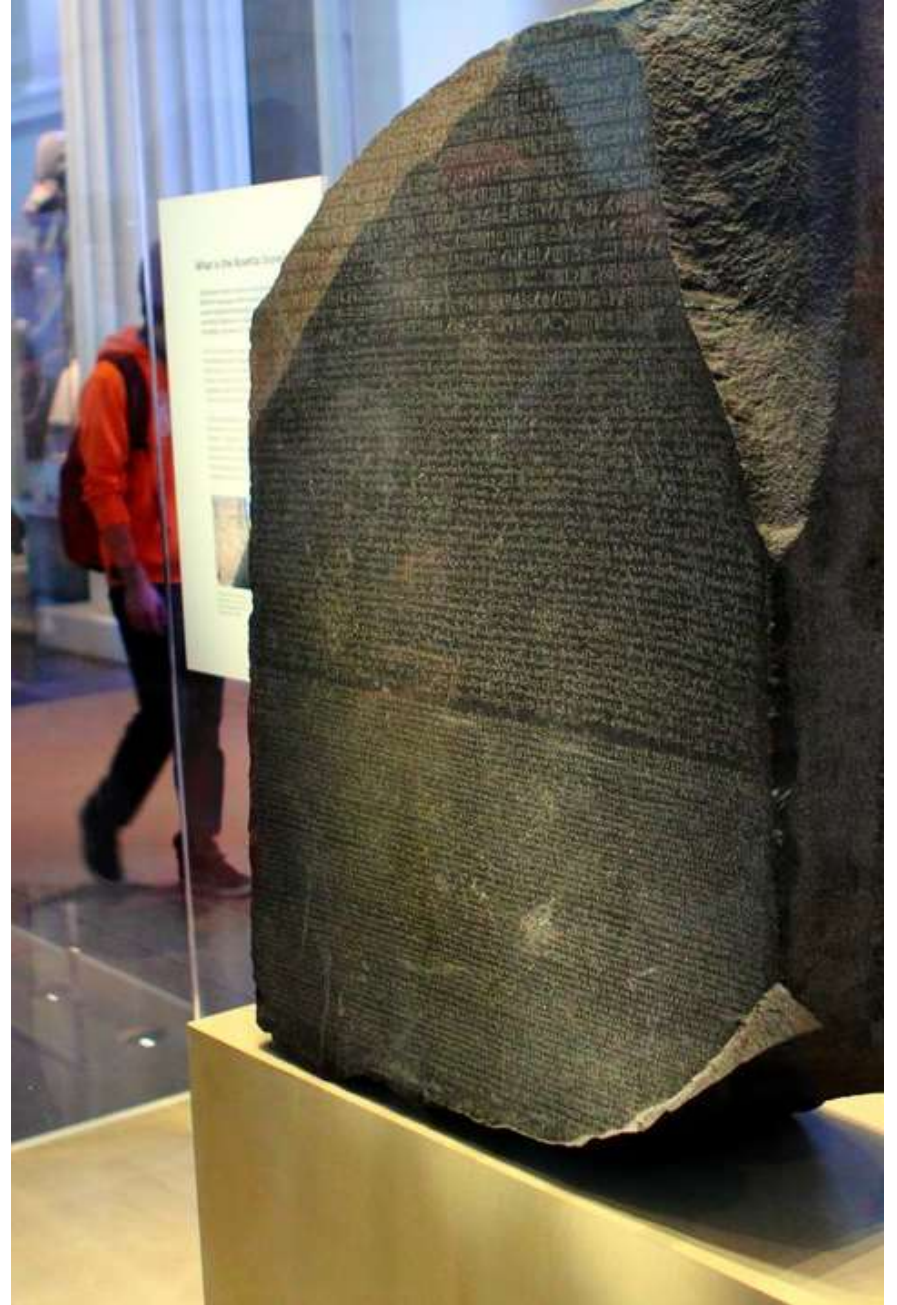
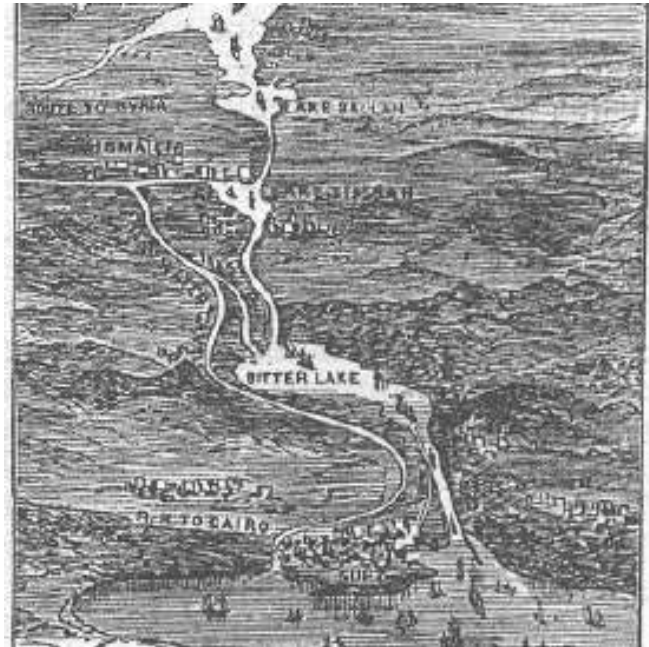
Belgium forced by international pressure to seize state from Leopold 1908





FRENCH EXPANSION

- Begins with conquest of Algeria (1852) and Senegal (1854-65)
- Exploration missions like Brazza's lead to French control of most of West Africa over the 1880s-90s, including the Niger and Senegal River Valleys, Chad Basin, Djibouti and Madagascar, up to the Congo
- Later divided into French West Africa and French Equatorial Africa



ISMAIL PASHA, EGYPT

Khedive of Egypt and Sudan

Paris educated, 1863-79, grandson of Muhammad Ali

Moderniser: rail, Suez Canal (1869), sugar, post office

Increased debt, from 3 to 100 million pounds

1875: Ismail forced to sell shares in Suez Canal Company

British PM Disraeli paid 4 million pounds

British and French interference increases...





1879: Pressured Ottoman Sultan to replace Ismail with Tewfik.

Col. Ahmed Urabi revolts

- Egyptian nationalist party
- Anti-European
- Anti-Ottoman

British and French worried of debt and Suez (sent warships)

June 1882: riots in Alexandria

British decided to occupy

OVER TO YOU

What do we see driving imperialistic expansion so far?

Local crises, central response (Gallagher and Robinson)

Competition with European rivals

Opportunism

Sham-humanitarianism

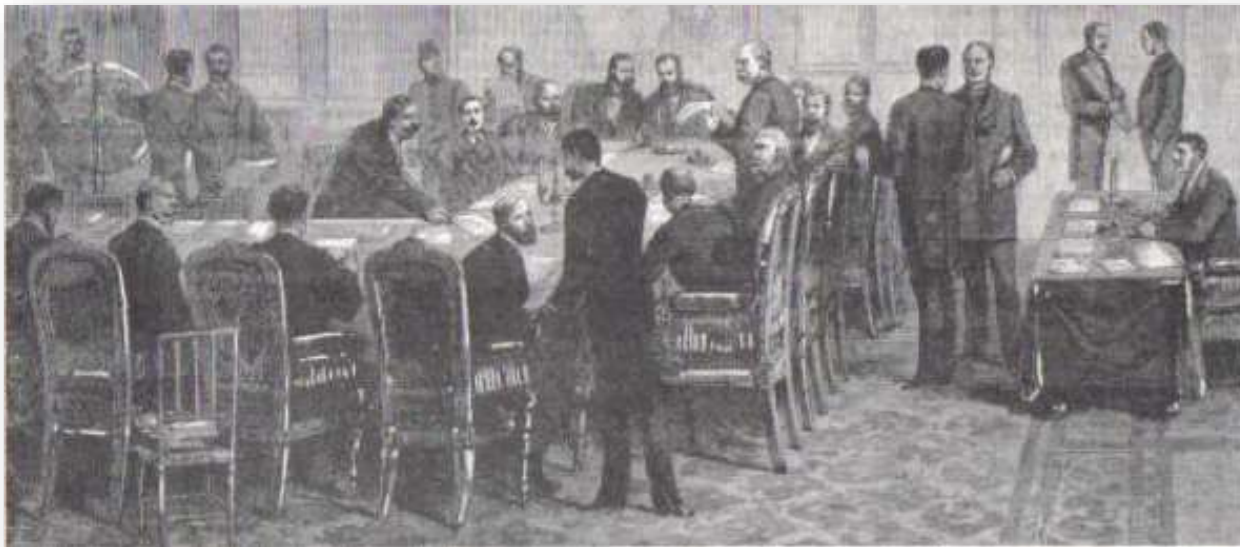


3. IDEOLOGIES OF IMPERIALISM



BERLIN CONFERENCE (1884-1885)

1. Occupation and partition
2. Congo Free State
3. Abolished Slavery

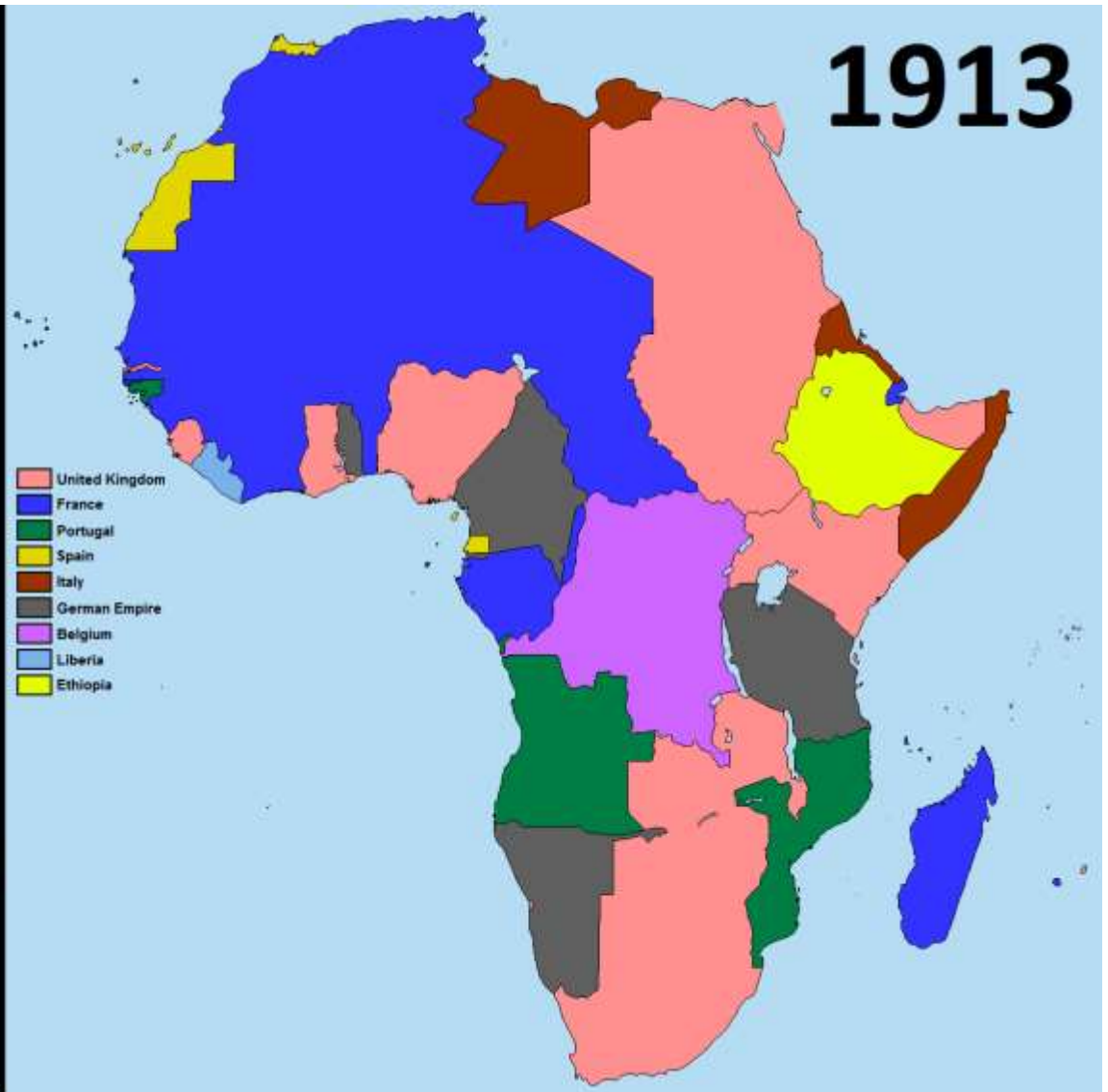
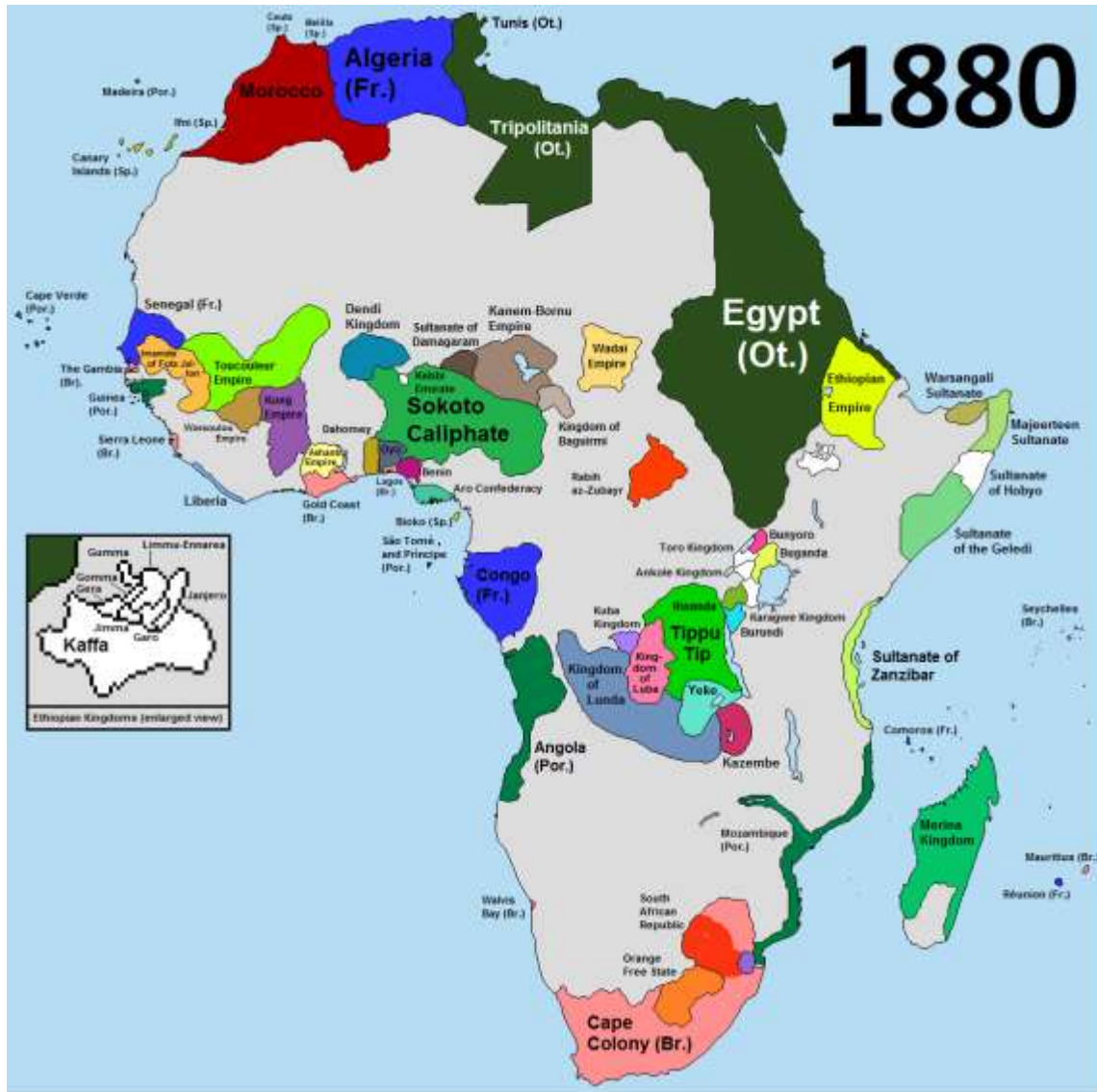


Participants:

Germany
Austria–Hungary
Belgium
Denmark
France
United Kingdom
Italy
Netherlands
Portugal
Russia
Spain
Sweden-Norway
Ottoman Empire



**African Colonies after
the Berlin Conference of 1884**





Germany

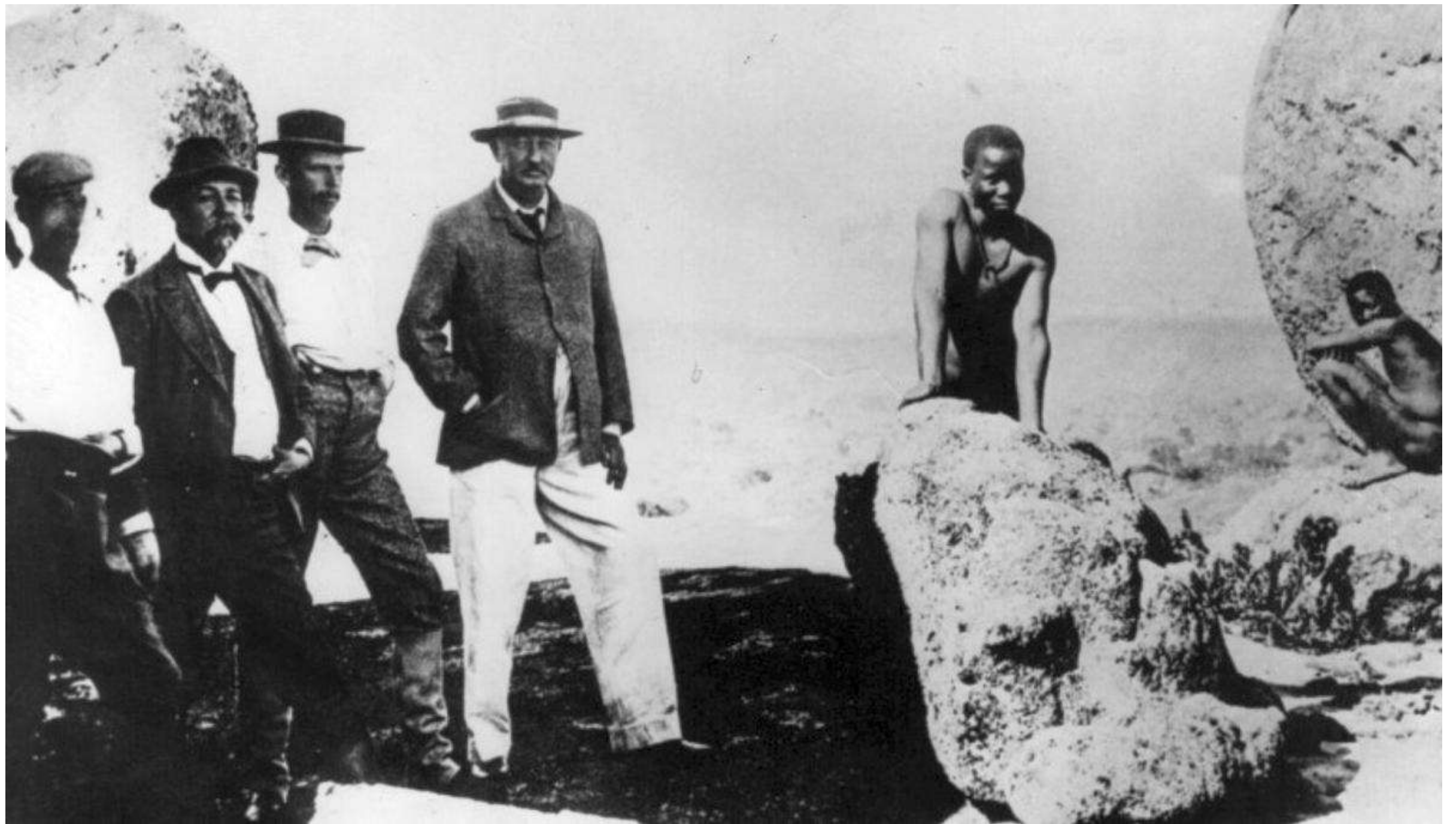
- Protectorate over mainland opp. Zanzibar

Britain

- Partition of East Africa
- Protectorate over Niger delta
- Egypt and Sudan
- Rhodesia

France

- Dahomey
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Upper Niger
- Lake Chad
- Morocco



CECIL RHODES (1853-1902)

Lower middle class Son of a vicar, moves to South Africa in 1870 to improve health

Fails as a cotton farmer, becomes a diamond miner; over 20 years becomes a mining magnate

De Beers company 1888: up to 90% control rough diamond trade at peak

1890: Prime Minister of Cape Colony. Advocate for British imperialism and racial hierarchy

Southern and Norther 'Rhodesia', 1891-95

Cape to Cairo Red Line

OVER TO YOU

In groups, focus on either excerpt 1 or 2

What do we learn about the plans of Rhodes and the perceptions of contemporaries like Joseph Conrad?

‘It must be brought home to them that in future nine-tenths of them will have to spend their lives in manual labour, and the sooner that is brought home to them the better’.

‘To and for the establishment, promotion and development of a Secret Society, the true aim and object whereof shall be for the extension of British rule throughout the world, the perfecting of a system of emigration from the United Kingdom, and of colonisation by British subjects of all lands where the means of livelihood are attainable by energy, labour and enterprise, and especially the occupation by British settlers of the entire Continent of Africa, the Holy Land, the Valley of the Euphrates, the Islands of Cyprus and Candia, the whole of South America, the Islands of the Pacific not heretofore possessed by Great Britain, the whole of the Malay Archipelago, the seaboard of China and Japan, the ultimate recovery of the United States of America as an integral part of the British Empire, the inauguration of a system of Colonial representation in the Imperial Parliament which may tend to weld together the disjointed members of the Empire and, finally, the foundation of so great a Power as to render wars impossible, and promote the best interests of humanity.’

‘What overcame Rhodes's monstrous innate vanity and made him discover the charms of secrecy was the same thing that overcame Cromer's innate sense of duty: the discovery of an expansion which was not driven by the specific appetite for a specific country but conceived as an endless process in which every country would serve only as stepping-stone for further expansion.’ – Hannah Arendt, *The Origins of Imperialism*





‘The prehistoric man was cursing us, praying to us, welcoming us – who could tell? We were cut off from the comprehension of our surroundings; we glided past like phantoms, wondering and secretly appalled, as sane men would be, before an enthusiastic outbreak in a madhouse. We could not understand because we were too far and could not remember, because we were traveling in the night of first ages, of those ages that are gone leaving hardly a sign—and no memories. The earth seemed unearthly...

... and the men... No, they were not inhuman. Well, you know, that was the worst of it – this suspicion of their not being inhuman. It would come slowly to one. They howled and leaped, and spun, and made horrid faces; but what thrilled you was just the thought of their humanity –; like yours – the thought of your remote kinship with this wild and passionate uproar’

– Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*





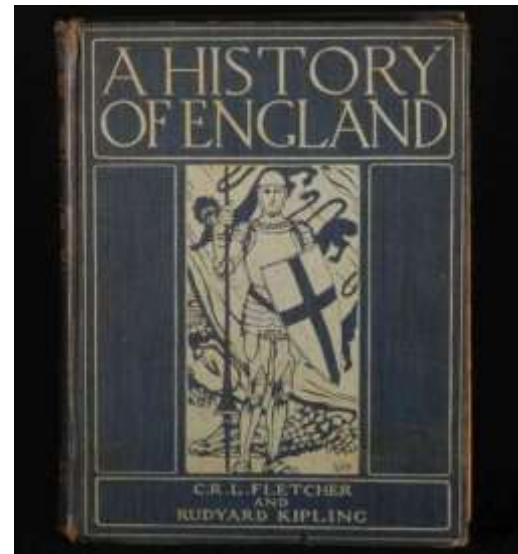
OVER TO YOU

In groups, focus on either excerpt 3 or 4

What do we learn about how imperialistic ideas were incorporated and transmitted back home?

“Take up the White Man's Burden -
Send forth the best ye breed -
Go bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait in heavy harness
On fluttered folk and wild -
Your new-caught, sullen peoples
Half-devil and half-child”

- Rudyard Kipling





4. STRAINING POWER



STRAINS

Conflict : Disraeli (Conservative) in favour of imperial expansion and protection vs William Gladstone (Liberal) in favour of free trade and scaling back

1883: Khedive of Egypt reinstated. Gladstone pushes him to abandon Sudan to the Mahdist army. Sends General Charles Gordon to oversee evacuation

Gordon defies Gladstone and defends a besieged Khartoum, eventually dying

Government refuses to send soldiers or assistance until too late

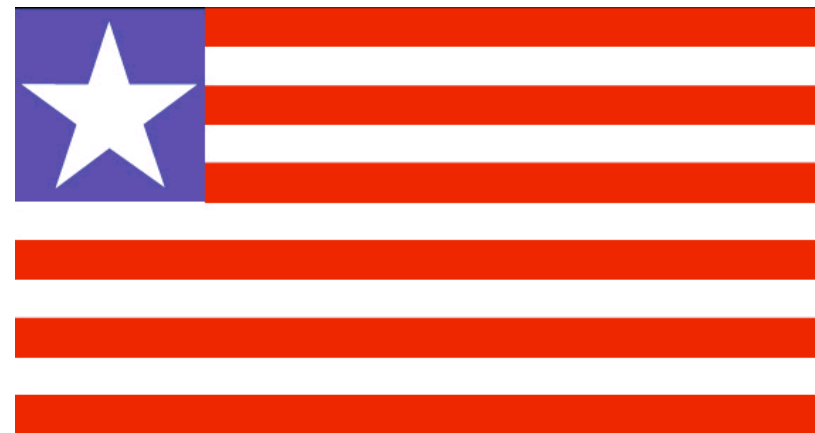
Popular imperialist outcry. Gladstone falls

1896: Kitchener returns, Battle of Omdurman destroys the Mahdists



OMDURMAN—THE FIRST BATTLE—330 A.D.
 SEPTEMBER 2ND 1898





President Monroe – freed slaves back to Liberia (Monrovia)

The “Back to Africa” Movement

Three different parties: American Colonization Society (ACS); Abolitionists;
American Elite

Liberia westernized, Christianised, indigenous people exploited



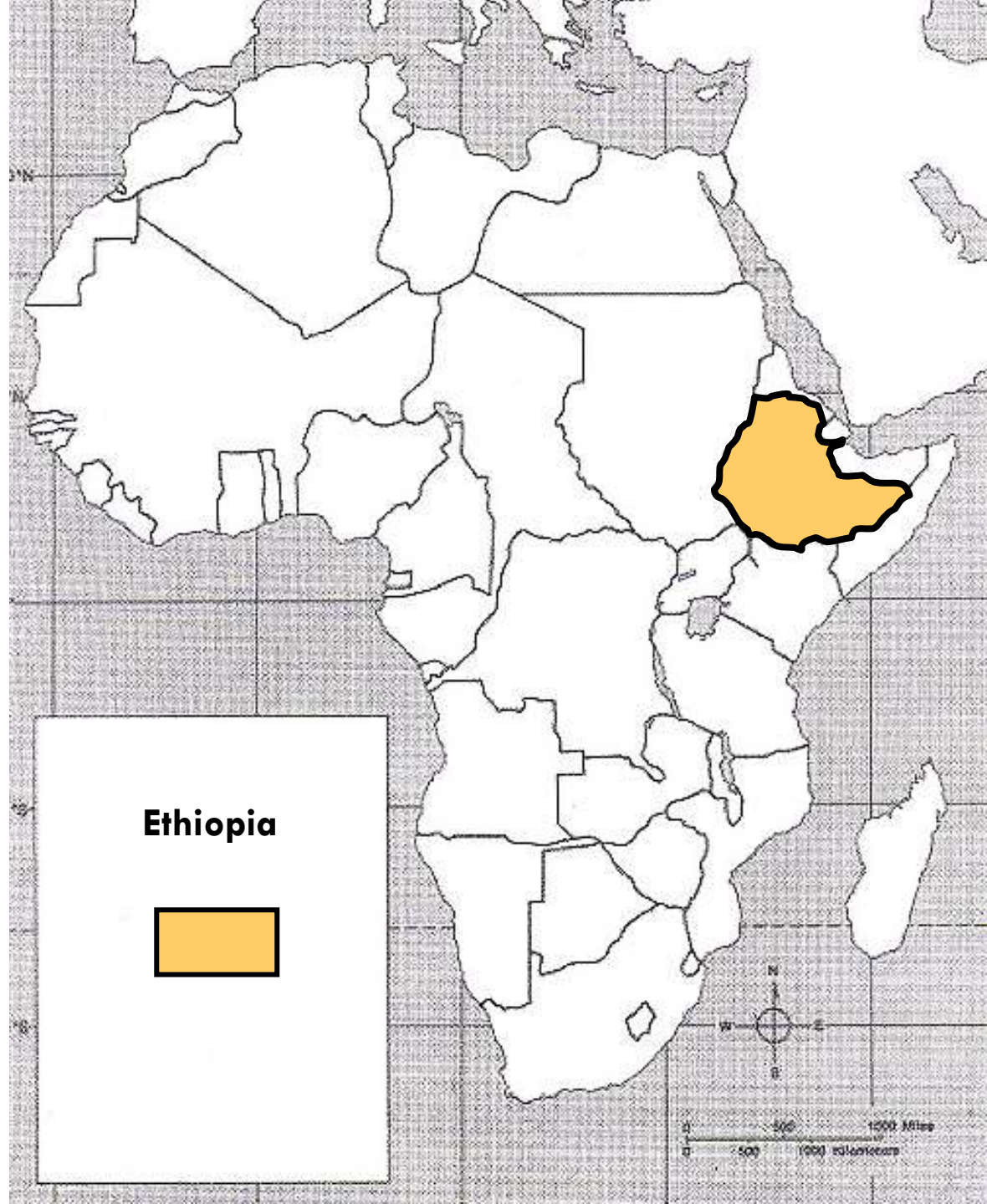
W.e.b Dubois



Marcus Garvey



John Randolph



Menelik

ETHIOPIA

Emperor Menelik II modernized the army,
along with roads, bridges, and schools

Battle of Adwa, 1896 against invading Italy

Ethiopians: 100,000 troops; 40 artillery

Italians: 15,000 troops, 56 artillery

Casualties: 8000 each side

Outcome: continued independence







THE ZULU NATION

In the early 1800s in southern Africa, Shaka conquered and united tribes to form the Zulu nation.

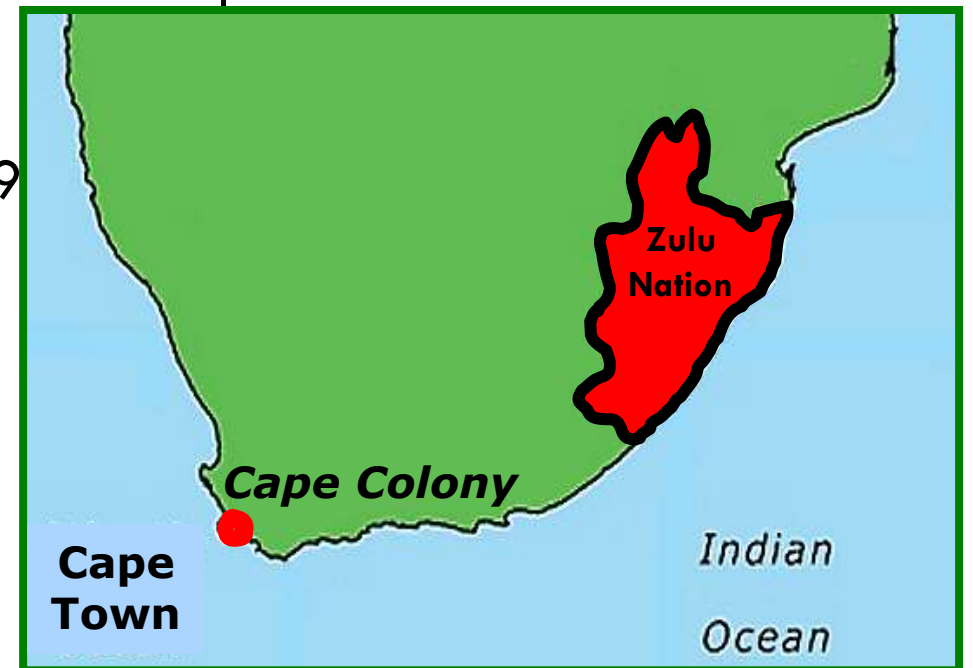
Skilled and organised military that fought slave-traders and repelled the Boers

British seek to spread a federation over South Africa

Defeated the British at the Battle of Isandlwana, 1879

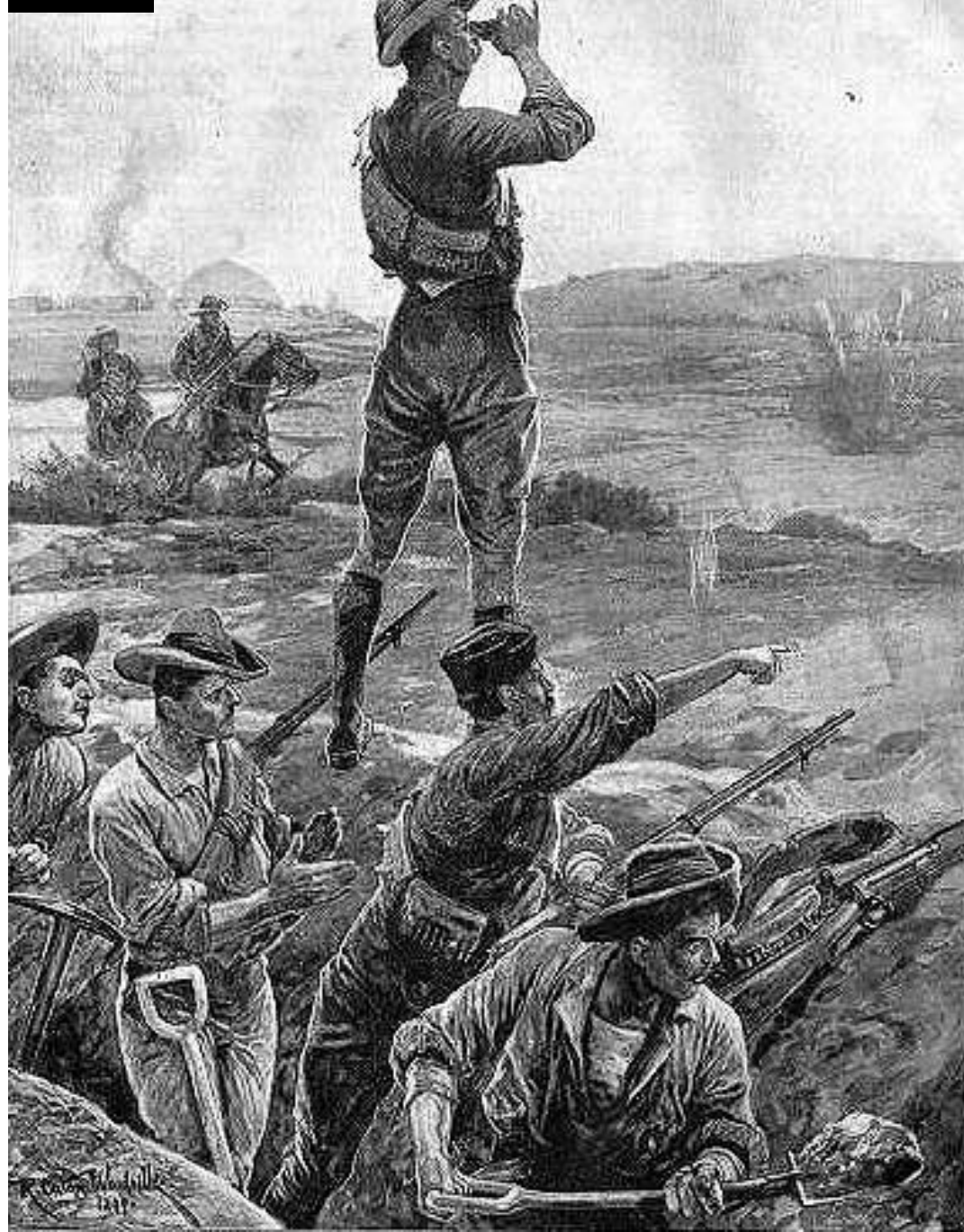
... But lose the Anglo-Zulu war (1879)

Boers now worried about their political independence in the Transvaal and Orange Free State





Boers



Boers



British

BOER WARS

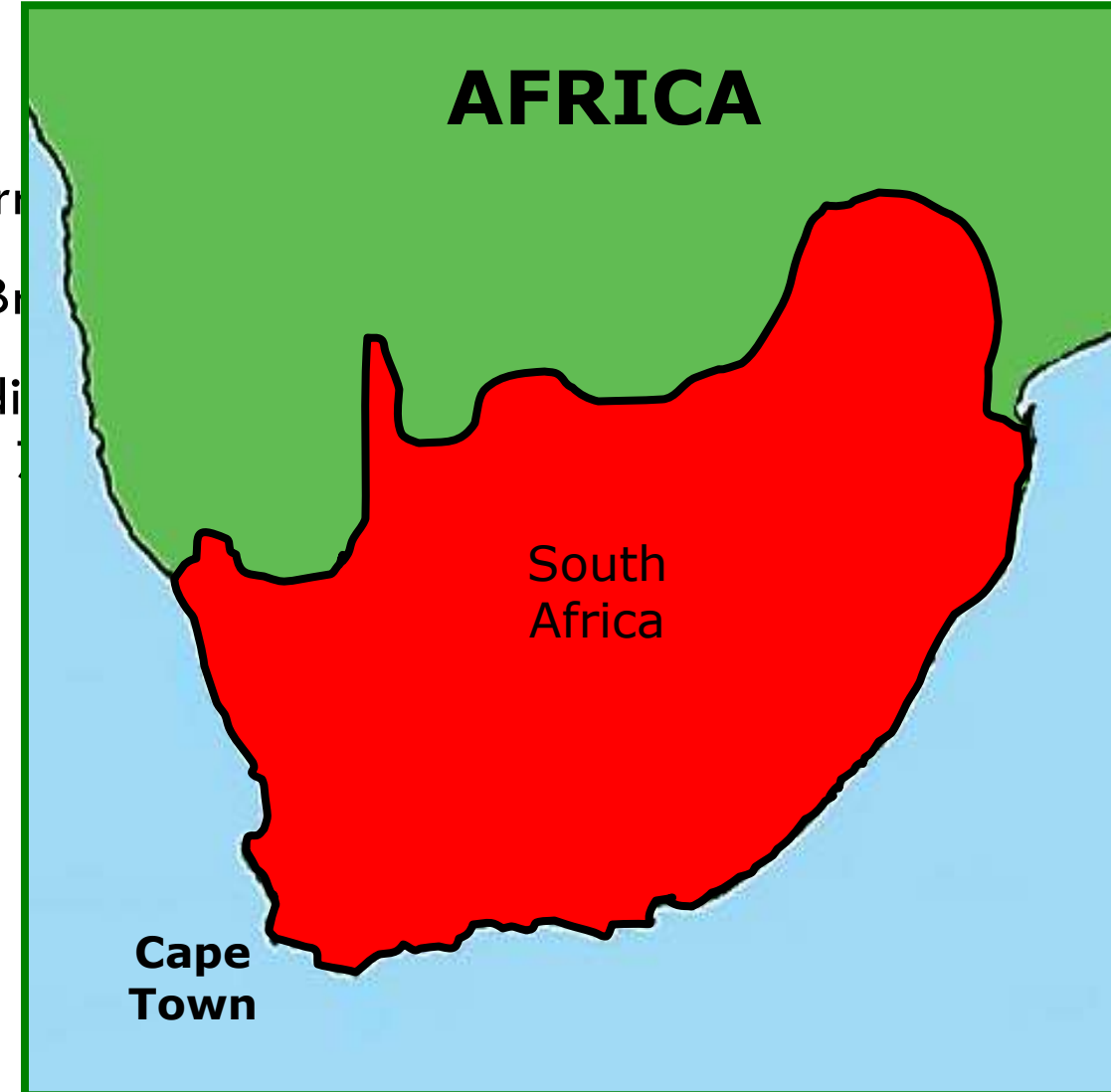
Extensive diamonds and gold discovered in Boer territory

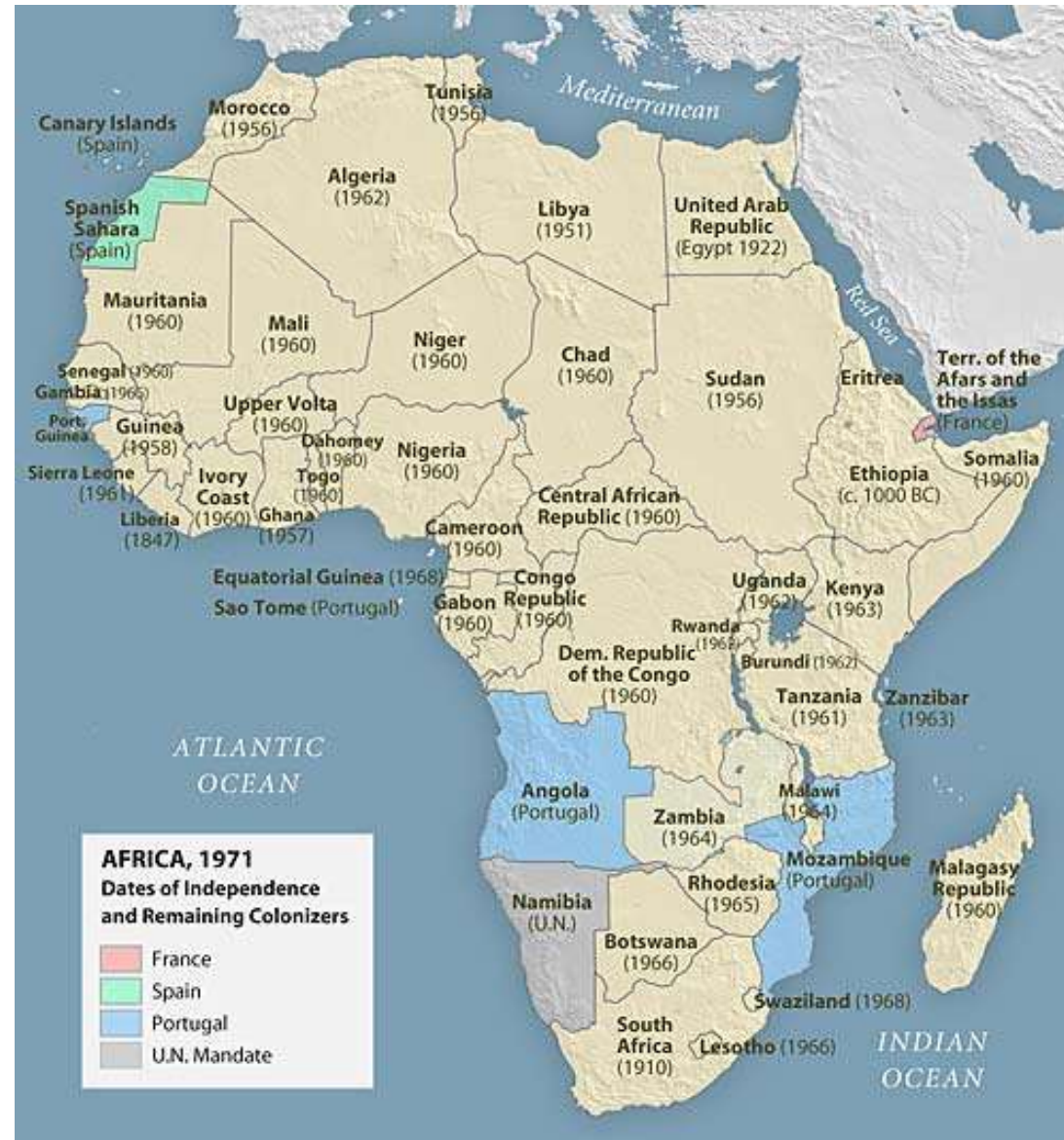
First war, 1880-81 – Gladstone signs peace after British defeat

Second, 1899-1902, bloody stalemate – 450k soldiers killed
as well as the introduction of concentration camps – 26k died

Boer areas absorbed into British Empire

Republic of South Africa 1910: Apartheid





European Imperialism by 1914

	<i>Britain</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Belgium</i>
<i>Home Area</i> (Square Miles)	94,000	212,600	210,000	11,800
<i>Home Population</i> (Millions)	45.5	42	67.5	8.3
<i>Global Colonial Area</i> (Millions of Sq. Miles)	13.1	4.3	1.1	.94
<i>Global Colonial Population</i> (Millions)	470	65	13	13

<i>Region</i>	<i>Percentage Colonized</i>
Australia	100%
Africa	90.4%
Asia	56.5%
Americas	27.2%

ASSIGNMENTS: PAPER

Please submit your presentation notes by Weds 6th November

5. Paper (25%) – research and write a 1000 word investigation into another impact of empire on British life of your choice, based on the material and sources covered in past classes and field trips. Focus your answer on a specific area e.g. politics, culture, consumption.

Due: Weds 13th November



TRIP: GREENWICH AND NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, 2.15

Meet at the ticket barriers of
Cutty Sark station (DLR) at 2.15

Any delays: 07784 084754