

Hearts of iron 4: The Last Coalition

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Part 0, introduction

In 1936, the world stands on the precipice of chaos, shaped by a history rewritten by Napoleon's triumph at Austerlitz in 1805. The Napoleonic Century birthed a fractured globe, where empires clash and ideologies collide. Europe is torn between the monarchist Napoleonic Pact, the revolutionary Internationale, and the reactionary Central Concord. Beyond, Africa and Asia thrive as mosaics of native powers and contested enclaves, resisting European dominion. From the socialist bastions of North Germany to India's defiant princely states, the fragile peace of the 1920s—a mere pause in a relentless struggle—now unravels. As tensions ignite in the Balkans, the Americas, and beyond, the world braces for a final clash of empires, revolutions, and ambitions. In *The Last Coalition*, will you uphold Napoleonic glory, spark a global socialist uprising, or forge your own destiny in a shattered world?

Part 1, backstory

The Point of Divergence: Austerlitz's Shadow (1805)

On December 2nd, 1805, Napoleon Bonaparte achieved his greatest victory at Austerlitz, crushing the combined armies of Austria and Russia so thoroughly that the Third Coalition collapsed entirely. But unlike our timeline, this decisive triumph had far more dramatic consequences. Austria-Hungary was dismembered, with Napoleon carving out client kingdoms across Central Europe. Russia, humiliated and weakened, withdrew deep into its territories. Most crucially, Britain—despite its naval victory at Trafalgar—refused to acknowledge French continental dominance.

What followed was not peace, but the beginning of the **Second Hundred Years War**—a century of intermittent but relentless conflict between the continental powers led by

France and the maritime empire of Britain, with their respective allies constantly shifting in a deadly game of European balance.

The Napoleonic Century (1805-1914): A World at War

The Early Period (1805-1850): Foundation of Rivalry

Napoleon's continental system became permanent reality. France dominated from the Rhine to the Alps, while satellite kingdoms—the Netherlands under French princes, Italian republics, and various German client states—provided resources and manpower. The Holy Roman Empire's dissolution left Germany fractured into dozens of competing states, with northern Protestant regions gradually falling under French influence while southern Catholic territories sought Austrian protection.

Britain responded by transforming its empire into a global war machine. The Royal Navy's supremacy allowed constant interference in continental affairs—supporting Spanish guerrilla warfare, funding Austrian restoration attempts, and establishing bases from Gibraltar to India. The Peninsular War never truly ended, becoming a grinding conflict that drained both French and British resources for decades.

Russia, meanwhile, oscillated between the two camps. Repeated defeats—Napoleon's successful 1812 campaign that occupied Moscow for eight months, the catastrophic Crimean War (1853-1856) where Franco-British forces took not just Sevastopol but occupied southern Ukraine—gradually reduced Russian power. By 1850, Russia had lost Poland, the Baltic provinces, and much of the Black Sea coast.

The Industrial Middle Period (1850-1880): Total War Emerges

The mid-century brought industrial revolution to warfare. Railways allowed rapid troop movements, telegraphs coordinated global strategies, and mass-produced weapons made conflicts increasingly deadly. The Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871) saw France emerge victorious with British naval support, preventing German unification under Prussian leadership. Instead, Germany remained divided between a French-influenced North German Confederation and an Austrian-aligned South German Federation.

This period saw the colonial "Great Game" intensify. While European powers were locked in continental struggle, African and Asian societies had more opportunities to resist colonization. The Sokoto Caliphate modernized with Ottoman and French support, Ethiopian armies acquired European weapons through Italian intermediaries,

and Chinese regional authorities played European rivals against each other to prevent complete domination.

The Americas, too, felt the ripple effects. European distraction allowed the Confederate States to win independence in the 1860s with Franco-British support, while Latin American nations successfully resisted recolonization attempts. Mexico survived French intervention, and Brazil expanded its empire while European powers were occupied elsewhere.

The Crisis Period (1880-1914): Ideological Revolution

The 1880s brought new ideologies that would reshape the world. Socialist movements, inspired by Marx and strengthened by industrial working conditions, spread across Europe. The crucial difference came in Germany, where defeat in the Franco-Prussian War and continued division created perfect conditions for radical politics.

In 1889, a massive socialist uprising in Berlin sparked the **German Revolution**. Unlike the failed Paris Commune, this revolution succeeded in northern Germany, establishing the **People's Republic of Germany** under socialist leadership. The Hohenzollern monarchy fled, eventually finding refuge in the Confederate States of America where they were crowned as "Kings of America"—a bizarre but politically necessary alliance for the Southern aristocracy.

The German Revolution sent shockwaves across Europe. Socialist movements erupted in industrial regions of France, Britain, and Austria-Hungary. While most were suppressed, Bulgaria successfully established a socialist republic in 1893, creating the **Internationale**—an alliance of revolutionary socialist states dedicated to world revolution.

Conservative monarchies responded by forming the **Central Concord** in 1895, uniting the South German Empire (now under Habsburg rule after Austria-Hungary's partition), Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and later the Confederate States of America. This alliance represented traditional monarchist values against both Napoleonic liberalism and socialist revolution.

The Last War of the Napoleonic Century (1905-1916): The World Convulses

The final crisis began, as many expected, in the Balkans. A Serbian nationalist's assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in 1914 triggered a general European war, but the alliance system had evolved far beyond our timeline's rigid structures.

The **Napoleonic Pact** (France, Nordic Union, Britain, and the United States) fought against the **Central Concord** (South German Empire, Hungary, Ottoman Empire, Confederate States), while the **Internationale** (People's Republic of Germany, Bulgaria, and emerging socialist movements) pursued their own revolutionary agenda.

The war's turning point came in 1912 when massive socialist uprisings erupted across industrial regions. The People's Republic of Germany expanded dramatically, absorbing the Netherlands after a socialist revolution and creating the Polish-Slovakian Socialist Republic from Habsburg territories. Russia, weakened by military disasters and revolutionary pressure, collapsed into civil war between 1913-1916.

Naval warfare reached unprecedented scales as Britain and France coordinated global operations against Central Concord commerce, while German U-boats and surface raiders disrupted Allied supply lines. The Americas became a crucial theater when the United States and Confederate States clashed over control of Caribbean shipping lanes.

By 1916, all sides faced exhaustion. The **Armistice of Versailles** ended active hostilities but resolved nothing. Europe was divided among three irreconcilable ideological blocs, millions were dead, and entire regions lay in ruins.

The Unstable Peace (1916-1936): Twenty Years of Cold War

The two decades following the armistice saw not peace but preparation for renewed conflict. Each ideological bloc rebuilt its strength while engaging in constant espionage, propaganda warfare, and proxy conflicts.

The **Internationale**, led by the People's Republic of Germany, focused on spreading revolution. Socialist uprisings in California (1921), Sardinia (1923), and various colonial territories kept the movement expanding despite military setbacks. The German

Socialist Republic became Europe's industrial powerhouse, proving that worker-controlled production could match capitalist efficiency.

The **Central Concord** consolidated around traditional monarchy and religious authority. The South German Empire absorbed Austrian refugees and Hungarian allies, creating a powerful conservative bloc. The bizarre alliance with the Confederate States provided crucial resources and showed monarchist adaptability—even accepting a foreign dynasty to maintain aristocratic rule.

The **Napoleonic Pact** struggled with internal contradictions. France remained committed to rational, enlightened governance but faced growing socialist movements among its industrial workers. Britain's empire strained under the costs of global military commitments and colonial independence movements. The Nordic Union developed an innovative form of social democracy that attracted international attention as a "third way."

Meanwhile, the wider world adapted to European chaos. Independent African kingdoms like Ethiopia, Sokoto, and Ashanti modernized rapidly, while Asian powers like Japan, Thailand, and various Chinese factions played European rivals against each other. The Ottoman Empire, allied with the Central Concord, underwent significant modernization while maintaining Islamic identity.

1936: The Last Coalition Forms

By 1936, the twenty-year armistice is crumbling. Economic depression strains all systems, new technologies make previous military doctrines obsolete, and a new generation of leaders has emerged with no memory of the last war's horrors.

In Germany, Ernst Thälmann's revolutionary government prepares for the final struggle against capitalism and monarchy. France under Napoleon V faces internal socialist pressure while trying to maintain Pact leadership. The South German Empire under Kaiser Otto I dreams of crushing socialism once and for all. Britain struggles to maintain its overstretched empire while industrial unrest grows.

Across the world, secondary powers must choose sides as the great ideological struggle prepares to resume. Will socialism spread globally through the Internationale's revolutionary warfare? Can the Napoleonic Pact's liberal enlightenment provide a middle path? Or will the Central Concord's traditional values triumph over modern ideologies?

The stage is set for the Last Coalition—the final confrontation between three incompatible visions of human civilization. In this shattered world, every nation must decide: Will they preserve the old order, embrace revolutionary change, or forge something entirely new from the ruins of the Napoleonic Century?

The year is 1936. The long peace is ending. The future of civilization hangs in the balance.

Part 2, the major factions

Napoleonic Pact (France-led)

Core idea: A Franco-British-leaning commercial and monarchical bloc that arose from the Austerlitz settlement and the mid-19th Century Concert. Key causes:

- **Trade entanglement:** Britain's access to continental markets is institutionalized through preferential tariffs, making continued confrontation costly.
- **Dynastic ties:** Royal marriages between client states and Parisian nobility create political incentives for conservative elites to support French hegemony rather than revolutionary export.
- **Shared anti-revolutionary interest:** Conservative ruling classes fear mass socialist movements; cooperation with France is a pragmatic way to preserve order.

(Result: Britain and many conservative monarchies appear within the Pact as pragmatic partners rather than ideological allies.)

Internationale (Socialist Revolt cluster)

Core idea: A transnational revolutionary movement centered on industrialized regions (the PRG/Industrial Germany, urban France left factions, and colonial uprisings).

Causes:

- **Industrialization shock:** Faster spread of factory systems in Germany and parts of France produces large urban proletariats susceptible to socialism; the P.R.G. (Prussian Revolutionary Government / PRG) is the crystallization of those tendencies.

- **War weariness & migration:** Defeats, conscription, and economic dislocation feed radicalism; foreign volunteer networks and revolutionary diasporas provide organizational depth.

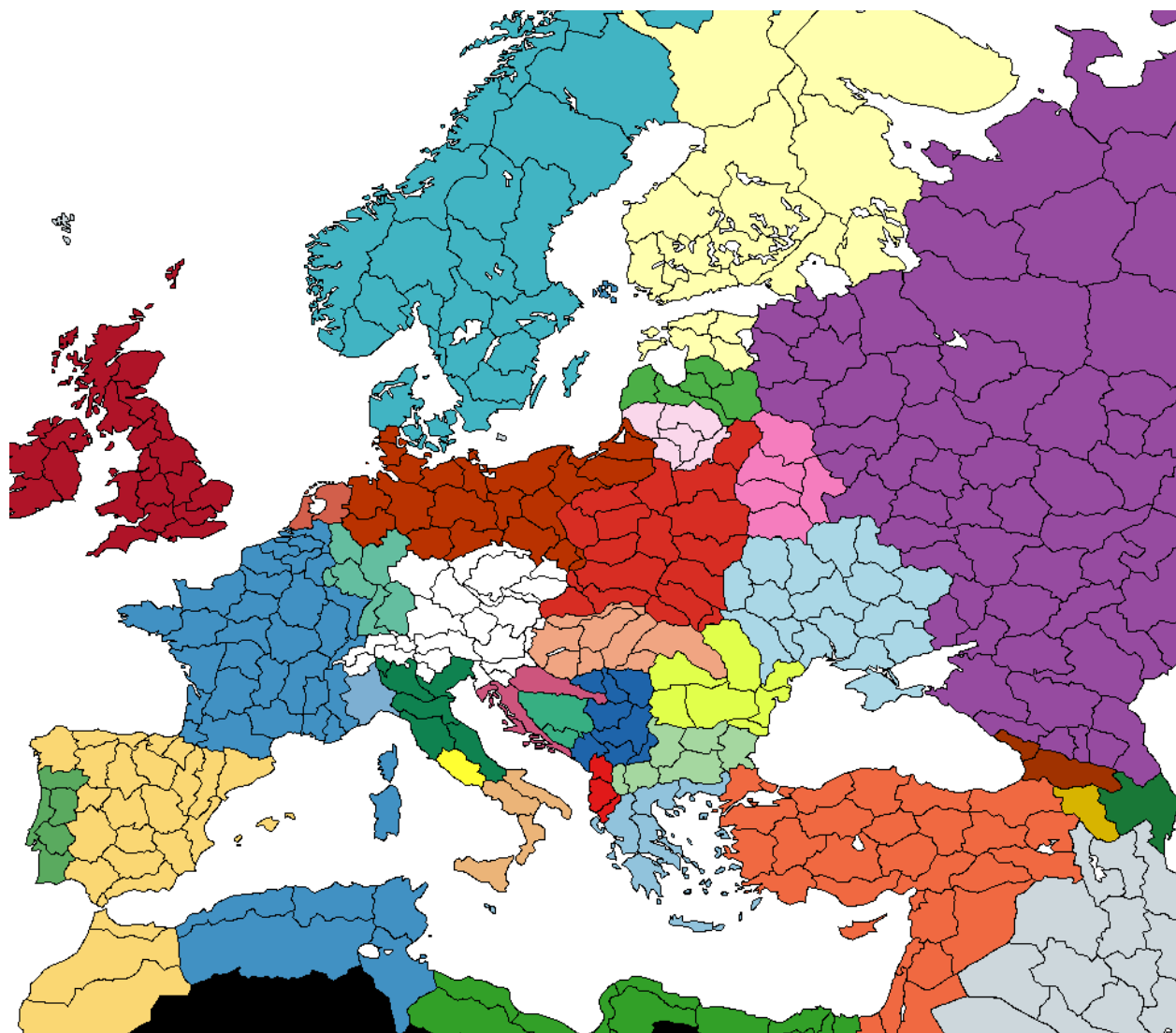
Central Concord (Conservative/Imperial coalition)

Core idea: The old-guard monarchies and overseas empires who band together to preserve colonial domains and aristocratic privilege. Causes:

- **Colonial stakes:** Empires dependent on resource extraction coordinate to resist socialist-inspired anti-colonial movements.
- **Balance-of-power logic:** When France's continental order threatens imperial prerogatives, some monarchies coordinate a separate bloc rather than band with the Pact or Internationale.

Part 3, the countries as of 1936

Europe



France



Leader: *Napoleon V Bonaparte*

Ideology: Napoleonic Constitutional Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: France emerged from the Napoleonic Century as Europe's dominant land power, but at enormous cost. Over a century of near-constant warfare has militarized French society to its core - every village has its war memorial, every family its military traditions. Napoleon V, great-great-nephew of the original Emperor, rules a nation that sees itself as the defender of rational governance against both socialist chaos and monarchist reaction. The French Empire of 1936 is a complex federal system where the Bonaparte dynasty provides symbolic unity while elected assemblies handle domestic governance. Piedmont remains a loyal puppet kingdom, while French influence extends deep into Spain, the Rhineland, and North Africa. The empire's greatest achievement is the Code Napoléon's evolution into a sophisticated legal system that balances individual rights with state authority, exported across the Napoleonic Pact as a model of enlightened governance. However, France faces mounting challenges. The economy, geared toward military production for over a century, struggles to transition to peacetime industry.

Socialist cells, inspired by the Internationale, organize among industrial workers in Paris, Lyon, and Marseille. The colonial empire drains resources while facing independence movements influenced by every European ideology. Most critically, the war-weary population increasingly questions whether French glory justifies endless military spending.

The military remains the empire's backbone - the Grande Armée is Europe's most experienced and professional force, with advanced tactics developed through constant combat. French officers serve as advisors across the Napoleonic Pact, while the Foreign Legion provides a safety valve for political dissidents and foreign adventurers. Naval power, though secondary to Britain's, controls the Western Mediterranean and supports African operations.

Internal Factions:

- **Imperial Loyalists** - Support Napoleon V and aggressive Pact leadership
- **Liberal Constitutionalists** - Want reduced imperial power, stronger parliament
- **Military Party** - Demand permanent mobilization against socialist/monarchist threats
- **Colonial Lobby** - Focus on African expansion and exploitation
- **Peace Movement** - War-weary citizens demanding demobilization and domestic reform
- **Bonapartist Socialists** - Radical faction seeking to merge nationalism with worker control

Economic Challenges:

- Converting war economy to civilian production
- Managing colonial costs vs. metropolitan investment
- Competing with British trade networks
- Funding massive military while rebuilding domestic infrastructure

Focus Trees:

- **Imperial Glory Path** -- Expand aggressively in Africa, challenge British naval supremacy
- **Constitutional Reform Path** -- Strengthen parliament, reduce imperial power, focus on domestic development

- **Bonapartist Revolution Path** -- Radical transformation merging French nationalism with socialist economics
- **Pact Leadership Path** -- Strengthen alliances, contain Internationale and Central Concord

People's Republic of Germany (Prussia)



Leader: *Ernst Thälmann*

Ideology: Trotskyist Socialism

Lore: The People's Republic of Germany represents socialism's greatest triumph - the transformation of Europe's most militaristic state into the vanguard of world revolution. Born from the catastrophic defeat in the Last War and the collapse of Hohenzollern authority, the PRG emerged in 1916 when workers' councils seized Berlin, Hamburg, and the Ruhr industrial centers. Thälmann's regime has created a unique socialist system that blends Marxist theory with German organizational efficiency. The economy operates through workers' councils (*Räte*) that coordinate production across industries, while political power flows through elected socialist assemblies from local to national levels. The military, the Red Army of Workers and Peasants, maintains German tactical excellence while promoting revolutionary consciousness among its ranks. The PRG's greatest achievement is industrial transformation - converting Germany's war machine

into a socialist economic powerhouse that produces both military equipment for the Internationale and consumer goods that demonstrate socialism's superiority. Advanced factories in the Ruhr and Silesia showcase worker control of production, while agricultural collectives in East Prussia feed both the domestic population and revolutionary allies. However, the republic faces severe challenges. The socialist revolution created millions of refugees - Junker landlords, bourgeois capitalists, and monarchist officers fled to the Central Concord, taking capital and expertise. The partition of Germany left the PRG without crucial southern industrial centers and agricultural regions. Constant military pressure from both the Central Concord and Napoleonic Pact forces permanent mobilization that strains resources. Religious tension complicates socialist governance - Protestant regions largely support the revolution, but Catholic areas, especially those along the southern border, maintain underground resistance. The regime promotes scientific atheism while trying to avoid alienating religious workers, a delicate balance that creates ongoing political friction.

Revolutionary Achievements:

- First successful socialist revolution in an industrial nation
- Worker control of major industries and advanced manufacturing
- Elimination of Junker landlord class and feudal remnants
- Creation of integrated military-industrial complex under worker management
- Development of revolutionary education system producing socialist intellectuals

Internal Factions:

- **Orthodox Trotskyists** - Permanent revolution, aggressive expansion of socialism
- **German Nationalists** - Socialist patriots wanting to reunify all German territories
- **Worker Councils** - Radical democracy advocates demanding more local autonomy
- **Military Socialists** - Focus on building Red Army strength for final victory
- **Internationalists** - Priority on supporting revolution globally over German interests
- **Reform Socialists** - Moderate faction wanting democratic socialism with market elements

Strategic Challenges:

- Reunifying Germany under socialist rule
- Supporting revolution across Europe while defending home territory
- Managing religious minorities and regional variations
- Balancing worker democracy with revolutionary discipline

South German Empire



Leader: *Kaiser Otto I von Habsburg*

Ideology: Authoritarian Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The South German Empire represents the Habsburg dynasty's remarkable survival and adaptation after the destruction of Austria-Hungary. When the old Dual Monarchy finally disintegrated in 1916, Otto's father Karl I managed to preserve a rump state centered on Vienna, Bavaria, and western Austria by embracing German nationalism while maintaining Habsburg legitimacy.

The new empire blends Austrian imperial tradition with Bavarian particularism and Prussian refugees fleeing socialist revolution. Otto 1 has created a unique system where the Habsburg crown provides stability and legitimacy while federal states maintain significant autonomy. Bavaria keeps its separate military traditions, Austria

maintains its bureaucratic excellence, and refugee communities from across former Austria-Hungary bring diverse skills and burning anti-socialist commitment.

The empire's greatest strength is its position as the Central Concord's ideological heart. Vienna has become the center of European monarchist resistance, hosting exiled royals, conservative intellectuals, and counter-revolutionary organizations. The Habsburg court's diplomatic traditions make Austria a natural mediator between monarchist states, while German cultural influence provides economic and intellectual ties across Central Europe.

However, the empire faces enormous challenges. Territorial losses left it economically weakened and militarily vulnerable, surrounded by hostile socialist and French territories. The population includes not only Germans and Austrians but also Hungarian refugees, Czech monarchists, Croatian nobles, and other displaced groups whose conflicting ambitions threaten internal unity. The economy struggles to support both military requirements and the extensive welfare system needed to maintain loyalty among diverse populations.

Religious and cultural diversity creates additional complexity - Catholic Bavaria, Protestant Franconia, Orthodox Serbian refugees, and Jewish intellectuals fleeing socialism must all be integrated into a functioning state. The Habsburg tradition of managing diversity through bureaucratic efficiency helps, but modern nationalist ideologies make traditional imperial solutions increasingly difficult.

Imperial Structure:

- **Austria** - Administrative and imperial heart, dominated by bureaucratic traditions
- **Bavaria** - Military and cultural center, maintains separate army and traditions
- **Refugee Communities** - Hungarian nobles, Czech loyalists, Croatian Catholics, other displaced monarchists
- **Border Regions** - Fortified zones facing socialist and French threats

Internal Factions:

- **Habsburg Legitimists** - Support strong imperial authority and traditional monarchy
- **German Nationalists** - Want closer ties with other German states, possible reunification
- **Catholic Conservatives** - Emphasize religious identity against secular socialism
- **Refugee Revanchists** - Demand military action to restore lost territories

- **Federal Autonomists** - State governments wanting more independence from Vienna
- **Military Party** - Professional officers focused on Central Concord leadership

Possible Paths:

- **Crush the Internationale** – Lead the Concord in a war to destroy socialism in Europe.
- **Reunite the Empire** – Reconquer Hungary, Bohemia, and the Balkans.
- **Compromise with Socialists** – Make peace with the Internationale to focus on French imperialism.

Rhine Republic



Leader: *President Édouard von Stein*

Ideology: Liberal Republic (French-Aligned)

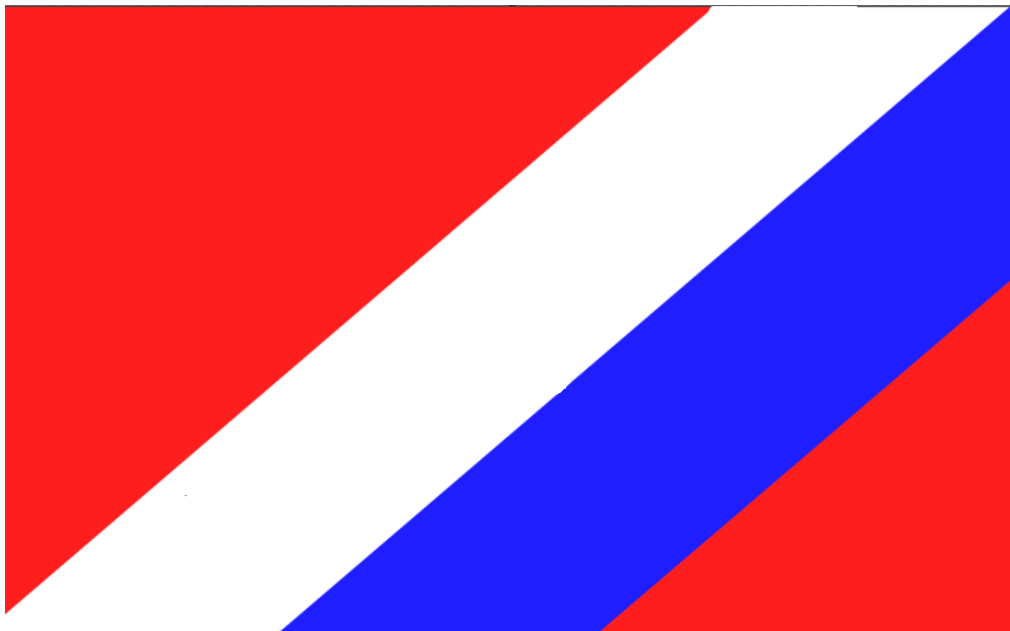
Lore: Formed after Napoleon's victory, the Rhine Republic was carved out as a French client state to serve as a buffer between France and the German monarchies. Over the

decades it has developed its own republican tradition and close economic ties to Paris, though many see it as a glorified puppet. Now, with socialist uprisings across Europe and the Central Concord threatening war, the Rhine Republic's survival depends on French protection.

Possible Paths:

- **Loyal Ally** – Remain firmly in the French sphere and fight the Internationale.
- **True Independence** – Break free from France and assert Rhine sovereignty.
- **Join the Internationale** – Side with North Germany against the monarchies.

Poland–Slovakia



Leader: *Bolesław Bierut*

Ideology: Socialist Republic (Internationale Member)

Lore: United by fear of South Germany and Hungary, Poland and Slovakia became a single socialist state under North German protection. Though a loyal member of the

Internationale, nationalist factions plot for independence from Berlin's control.

Possible Paths:

- **Loyal Ally** – Serve the Internationale faithfully.
- **National Communism** – Break from Berlin, form a new Eastern Bloc.
- **Liberate the Slavs** – Spread socialism into the Balkans and Russia.

Hungary



Leader: *Miklós Horthy*

Ideology: Conservative Monarchy (Central Concord)

Lore: Freed from Austrian rule after the empire's collapse, Hungary joined the Central Concord to resist socialism and reclaim lost territory. Surrounded by rivals, Budapest faces the choice of defending the status quo or risking everything in expansion.

Possible Paths:

- **Magyar Expansionism** – Reconquer old territories
- **Concord Loyalism** – Support South Germany's leadership.
- **Authoritarian Republic** – Replace the monarchy with a nationalist dictatorship.

Italy (Fragmented) 🇮🇹

Sardinia



Leader: *Pietro Nenni*

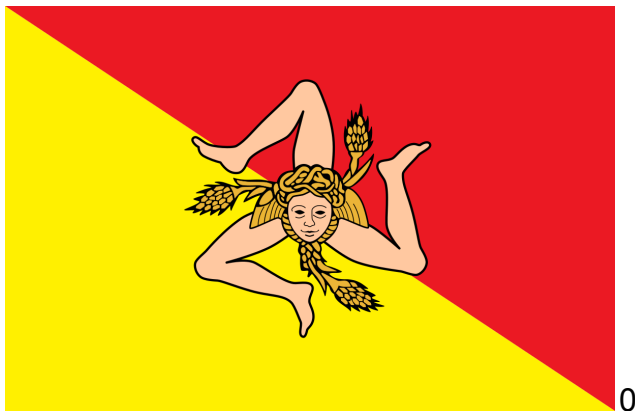
Ideology: Socialist Republic

Lore: Socialist stronghold in the Italian Civil War, supported by the Internationale.

Dreams of uniting Italy under red banners.

Paths: Unite Italy under socialism / Expand influence into Africa.

Two Sicilies



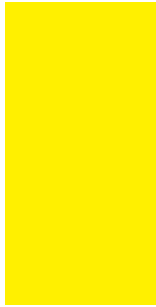
Leader: Benito Mussolini & king *Francesco IV*

Ideology: fascist constitutional monarchy (Central Concord)

Lore: Conservative stronghold in the south, backed by the Concord.

Paths: Crush socialism in Italy / Expand into the Balkans.

Papal States



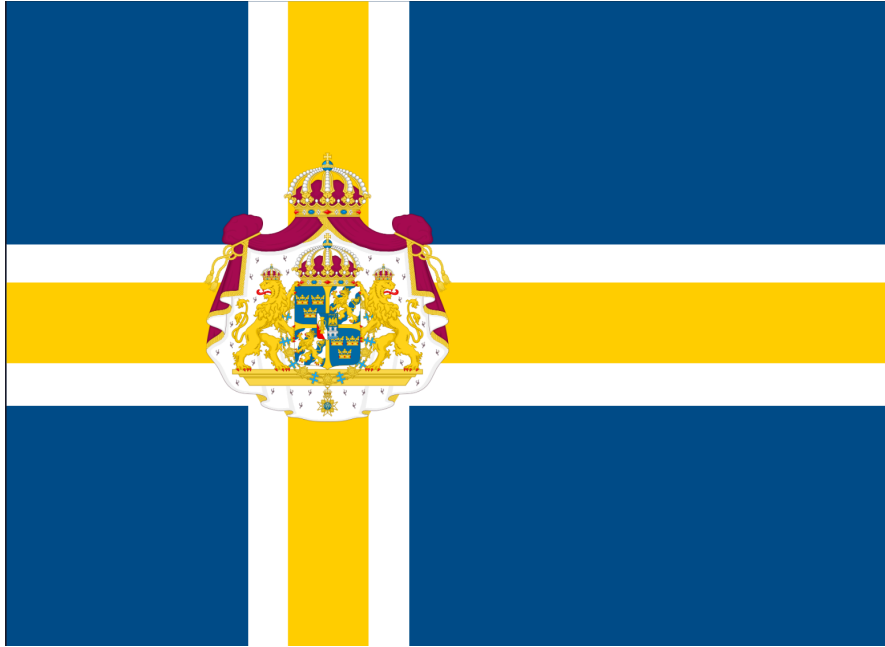
Leader: *Pope Pius XI*

Ideology: Theocratic Neutrality

Lore: Independent under French protection, caught between socialist and monarchist forces.

Paths: Remain neutral / Align with France / Lead a Catholic league.

Nordic Union



Leader: *King Gustaf V*

Ideology: Federal Constitutional Monarchy with Strong Democratic Traditions

Lore: The Nordic Union emerged from Swedish leadership during the Napoleonic Wars when Gustav III allied with France against the coalition powers. What began as a military alliance evolved into a sophisticated federal system that unites Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland under a single crown while preserving local traditions and democratic governance.

The Union represents Scandinavian social democracy's early development - combining monarchist stability with advanced welfare systems, worker protection, and cooperative economics. Swedish industrial capacity, Norwegian resources, Danish agriculture, and Icelandic fishing create a balanced economy that supports both military requirements and high living standards. The model attracts international attention as an alternative to both revolutionary socialism and conservative monarchy.

Military organization reflects Scandinavian geography and culture - elite ski troops, coastal fortifications, and a modern navy designed for Baltic and Arctic operations. The Union's strategic position controls access to the Baltic Sea and vital Arctic resources, making it a crucial Napoleonic Pact ally despite its small population. Swedish industrial expertise produces advanced weapons for Pact allies, while Norwegian shipping supports global trade networks.

However, the Union faces growing internal tensions. Norwegian nationalism chafes at Swedish dominance, while Danish social democrats increasingly sympathize with the Internationale's worker-focused policies. The Sami minority demands cultural autonomy, and Finnish border tensions create military pressure. Most critically, the Soviet collapse and Russian instability create opportunities for expansion that conflict with democratic values.

Federal Structure:

- **Sweden** - Industrial and administrative center, monarchy's base
- **Norway** - Resources and shipping, growing nationalist sentiment
- **Denmark** - Agricultural and cultural heart, socialist sympathies
- **Iceland** - Strategic position, fishing industry, growing independence demands

Paths: Strengthen the Pact / Expand into Russia / Pursue Nordic neutrality

Greater Finland



Leader: *Carl Gustaf Emil Mannerheim*

Ideology: Conservative Democracy (Napoleonic Pact)

Lore:

Greater Finland represents one of the most remarkable success stories of the Napoleonic Century's aftermath. Born from Russian weakness and Swedish support, Finland not only gained independence but expanded dramatically eastward, incorporating Karelia, the Kola Peninsula, and eventually Estonia into a "Greater Finland" that controls crucial Arctic territories and Baltic access.

Mannerheim's leadership transformed Finland from a Russian backwater into a militarized democracy capable of defeating much larger neighbors. The "White General" created a unique political system that balances democratic civilian government with strong military leadership, justified by constant external threats. Finnish society mobilized for "total defense" - every citizen receives military training, every village has its prepared defenses, and the entire economy can rapidly convert to wartime production.

The expansion into Russian territories brought enormous benefits but also complex challenges. Finnish Karelia provides timber and mineral resources, while the ice-free ports of Murmansk region enable year-round maritime access. However, ruling large Russian and Estonian populations strains Finnish democratic traditions. The government promotes "Finlandization" - cultural assimilation programs that blend firmness with incentives, but resistance simmers among minority populations.

Economically, Greater Finland leverages its expanded resources and strategic position to become a major timber, mining, and shipping power. The Mannerheim Line's extension creates an "Arctic fortress" that protects Scandinavian approaches while controlling valuable Arctic shipping routes. Finnish neutrality in European ideological conflicts enables profitable trade with all sides, though the Napoleonic Pact connection provides security guarantees.

Territorial Organization:

- **Finland Proper** - Core Finnish population, democratic governance
- **Karelia** - Mixed Finnish-Russian population, military administration
- **Estonia** - Autonomous region with limited self-government
- **Arctic Territories** - Strategic military zones with resource extraction focus

Paths: Defend the north / Push into Russia / Break from the Pact.

Russia



Leader: *Grand Duke Dmitri Pavlovich* (Regent for the mentally unstable Tsar Nicholas III)

Ideology: Authoritarian Monarchy (Reactionary/Legitimist, on the brink of collapse)

Government Type: Unstable Regency Council with competing military and noble factions

Lore: The Russian Empire stands as perhaps the greatest casualty of the Napoleonic Century, a once-mighty colossus reduced to a shadow of its former glory through repeated military disasters and internal strife. The empire's downward spiral began with the catastrophic defeats in the Napoleonic Wars, where Russian armies were crushed at Friedland (1807) and again during Napoleon's successful 1812 campaign, which saw Moscow occupied for months before a negotiated French withdrawal. These early humiliations set the tone for a century of military incompetence and strategic blunders.

The **Crimean Disaster (1853-1856)** proved even more devastating than in our timeline, with British-French-Ottoman forces not only taking Sevastopol but occupying much of southern Ukraine and the Caucasus. Russia lost the entire Black Sea Fleet, Crimea, Georgia, and substantial territory in Poland. The **Polish-Lithuanian Uprising of 1863** succeeded with French backing, carving away vast western territories and establishing the short-lived Kingdom of Poland-Lithuania under French protection.

Russia's greatest catastrophe came during the **Great Eastern War (1877-1881)**, where simultaneous conflicts with the Ottoman Empire (backed by France), Japan (in a far bloodier version of their 1904-1905 war), and rebellious Central Asian khanates drained the treasury and shattered military morale. The **Treaty of Yalta (1881)** stripped Russia of its entire Pacific coastline, the Caucasus, most of Central Asia, and forced the payment of crushing war reparations that bankrupted the state.

The **1905 Revolution** nearly toppled the Romanovs entirely, succeeding far beyond its historical scope due to military defeats in the ongoing Russo-Japanese War and socialist agitation inspired by early German revolutionary movements. Tsar Nicholas II was forced to flee St. Petersburg for months, and only brutal repression by loyalist Cossack units prevented complete collapse. The **October Manifesto** promised constitutional monarchy but was gradually rolled back, breeding resentment among liberals and revolutionaries alike.

During the **Last War of the Napoleonic Century (1905-1916)**, Russia initially joined the Central Concord alongside Austria-Hungary and the South German states, hoping to regain lost territories. Instead, the empire suffered its worst defeats yet: the **Siege of St. Petersburg (1912-1913)** by Nordic Union forces nearly captured the capital, while

simultaneous offensives by Poland-Lithuania, Greater Finland, and North German socialist armies carved away huge chunks of western Russia. The **Battle of Tula (1914)** saw an entire Russian army group annihilated, and revolutionary uprisings erupted in Moscow, Kiev, and the Urals.

By the 1916 armistice, Russia had lost Poland, the Baltic provinces, much of Ukraine, and faced socialist republics declaring independence in Siberia and the Far East. The **February Revolution of 1917** forced Tsar Nicholas II to abdicate, but instead of a Provisional Government, power fell to a **Regency Council** dominated by reactionary nobles and military officers determined to restore autocratic rule.

Current Situation (1936): The Russian Empire exists in name only, controlled by a weak Regency Council under Grand Duke Dmitri Pavlovich, who rules as regent for the mentally unstable Tsar Nicholas III (Nicholas II's son, who suffered a nervous breakdown during the 1920s). The government is a dysfunctional coalition of competing factions:

- **Legitimist Nobles** who demand restoration of absolute monarchy and reconquest of lost territories
- **Military Reformers** who want to modernize the army and seek alliance with the Central Concord
- **Orthodox Traditionalists** who view socialism as a satanic threat requiring holy war
- **Pragmatic Administrators** who simply want to prevent total collapse

The economy is feudal and backward, still dependent on primitive agriculture while European rivals have industrialized. The military is demoralized, poorly equipped, and riddled with desertion. Ethnic minorities—Ukrainians, Kazakhs, Tatars, and dozens of others—openly discuss secession, while socialist cells organize in every major city. The Orthodox Church remains influential but is split between reformist and fundamentalist factions.

Regional Challenges:

- **Ukraine** is in near-constant revolt, with socialist and nationalist militias controlling rural areas
- **Siberia** is effectively autonomous under warlord governors who barely acknowledge Moscow's authority
- **The Caucasus** region faces incursions from Ottoman and Persian forces, plus internal independence movements

- **Central Asian territories** are plagued by tribal uprisings and British-backed insurgencies from Afghanistan

Possible Paths:

- **Restore Imperial Glory** -- Crush internal dissent, ally with the Central Concord, and launch wars of reconquest against Poland, Finland, and the socialist republics. Risk everything on one final gamble to reclaim Russia's lost empire, potentially triggering total collapse if it fails.
- **Orthodox Crusade** -- Embrace religious fundamentalism, declare holy war against the "godless" Internationale, and attempt to unite all Orthodox Christians under Russian leadership. Rally the faithful from Serbia to Ethiopia, but risk alienating secular allies and minorities.
- **White Revolution** -- A radical military coup installs a modernizing dictatorship, abandoning monarchist traditions to build a technocratic state capable of competing with European powers. Emulate Kemal Atatürk's Turkish model, but face resistance from nobles and traditionalists.
- **Red Revolution** -- Socialist revolutionaries, inspired by the Internationale, overthrow the Regency and establish the Russian Soviet Republic. Join North Germany in spreading world revolution, but face massive civil war from monarchist and nationalist forces.
- **Balkanization** -- The empire fragments entirely into dozens of successor states: Ukrainian People's Republic, Siberian Federation, Islamic Republics of Central Asia, Orthodox Kingdom of Muscovy, and many others. Each chooses its own path amid the chaos.
- **Constitutional Monarchy** -- Moderate forces convince Grand Duke Dmitri to embrace genuine democratic reforms, establishing a parliamentary system that might preserve Russian unity while appeasing revolutionaries. A narrow path requiring careful balance between all factions.

Spain



Leader: *King Alfonso XIII*

Ideology: Conservative Monarchy (Neutral)

Lore: Spain's survival through the Napoleonic Century required constant adaptation and compromise, leaving the monarchy weakened but intact by 1936. Alfonso XIII rules a country exhausted by colonial losses, regional tensions, and ideological polarization that mirrors broader European conflicts. The Spanish Civil War's ingredients - republican sentiment, socialist organization, Catholic conservatism, and military intervention - simmer beneath surface stability.

The loss of most American colonies during the Napoleonic Wars forced Spain to focus on domestic development and remaining African territories. However, this concentration created new problems as Basque and Catalan regionalism grew stronger, socialist ideas penetrated industrial areas, and the Catholic Church became increasingly political. The army, frustrated by colonial defeats and foreign humiliations, plots intervention to "save Spain" from perceived chaos.

Regional diversity defines Spanish politics more than ideology. Catalonia's industrial bourgeoisie flirts with republicanism and autonomy, the Basque Country maintains fierce Catholic traditionalism, Andalusia suffers from agricultural poverty that breeds socialist sympathy, and Castile clings to monarchist centralism. These divisions prevent unified response to external pressures while encouraging foreign interference.

The economy struggles with underdevelopment and regional imbalances. Catalan industry competes with French and British products, Basque steel production faces international competition, and agricultural regions remain largely feudal. The government lacks resources for modernization while political instability discourages foreign investment. Spain's strategic position between France and Africa makes it valuable to great powers, but internal weakness limits options for independent action.

Regional Tensions:

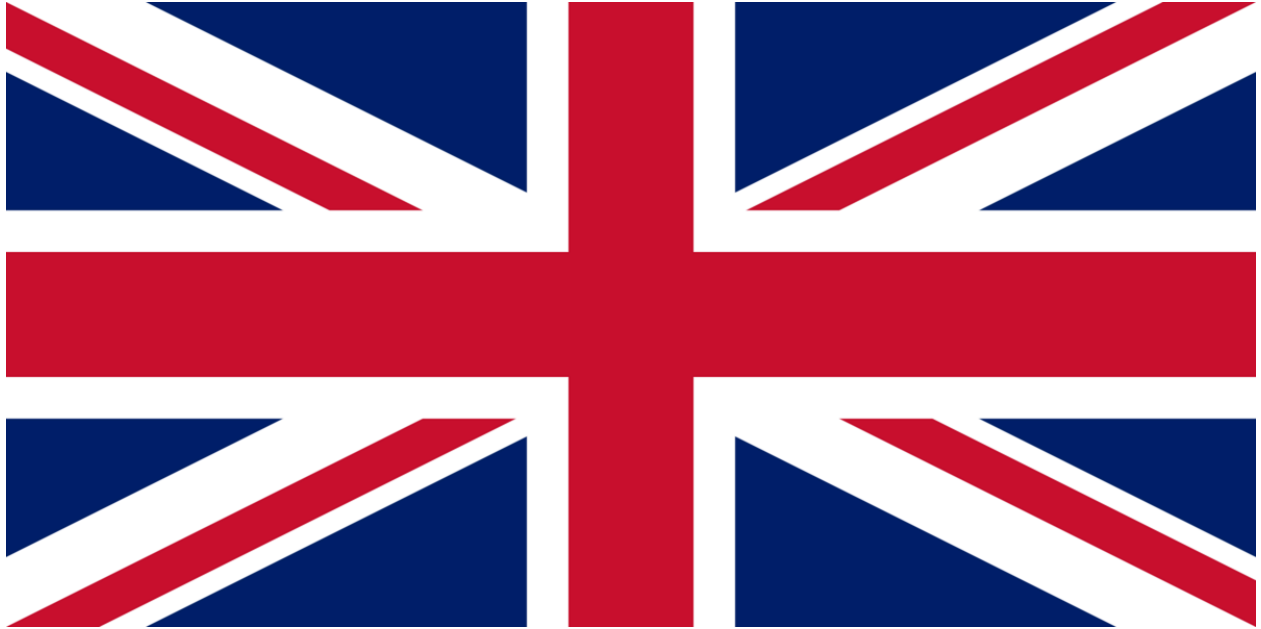
- **Catalonia** - Industrial autonomy demands, republican sympathies
- **Basque Country** - Catholic traditionalism, growing nationalism
- **Andalusia** - Agricultural poverty, socialist organization
- **Galicia** - Celtic identity, emigration pressures
- **Castile** - Monarchist centralism, military conservatism

Political Factions:

- **Monarchist Conservatives** - Support Alfonso XIII, centralized authority
- **Republican Liberals** - Demand constitutional reform, regional autonomy
- **Socialist Workers** - Industrial organization, Internationale influence
- **Catholic Traditionalists** - Religious authority, anti-secular resistance
- **Military Officers** - Authoritarian intervention, national regeneration
- **Regional Nationalists** - Various autonomy and independence movements

Paths: Monarchist Restoration / Socialist Republic / Falangist Dictatorship.

United Kingdom



Leader: *Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin* (King Edward VIII on the throne)

Ideology:

Lore: The United Kingdom survived the Second Hundred Years' War through naval supremacy and imperial resources, but victory came at enormous cost. A century of warfare drained the treasury, exhausted the population, and strained the social fabric that held the British Isles and global empire together. By 1936, Britain rules the waves but faces mounting challenges that threaten to overwhelm even the Royal Navy's dominance.

The war's end brought not peace but new problems. Demobilization created massive unemployment among veterans, while war debt constrains government spending. The empire that sustained Britain through the long conflict now demands expensive administration and military protection. India seethes with independence movements, Ireland remains divided and unstable, and dominions like Canada and Australia develop their own foreign policies that sometimes conflict with London's interests.

Social change accelerates as wartime mobilization breaks down traditional class structures. Women's suffrage, gained through wartime service, leads to broader demands for equality. Labor unions, strengthened by industrial expansion, embrace increasingly radical ideologies influenced by the continental Internationale. The

Conservative-Liberal coalition government struggles to maintain unity while addressing these pressures.

The economy faces fundamental restructuring as naval yards and munitions factories convert to civilian production. Britain's industrial supremacy, unchallenged for generations, now faces competition from American, French, and even socialist German production. The pound sterling remains the world's reserve currency, but financial strain from war debt and imperial maintenance costs threatens monetary stability.

Most critically, Britain's strategic position deteriorates as new technologies challenge naval dominance. Aircraft and submarines make the English Channel less secure, while radio communications enable global coordination among Britain's enemies. The Internationale's control of continental ports creates new threats to British shipping, while the Napoleonic Pact's African expansion challenges imperial trade routes.

Imperial Challenges:

- **India** - Growing independence movements, religious tensions, economic drain
- **Ireland** - Partition creates ongoing instability, IRA terrorism, sectarian violence
- **Dominions** - Canada, Australia, South Africa developing independent foreign policies
- **African Colonies** - Competition with French expansion, native independence movements
- **Middle East** - Mandate territories in Palestine, Iraq facing nationalist uprisings

Internal Factions:

- **Imperial Loyalists** - Maintain empire at all costs, strengthen military spending
- **Liberal Reformers** - Grant dominion autonomy, focus on domestic social reform
- **Labour Socialists** - Influenced by Internationale, demand worker rights and imperial retreat
- **Conservative Traditionalists** - Preserve class structure, resist social change
- **Military Party** - Professional services demanding resources for imperial defense
- **Economic Modernizers** - Adapt to new global competition, reduce imperial burden

Possible Paths:

- **Preserve the Empire** – Tighten control over the colonies, maintain naval supremacy, and resist socialism.

- **Reconcile with France** – End the centuries-old rivalry to focus on domestic reform.
- **Red Britain** – A socialist uprising brings the UK into the Internationale, forever changing the balance of power.

Kingdom of Serbia 🇷🇸



Leader: *King Alexander II*

Ideology: Constitutional Monarchy (Pro–South German Empire)

Lore: Serbia never formed Yugoslavia. Instead, it remained a small but fiercely nationalistic monarchy, propped up by Vienna to counter socialist Bulgaria and the Ottomans. Serbia dreams of uniting South Slavs, but its ambitions are checked by both Austria's and Hungary's spheres of influence.

Possible Paths:

- **Slavic Unification** – Attempt to unite the Balkans under Serbian rule.
- **Austrian Loyalty** – Remain tied to the South German Empire.

- **Join the Internationale** – Ally with socialist neighbors against monarchies.

Socialist Republic of Bulgaria



Leader: *Georgi Dimitrov*

Ideology: Council Communism / Balkan Internationale Member

Lore: Inspired by the North German Revolution, Bulgaria's 1910s socialist uprising toppled the monarchy and joined the Internationale. Its goals are openly expansionist — aiming to spread revolution through the Balkans and dismantle all monarchies. This has made it a direct enemy of the Central Concord and the Ottoman Empire.

Possible Paths:

- **Balkan Commune** – Spread socialism to all of Southeast Europe.
- **Align with North Germany** – Coordinate with the Internationale leadership.
- **Moderate Path** – Keep socialism but reduce revolutionary aggression.

Ottoman Empire



Ottoman Empire

Leader: Sultan Mehmed VII

Ideology: Authoritarian Monarchy (Non-Aligned, leaning toward Napoleonic Pact)

Lore: The Ottoman Empire's survival through the Napoleonic Century represents one of history's most remarkable adaptations. Faced with Russian expansion, British naval pressure, and internal nationalist revolts, the Sultanate allied with France and embarked on comprehensive reforms that transformed the "Sick Man of Europe" into a modernizing Islamic state capable of defending its remaining territories.

Mehmed VII inherited a much reduced but more cohesive empire that controls Anatolia, Thrace, parts of the Balkans, and scattered Levantine territories. The key to Ottoman survival was embracing both Islamic identity and modern governance - the Sultan maintains religious authority while elected assemblies handle civilian administration. This "Islamic constitutionalism" provides legitimacy among Muslim populations while enabling efficient modern government.

Military reform created one of Europe's most effective armies, trained by French advisors but maintaining Ottoman traditions. The Janissaries' abolition allowed professional military development, while Islamic identity provides strong motivation against Christian enemies. The navy, rebuilt with French technical assistance, controls key Eastern Mediterranean positions and challenges British dominance in the region.

However, the empire faces enormous challenges. Nationalist movements among Arabs, Albanians, and remaining Balkan Christians drain resources and create internal instability. The economy, despite reforms, remains largely agricultural and dependent on foreign investment. Most critically, the tension between Islamic tradition and modern governance creates ongoing political friction as secular-minded officers and intellectuals clash with religious authorities.

The relationship with France provides crucial support but also creates dependency. French military advisors, economic investment, and diplomatic protection enable Ottoman survival, but at the cost of significant autonomy. Young Turk movements demand greater independence and Turkish nationalism, while Arab nationalist movements question both Ottoman and French authority.

Possible Paths:

- **Reform the Empire:** Modernize the military and economy, adopting Western technologies while maintaining the Sultanate.
- **Pan-Ottomanism:** Reassert control over lost territories in the Balkans, Levant, and Arabia, challenging European influence.
- **Islamic Socialist Revolution:** Radicals inspired by the Internationale overthrow the Sultan, aligning with North Germany and socialist Bulgaria.
- **French Puppet:** Deepen ties with the Napoleonic Pact, becoming a client state in exchange for protection.

Greece



Leader: *King George II*

Ideology: Monarchist / Pro–French Bloc

Lore: Greece's independence came through French support during the Napoleonic Wars, making it a natural Pact ally despite ongoing instability. The "Megali Idea" - uniting all Greek populations under Hellenic rule - drives foreign policy but creates constant tension with the Ottoman Empire, Italy, and Bulgaria. By 1936, Greece teeters between monarchist tradition and republican revolution.

The monarchy's legitimacy depends on foreign policy success and French protection, but economic problems and social tensions fuel republican movements. Venizelos's liberal republicans compete with royalist conservatives while socialist ideas penetrate urban areas and rural poverty breeds discontent. Military coups remain a constant threat as officers divide between republican and royalist loyalties.

Strategic Position: Controls crucial Eastern Mediterranean routes and Balkan access

Economic Challenges: Largely agricultural economy, limited industry, dependent on remittances

Political Instability: Monarchist-Republican divide, military intervention threats

Foreign Relations: French alliance vs. growing republican sentiment, Ottoman tensions

Possible Paths:

- **Hellenic Revival** – Expand into Anatolia and the Aegean.
- **French Puppet** – Remain firmly in the Napoleonic pact.

- **Republican Revolution** – Overthrow the monarchy and join the Internationale.

Romania



Leader: *King Carol II*

Ideology: National Conservative Monarchy

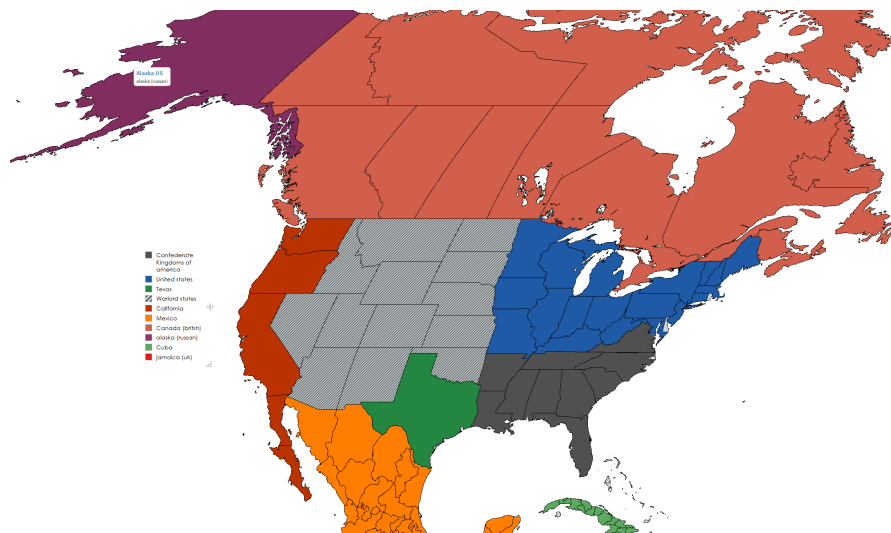
Lore: Romania's survival required constant diplomatic maneuvering between great powers, creating a political culture of opportunism and nationalism. Carol II established personal rule by exploiting party divisions and external threats, but his regime depends on balancing competing pressures from the Central Concord, France, and the Soviet threat.

The country's oil resources make it strategically valuable to all European powers, while territorial disputes with Hungary, Bulgaria, and Soviet Russia create ongoing security threats. The Iron Guard fascist movement grows stronger as economic problems and political corruption fuel extremism, while the large peasant population remains politically passive but economically desperate.

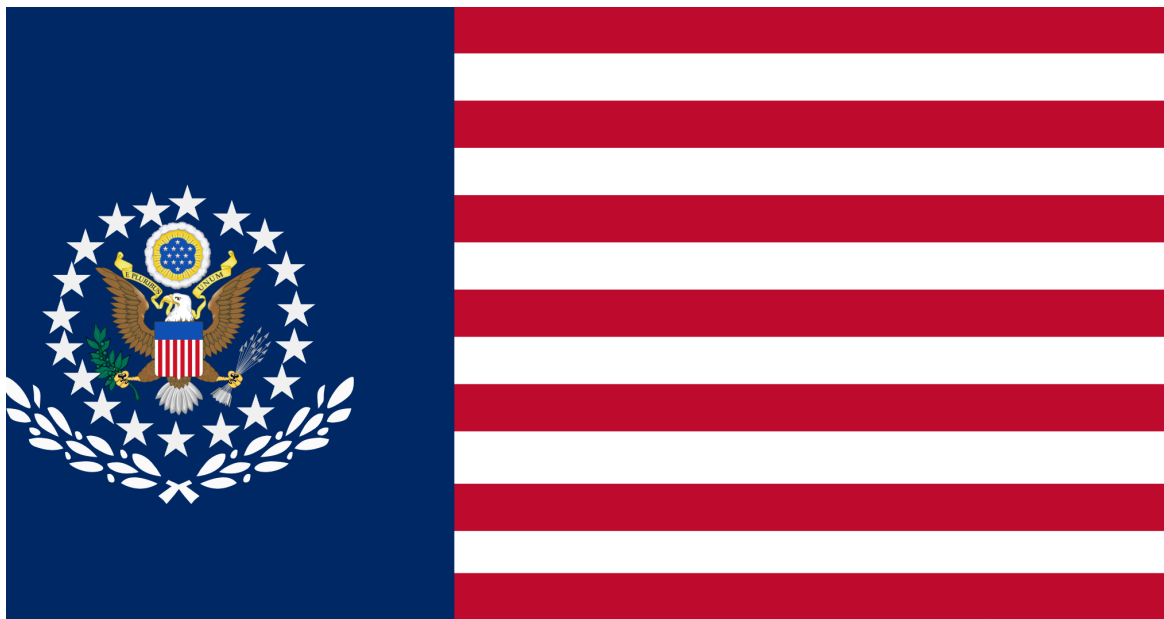
Possible Paths:

- **Central Concord Ally** – Side with the South German Empire for protection.
- **Balkan Pact** – Join Serbia and Greece in an anti-socialist alliance.
- **Socialist Romania** – Side with Bulgaria and the Internationale.

North america



United States of America



Leader: *President Al Smith* (Democratic)

Ideology: Liberal Democracy

Lore: The USA never fully recovered from the loss of the Civil War in the 1860s, when the Confederacy gained independence with European backing. Forced to focus on the

North and Midwest, the US industrialized rapidly but suffered repeated humiliations in border skirmishes with the CSA and warlord territories. The Depression has shaken confidence in the federal government, and secessionist movements simmer from the Great Plains to New England.

Possible Paths:

- **Reunification War** – Attempt to reconquer the CSA and restore the Union.
- **Isolationism** – Fortify borders and avoid foreign entanglements.
- **American Workers' Republic** – Join the Internationale through socialist revolution.

Confederate Kingdoms of America



Leader: *King Wilhelm IV von Hohenzollern-Davis of America (anglicized to William)*

Ideology: Constitutional Monarchy (Reactionary / Aristocratic)

Lore: After the North German Revolution toppled the Kaiser, the surviving Hohenzollerns fled Europe with French and British help, finding an unlikely throne in Dixie. The Confederate elite, eager to cement ties with European monarchies, crowned Wilhelm IV — blending Prussian military tradition with Southern aristocracy. The CSA is now a proud member of the **Central Concord**, fielding one of the most disciplined armies

in the Americas, though its rigid social hierarchy breeds discontent among workers and freedmen.

Possible Paths:

- **Imperial Dixie** – Expand into Texas, Mexico, and the Caribbean.
- **German Restoration** – Attempt to reclaim the throne in Europe with Central Concord aid.
- **Democratic Reform** – Depose the Hohenzollerns and embrace republicanism.
(Huey Long??)

Republic of Texas (Semi-Fascist State)



Leader: President-General Alejandro M. Castillo

Government Type: Semi-Fascist Presidential Republic with strong military influence

Lore:

After the Confederate victory in the Civil War, Texas initially remained part of the Southern alliance but broke away in the late 19th century over disputes with the

Hohenzollern royal family. A series of strongman presidents turned Texas into a militarized, expansionist state obsessed with guarding its independence. Castillo's regime preaches "Texan Destiny," a doctrine calling for control of northern Mexico and dominance over the Great Plains.

Possible Focus Paths:

Texan Hegemony – Conquer surrounding warlord states and Mexico.

Oil and Steel – Industrial expansion through petroleum and military manufacturing.

Lone Star Diplomacy – Alternate path seeking alliances with either the Kingdom of America or the United States.

The Black Star – Radicalize into full fascism, drop republican pretense, and expand across the continent.

Socialist Republic of California



Leader: *Chairman Upton Sinclair*

Ideology: Syndicalism / Council Communism

Lore: Born from a workers' uprising in the early 1920s, the Socialist Republic of California controls the Pacific coast from Baja to Oregon. Backed by the Internationale, California aims to spread revolution across the continent. The CSA and USA see it as a dangerous threat, while Mexico flirts with alliance.

Possible Paths:

- **Pacific Revolution** – Export socialism to Asia and the Americas.
- **Union with the USA** – Merge with an American socialist government.
- **Isolationist Communism** – Focus on building a worker's utopia at home.

Warlord States (Great Plains / Midwest / Rockies)

Leaders: Various generals, governors, and bandit lords

Ideology: Mixed (authoritarian / anarchic)

Lore: The collapse of federal authority in the interior left a patchwork of armed militias, breakaway republics, and warlord fiefdoms. Some are former governors who refused to step down, others are little more than pirate kingdoms.

United Mexican States



Leader: *President Lázaro Cárdenas*

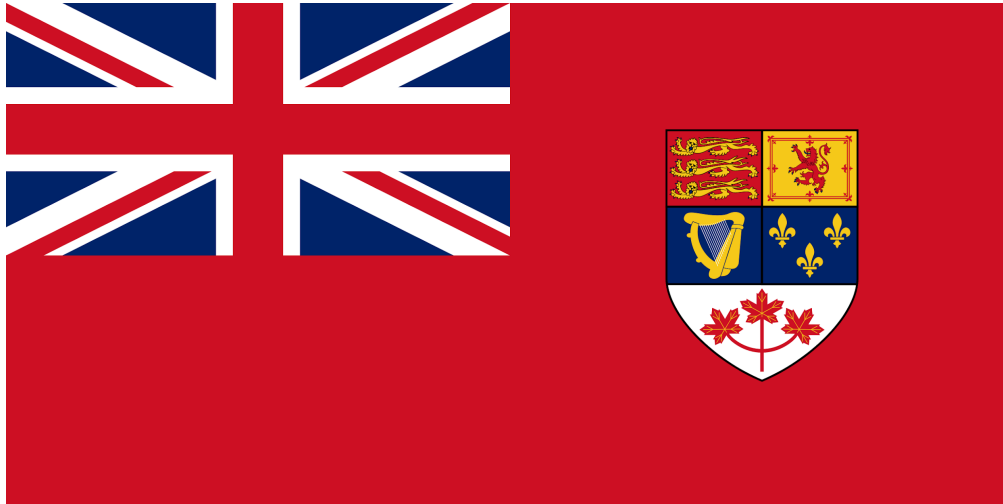
Ideology: Revolutionary Democracy / Agrarian Reformist

Lore: Mexico survived the 19th century's chaos by playing European powers against each other. Now, under Cárdenas, it pushes for land reform, industrialization, and national unity. Both California and the CSA eye Mexican territory, but the government hopes to form a continental alliance against imperialists.

Possible Paths:

- **Bolivarian Pact** – Unite Latin America against North American powers.
- **Join the Internationale** – Ally with socialist California and North Germany.
- **French Alliance** – Seek protection under the Napoleonic pact.

Dominion of Canada



Leader: *Governor General John Buchan* (King Edward VIII as monarch)

Ideology: Constitutional Monarchy (British Aligned)

Lore: Canada remains firmly in Britain's camp, acting as a North American counterweight to the USA and CSA. Its economy depends on British markets, but unrest

among Francophone Quebecois and Western provinces threatens unity.

Possible Paths:

- **Royal Loyalists** – Double down on British alliance.
- **Canadian Independence** – Break ties with Britain for a neutral path.
- **Socialist Quebec** – A leftist uprising in Quebec pulls Canada into the Internationale.

Ideas for American warlord states (very strange)

Deseret Holy Republic (Utah Mormon Theocracy)



Leader: Prophet Ezekiel "Angel-Sight" Kimball (a self-proclaimed descendant of Brigham Young with "divine visions").

Ideology: Theocratic Fundamentalism (Non-Aligned, with religious zealotry sub-ideology).

Lore: In the fractured post-Civil War chaos, Mormon settlers in Utah declared a holy republic, blending polygamist traditions with apocalyptic prophecies

amplified by European occult influences seeping in via British spies. By 1936, Deseret is a bizarre theocracy where "angelic revelations" dictate policy, mandatory tithing funds "celestial armies," and "plural marriage brigades" (polygamous family units as military squads) defend against raiders. Rumors of underground temples and "golden plate" tech (mystical artifacts granting bonuses) make it a cult-like enclave, clashing with secular neighbors like California.

Possible Paths:

Celestial Expansion: Spread Mormonism via "missionary invasions" into Nevada or Colorado, unlocking national spirits like "Angelic Fervor" (+20% manpower, -10% stability from visions-induced madness).

Apocalyptic Alliance: Join the Internationale as "Holy Socialism" (interpreting communism as divine equality), or ally with the CSA for monarchist "prophet-kings."

Reformation Schism: Modernize into a democratic theocracy, risking civil war from fundamentalist sects.

Cowboy Clown Collective (Oklahoma Panhandle / Western Kansas)



Leader: Rodeo King "Jester Jake" Harlan (a former circus performer turned bandit lord, ruling via clownish spectacles).

Ideology: Anarcho-Carnivalism (Anarchic, blending libertarianism with chaotic entertainment).

Lore: Amid the lawless Plains, a band of outlaws and circus refugees formed this absurd "collective" in the 1890s, where governance is decided by rodeo games, pie fights, and "clown courts." By 1936, it's a wacky haven for misfits, with "big top militias" (clown-masked fighters on horseback) raiding for supplies. European

interference introduced vaudeville elements, turning it into a satirical mockery of American democracy—elections via balloon animal contests, laws enforced by seltzer-spraying enforcers.

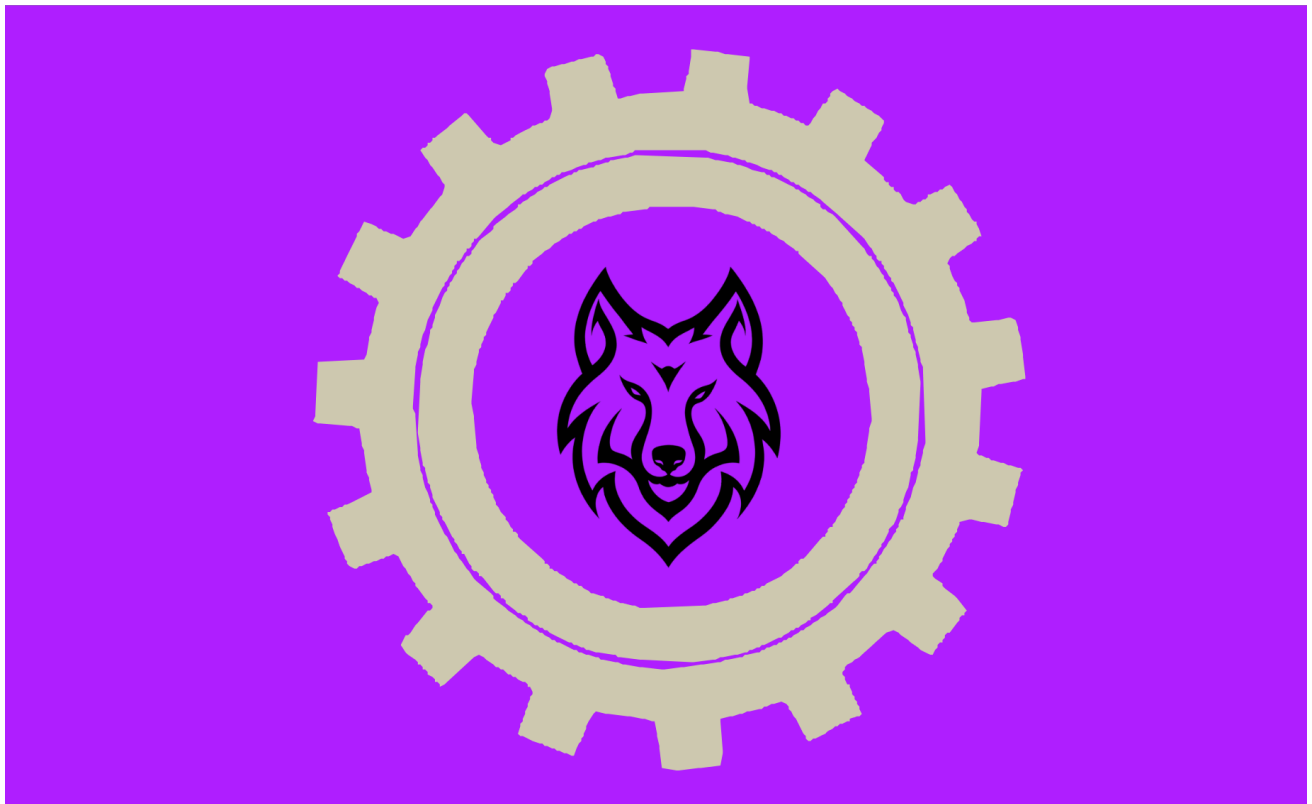
Possible Paths:

Carnival Conquest: Expand through "fun raids" on Texas or the CSA, gaining bonuses like "Clown Camouflage" (+15% ambush attack, -5% discipline from chaos).

Alliance of Fools: Join California for "socialist circus" reforms, or the USA for "democratic absurdity."

Big Top Tyranny: Shift to fascism under a "Jester Dictator," building "amusement park forts."

Techno-Shaman Enclave (Colorado Rockies)



Leader: Cyber-Shaman "Wire-Wolf" Blackfoot (a Native American inventor fusing tribal mysticism with scavenged tech).

ideology: Techno-Mysticism (Non-Aligned, with sci-fi cult elements).

Lore: Descended from Native tribes and mad scientists exiled during the Napoleonic Century's American interventions, this enclave emerged in the 1910s as a fusion of shamanic rituals and jury-rigged machinery (e.g., steam-powered "spirit machines"). By

1936, it's a wacky steampunk theocracy where "ghost dances" power generators, and "cyber-totems" (mech-enhanced warriors) defend against intruders. Rumors of "vision quests" granting tech blueprints make it a bizarre innovation hub amid the Rockies' isolation.

Possible Paths:

Spirit Machine Expansion: Conquer mining territories for resources, unlocking "Totem Tech" (+10% research speed, +15% division speed in mountains).

Mystic Alliance: Join the Internationale for "shamanic socialism" or Texas for industrial pacts.

Apocalypse Engine: Build doomsday devices, risking self-destruction events.

Republic of the Dakotas



Leader: General Harlan "Iron Fist" Thorpe (a former USA army officer turned strongman).

Ideology: Military Junta (Authoritarian, Non-Aligned).

Lore: Carved from the northern Plains after federal collapse, this republic is a straightforward militarized state ruled by ex-governors and generals. By 1936, it focuses on fortifying against Canadian incursions and raiding for grain, with a disciplined army but simmering unrest from farmers.

Possible Paths:

Border Fortifications: Build defenses against Canada or the USA, gaining +20% fort construction speed.

Reunification Bid: Ally with the USA to restore the Union, or join the CSA for southern ties.

Industrial Push: Exploit resources for factories, shifting to democratic reforms.

Free State of Montana



Leader: Governor Elias "Prospector" Vance (a mining magnate with corporate backing).

ideology: Corporate Oligarchy (Non-Aligned, leaning Democratic).

Lore: This mining-rich state broke away in the late 19th century, governed by a council of governors and tycoons exploiting gold and copper. By 1936, it's a pragmatic republic balancing trade with California and the USA, but plagued by labor strikes.

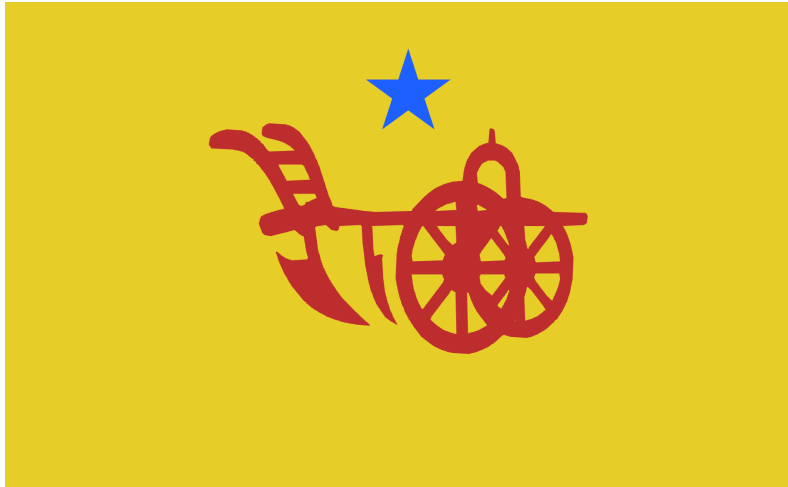
Possible Paths:

Mining Boom: Boost resource output (+15% minerals), attracting foreign investment from Britain.

Neutral Trade Hub: Form alliances with Texas or Mexico for economic pacts.

Worker Revolt: Risk socialist uprising, joining the Internationale.

Nebraska People's Holdout



Leader: Marshal Clara "Iron Lady" Reynolds (a tough ex-governor enforcing law and order).

Ideology: Conservative Republic (Democratic, with authoritarian leanings).

Lore: A stable breakaway from the Midwest chaos, Nebraska is a no-nonsense republic of farmers and militias, resisting banditry and European meddling. By 1936, it prioritizes agriculture and defense, serving as a buffer between the USA and southern warlords.

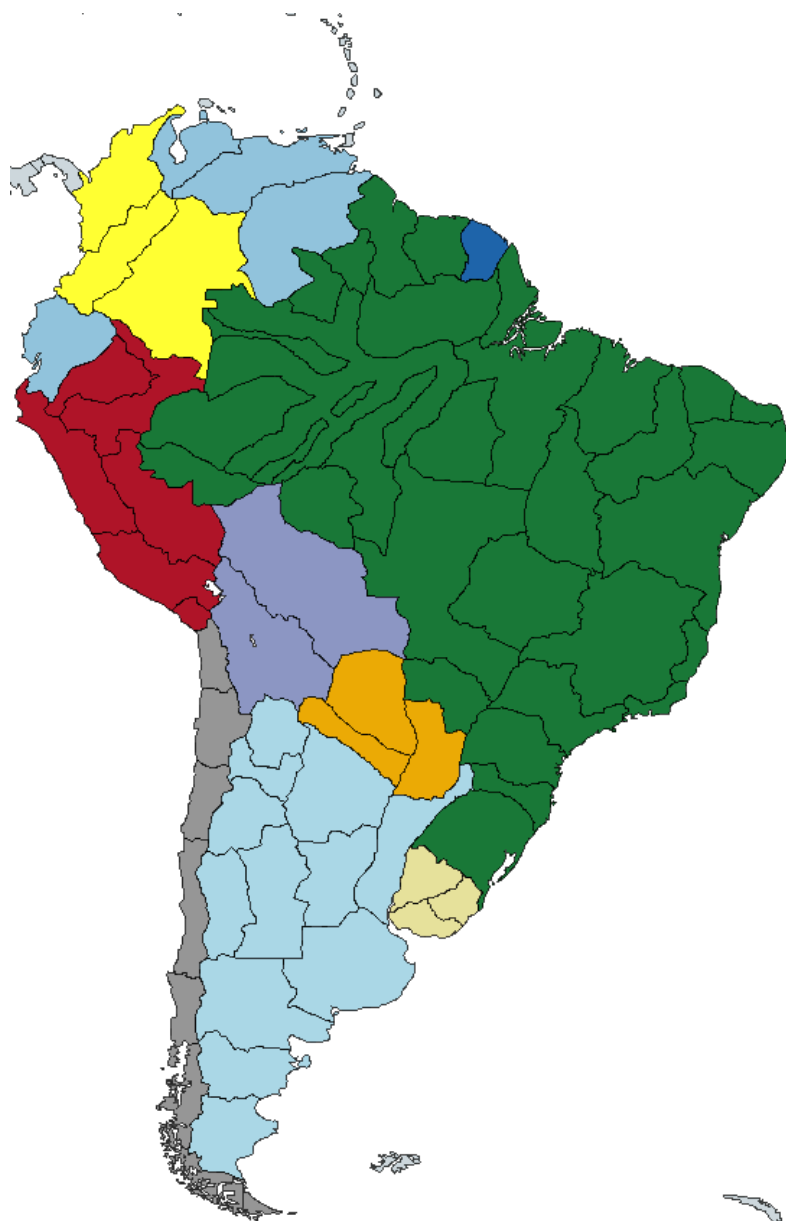
Possible Paths:

Agrarian Defense: Improve food production (+10% consumer goods efficiency), fortifying against raids.

USA Reconciliation: Merge back into the USA for stability.

Expansionist Push: Conquer neighboring Plains states, shifting to militarism.

South America



Empire of Brazil



Leader: *Emperor Pedro III*

Ideology: Constitutional Monarchy (Non-Aligned, leaning toward Napoleonic Pact)

Lore: Brazil survived the Napoleonic Century as South America's dominant power, playing European rivals against each other while modernizing internally. With French and British forces tied up in their endless war, Brazil successfully suppressed republican movements and expanded into the Amazon basin. The empire industrialized using coffee wealth and immigrant labor, becoming a regional hegemon. However, growing republican sentiment and socialist agitation from European immigrants threaten the monarchy's stability. The recent abolition of slavery (1888) created social tensions that various factions seek to exploit.

Possible Paths:

- **Brazilian Hegemony** -- Expand into neighboring republics, establishing a South American empire
- **Napoleonic Alliance** -- Align with France for protection and modernization aid
- **Republican Revolution** -- Overthrow the monarchy and establish a federal republic
- **Socialist Brazil** -- Join the Internationale through a worker's uprising

Argentine Republic



Leader: *President Agustín Pedro Justo*

Ideology: Conservative Republic (Non-Aligned, pro-British trade ties)

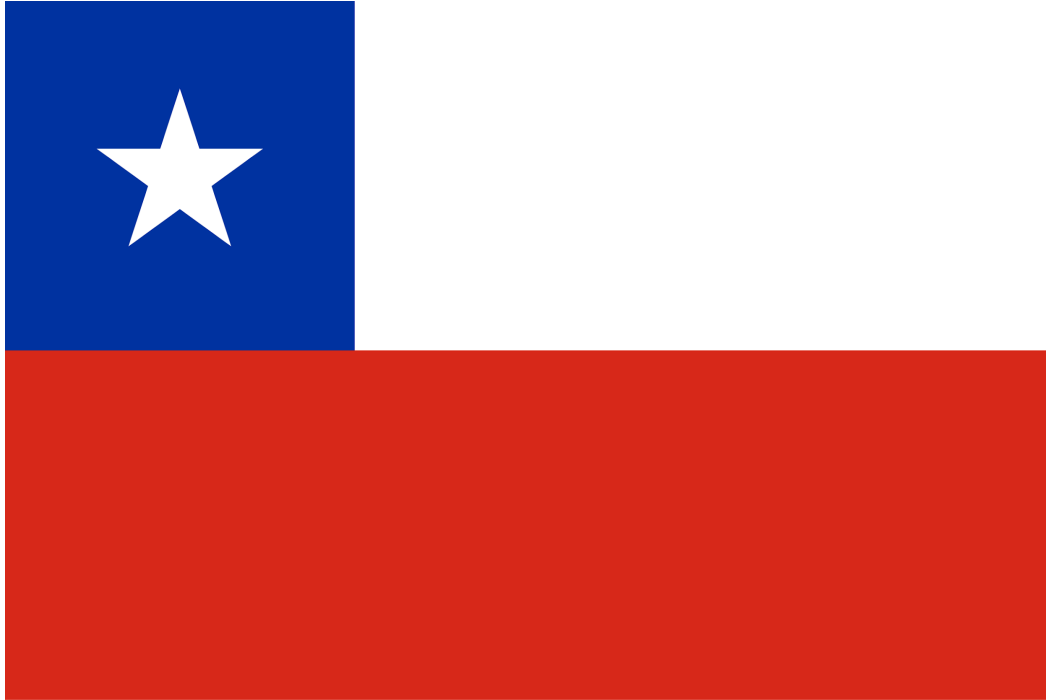
Lore: Argentina emerged from the wars of independence as a loose confederation, but European immigrants and British investment helped build a modern nation-state by the 1880s. The country prospered through beef and wheat exports to war-torn Europe, playing British and French buyers against each other for maximum profit. However, the Great Depression hit Argentina hard, and growing Italian and German immigrant communities bring European ideological conflicts to Buenos Aires. The military is powerful but divided between pro-British conservatives, nationalist populists, and socialist sympathizers.

Possible Paths:

- **Military Dictatorship** -- A coup establishes an authoritarian regime focused on nationalism and expansion
- **British Dominion** -- Deepen ties with Britain, potentially joining as a formal dominion
- **Peronist Revolution** -- A populist movement creates a "third way" between capitalism and socialism

- **Socialist Argentina** -- Worker's movements, inspired by European immigrants, overthrow the oligarchy

Republic of Chile



Leader: *President Arturo Alessandri*

Ideology: Liberal Democracy (Non-Aligned, German-influenced military)

Lore: Chile modernized through nitrate wealth during the Napoleonic Century, hiring Prussian military advisors before the German Revolution forced them to rely on South German Empire officers. The War of the Pacific (1879-1884) was even more decisive than historically, with Chile conquering more Bolivian and Peruvian territory due to European powers being unable to intervene. However, the collapse of the nitrate trade and rise of synthetic alternatives has created economic crisis. German immigrant communities and military advisors bring Central Concord ideology, while socialist ideas spread among miners and urban workers.

Possible Paths:

- **Pacific Empire** -- Expand naval power and influence across the Pacific, potentially aligning with Japan
- **German Alliance** -- Join the Central Concord through South German influence
- **Socialist Chile** -- Mining unions and urban workers establish a communist state

- **Neutral Prosperity** -- Focus on economic development while staying out of global conflicts

United States of Colombia



Leader: *President Alfonso López Pumarejo*

Ideology: Liberal Democracy (Non-Aligned, American-influenced)

Lore: Colombia never fully separated into smaller republics due to external threats requiring unity. The country benefited from being a crucial link between North and South America, with both the USA and European powers seeking influence over the Panama region. The loss of Panama to American intervention (1903) was less devastating than historically since European powers were too distracted to support American expansion. Coffee exports and strategic location made Colombia wealthy, but American and European ideological influences create political instability.

Possible Paths:

- **Gran Colombia** -- Attempt to reunite with Venezuela and Ecuador, rebuilding Bolívar's vision
- **American Satellite** -- Align closely with the United States for protection and trade
- **Bolivarian Socialism** -- Establish a socialist state inspired by both Bolívar and the Internationale

- **Conservative Reaction** -- Military coup establishes a Catholic, traditionalist regime

Republic of Peru



Leader: *President Óscar R. Benavides*

Ideology: Military Dictatorship (Authoritarian, revanchist)

Lore: Peru never recovered from the catastrophic defeat in the War of the Pacific, losing vast territories to Chile when European powers were too busy to mediate. The country fell under a series of military dictatorships focused on modernization and revenge against Chile. Indigenous populations face severe oppression, while coastal elites dream of reclaiming lost glory. Recent discoveries of oil in the Amazon and copper in the mountains provide resources for military building, but also attract foreign interest that threatens independence.

Possible Paths:

- **Revanchist War** -- Launch a war of reconquest against Chile and Ecuador
- **Indigenous Revolution** -- Native peoples, inspired by socialist ideas, overthrow the white elite
- **American Protectorate** -- Seek US protection and investment in exchange for autonomy

- **Inca Restoration** -- A radical nationalist movement attempts to restore indigenous rule

Bolivarian Federation (Venezuela + Ecuador)



Leader: *Caudillo Juan Vicente Gómez (Venezuela) / President José María Velasco Ibarra (Ecuador)*

Ideology: Personal Dictatorships (Competing strongmen)

Lore: Venezuela and Ecuador exist as separate nations but are often grouped together due to their shared instability and oil wealth. Both countries are dominated by caudillos who use petroleum revenues to maintain power while European and American companies compete for drilling rights. The constant European warfare created opportunities for local strongmen to play foreign powers against each other, but also left the region underdeveloped and politically fragmented.

Possible Paths:

- **Oil Nationalism** -- Unite to expel foreign companies and control petroleum resources
- **American Sphere** -- Fall into US economic and political orbit
- **Bolivarian Union** -- Merge into a single federation inspired by Simón Bolívar

- **Socialist Republics** -- Worker's movements, supported by foreign agitators, establish communist states

Republic of Bolivia



Leader: *President Germán Busch*

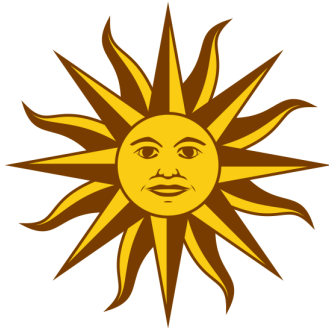
Ideology: Military Nationalism (Revanchist, anti-Chilean)

Lore: Bolivia's loss of its Pacific coastline to Chile was even more traumatic in this timeline, as no European power could mediate or provide support. The country became a landlocked, impoverished military dictatorship obsessed with revenge and reclaiming access to the sea. Tin mining provides some revenue, but most goes to military expenses and the personal enrichment of generals. The large indigenous majority faces brutal oppression, creating potential for revolutionary uprising.

Possible Paths:

- **War of Restoration** -- Alliance with Peru to reconquer lost territories from Chile
- **Indigenous Revolution** -- Native peoples establish a socialist indigenous republic
- **Brazilian Satellite** -- Seek Brazilian protection and economic integration
- **Andean Federation** -- Unite with Peru and Ecuador in an anti-Chilean alliance

Oriental Republic of Uruguay



Leader: *President Gabriel Terra*

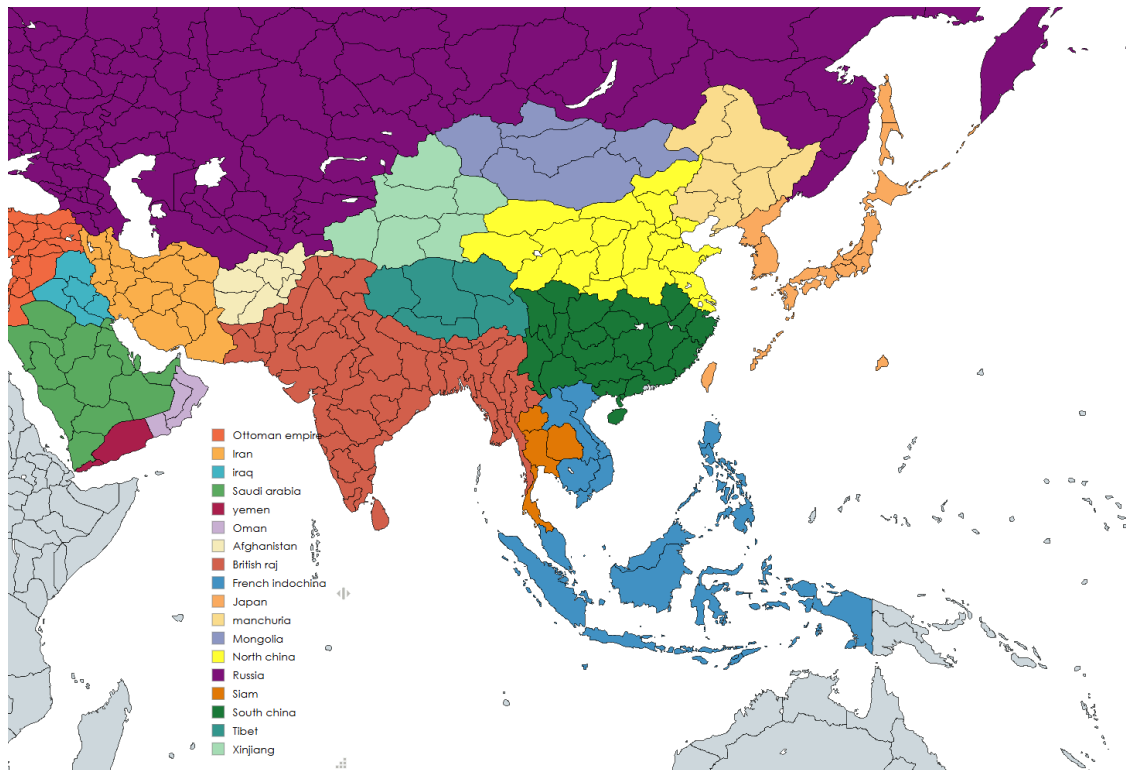
Ideology: Democratic Socialism (Buffer state)

Lore: Uruguay maintained its independence by playing Argentina and Brazil against each other, while European immigration brought new political ideas. The country developed as South America's most democratic and progressive state, with advanced social programs and labor rights. However, pressure from larger neighbors and European ideological influences threaten this stability. The small nation must choose between remaining neutral or aligning with a great power for protection.

Possible Paths:

- **Socialist Paradise** -- Establish a model socialist state, inspiring regional revolution
- **Argentine Union** -- Merge with Argentina for economic and military security
- **Brazilian Alliance** -- Accept Brazilian protection while maintaining internal autonomy
- **Neutral Democracy** -- Maintain independence and democratic institutions despite external pressures

Asia



Empire of Japan



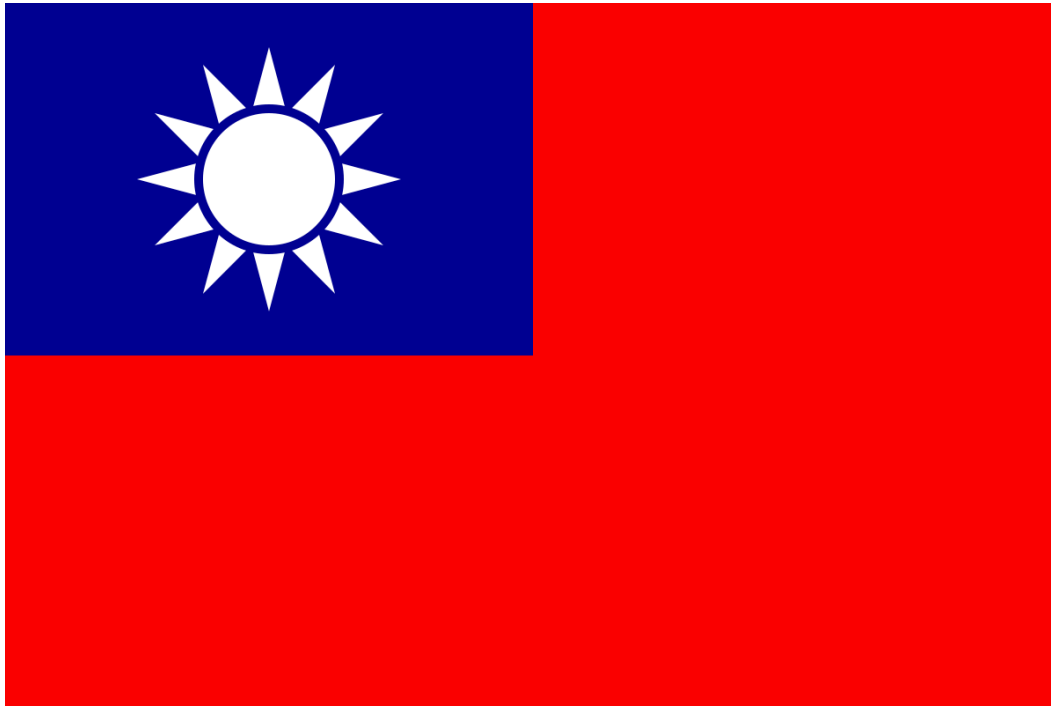
- **Leader:** Emperor Hirohito (with Prime Minister Keisuke Okada or faction-specific advisors)
- **Ideology:** Imperial Monarchy (Authoritarian, leaning toward Central Concord)
- **Lore:** Japan avoided Western domination by leveraging French and British rivalries during the Napoleonic Century. After the Boshin War (1860s), the Meiji Restoration occurred earlier, with Japan modernizing under French technological influence to counter British naval power in the Pacific. By 1936, Japan is a rising power controlling Korea, Taiwan, and parts of Sakhalin, with ambitions to dominate East Asia. Its imperial ambitions put it at odds with the Internationale's socialist influence in North Germany and California, while its monarchy aligns it loosely with the Central Concord, though Japan distrusts European monarchies due to their colonial history.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Imperial Ambition:** Expand into China, Southeast Asia, or the Russian Far East, aiming to create a Greater East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere.
 - **Napoleonic Alliance:** Align with France and the Nordic Union to counter socialist threats and gain technological support.
 - **Nationalist Isolation:** Focus on fortifying Japan and its holdings, pursuing a neutral path to avoid entanglement in European wars.
 - **Socialist Uprising:** A radical faction inspired by the Internationale overthrows the monarchy, aligning Japan with North Germany and California.

Qing Empire (China)



- **Leader:** Puyi (as Emperor, with advisors like Zhang Zuolin or Wu Peifu depending on path)
- **Ideology:** Restored Monarchy (Non-Aligned, leaning toward Central Concord)
- **Lore:** The Qing dynasty survived the 19th century by aligning with France during the Napoleonic Wars, receiving military aid to suppress internal rebellions like the Taiping. However, constant European interference and Russian incursions weakened the empire, leading to warlordism in the north and west. By 1936, Puyi's restoration (backed by French and Central Concord advisors) is fragile, with warlords controlling vast regions and socialist movements gaining traction in urban centers. The Qing court dreams of reunifying China but faces threats from Japan, socialist warlords, and internal dissent.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Imperial Restoration:** Centralize power, defeat warlords, and modernize the military to restore Qing glory.
 - **Napoleonic Protectorate:** Become a formal client state of France, gaining protection but sacrificing autonomy.
 - **Warlord Coalition:** Ally with powerful warlords to maintain a decentralized empire, balancing their ambitions.
 - **Socialist Revolution:** A communist uprising, inspired by the Internationale, overthrows the Qing and aligns with North Germany and California.

Republic of China (South China)



- **Leader:** Sun Yat-sen (or successor like Chiang Kai-shek if Sun is deceased)
- **Ideology:** Revolutionary Nationalism (Democratic, leaning toward Napoleonic Pact)
- **Lore:** In this timeline, the 1911 Xinhai Revolution succeeded in southern China, establishing a nationalist republic under Sun Yat-sen's leadership, supported by French advisors seeking a counterweight to the Qing and Japan. By 1936, the Republic controls Guangdong, Fujian, and parts of the Yangtze region, but it struggles against Qing warlords, Japanese encroachment, and socialist agitators. The Republic aims to unify China under a modern, nationalist government but must navigate European rivalries and internal factionalism.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **National Unification:** Wage war to defeat the Qing and warlords, unifying China under republican rule.
 - **Napoleonic Alignment:** Deepen ties with France for military and economic aid, risking puppet status.
 - **Socialist Drift:** Embrace radical elements to join the Internationale, alienating conservative allies.
 - **Pan-Asian Alliance:** Seek cooperation with Japan or Siam to counter European influence.

Siam (Thailand)



- **Leader:** King Rama VII (Prajadhipok)
- **Ideology:** Constitutional Monarchy (Non-Aligned, leaning toward Napoleonic Pact)
- **Lore:** Siam maintained its independence by skillfully playing British and French interests against each other during the Napoleonic Century. By 1936, Siam is a modernizing monarchy with a small but disciplined army, seeking to assert itself as a regional power in Southeast Asia. French influence is strong due to trade agreements, but socialist ideas from the Internationale and Japanese ambitions threaten stability. Siam's strategic position makes it a potential ally or battleground.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Regional Hegemony:** Expand into Burma, Malaya, or Indochina, challenging European colonies.
 - **French Loyalty:** Strengthen ties with France to gain protection against Japan and socialism.
 - **Socialist Revolution:** A coup inspired by the Internationale establishes a socialist state.
 - **Neutral Modernization:** Focus on internal development and neutrality, avoiding great power conflicts.

French Indochina

French flag

- **Leader:** Governor-General Pierre Pasquier (under French oversight)
- **Ideology:** Colonial Administration (Napoleonic Pact)
- **Lore:** French Indochina is a key stronghold of the Napoleonic Pact in Asia, established during the Napoleonic Wars as a counter to British influence in India and Burma. By 1936, it faces growing nationalist and socialist movements, inspired by the Internationale and neighboring socialist states like California. France maintains tight control, but local leaders like Ho Chi Minh are organizing resistance. They annexed the Dutch east indies after the north German invasion of the Netherlands.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Colonial Loyalty:** Strengthen French control, suppress rebellions, and expand regional influence.
 - **Nationalist Uprising:** A Vietnamese-led rebellion establishes an independent state, choosing between nationalism or socialism.
 - **Join the Internationale:** Socialist revolutionaries overthrow French rule and align with North Germany.
 - **Japanese Protectorate:** Seek Japanese support to break from France, becoming a puppet state.

British India



- **Leader:** Viceroy Lord Linlithgow (under King Edward VIII)
- **Ideology:** Colonial Administration (British Aligned)
- **Lore:** British India remains a cornerstone of the UK's empire, secured during the Napoleonic Century through naval dominance and alliances with local princes. By 1936, it faces intense unrest from nationalist movements (led by figures like Gandhi or Bose) and socialist agitation inspired by the Internationale. The British rely on India's resources and manpower but struggle to maintain control amid global tensions.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Imperial Control:** Suppress dissent and integrate India deeper into Britain's war efforts.
 - **Indian Independence:** A nationalist uprising establishes a free India, choosing between democracy or authoritarianism.
 - **Socialist Revolution:** A radical faction joins the Internationale, aligning with North Germany and California.
 - **Japanese Alliance:** Subhas Chandra Bose leads a pro-Japanese revolt to expel the British.

Mongolia



- **Leader:** Khorloogiin Choibalsan
- **Ideology:** Socialist Republic (Internationale Member)
- **Lore:** Mongolia broke free from Qing control during the chaos of the Napoleonic Century, aligning with the North German Revolution in the 1910s to establish a socialist state. By 1936, it is a loyal member of the Internationale, seeking to spread socialism into China and Central Asia while fending off Russian and Japanese ambitions.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Socialist Expansion:** Spread revolution into Qing territory or Central Asia.
 - **Nationalist Communism:** Assert independence from the Internationale, focusing on Mongolian interests.
 - **Russian Alliance:** Seek protection from a restored Russian monarchy to counter Japan.

Sinkiang (Xinjiang)



- **Leader:** Sheng Shicai
- **Ideology:** Warlord State (Non-Aligned, leaning toward Internationale)
- **Lore:** Sinkiang emerged as a semi-independent warlord state after Qing authority collapsed in the west. Sheng Shicai balances socialist sympathies (inspired by the Internationale) with pragmatic alliances, flirting with Russia, Japan, and the Qing. By 1936, Sinkiang is a volatile frontier, rich in resources but threatened by its neighbors.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Socialist Alignment:** Join the Internationale and support revolution in China.
 - **Warlord Ambition:** Expand into Central Asia or Qing territory, establishing a regional empire.
 - **Russian Puppet:** Align with Russia for protection against Japan and the Qing.

Tibet



- **Leader:** Dalai Lama XIII (Thubten Gyatso)
- **Ideology:** Theocratic Monarchy (Neutral)
- **Lore:** Tibet maintained its independence by leveraging the rivalries between Britain, France, and the Qing during the Napoleonic Century. By 1936, it is a spiritual and isolationist state, wary of foreign influence but pressured by socialist agitators from the Internationale and expansionist neighbors like Qing China and British India.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Spiritual Isolation:** Fortify Tibet's borders and maintain neutrality.
 - **Modernization:** Embrace limited reforms to build a stronger military and economy.
 - **Socialist Revolution:** A radical faction aligns with the Internationale, overthrowing the theocracy.

Persian Empire



- **Leader:** Reza Shah Pahlavi
- **Ideology:** Nationalist Monarchy (Non-Aligned)
- **Lore:** Persia survived the Napoleonic Century by balancing French, British, and Russian interests, avoiding colonization but remaining a battleground for proxy wars. By 1936, Reza Shah's modernizing regime seeks to transform Persia into a regional power, leveraging oil wealth and a reformed military. However, socialist movements inspired by the Internationale and Russian instability threaten internal cohesion, while British influence in neighboring Iraq and India looms large.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Persian Renaissance:** Modernize the economy and military, asserting dominance over the Persian Gulf and Central Asia.
 - **Franco-Nordic Alignment:** Ally with France to counter British and socialist threats, risking dependency.
 - **Socialist Revolution:** A communist uprising aligns Persia with the Internationale, targeting monarchist neighbors.
 - **Pan-Iranian Empire:** Expand into Iraq, Afghanistan, or the Caucasus, reviving ancient Persian borders.

Kingdom of Iraq

Ts flag is ugly as hell ik



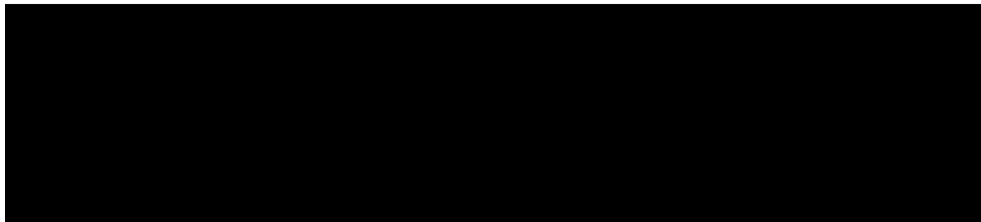
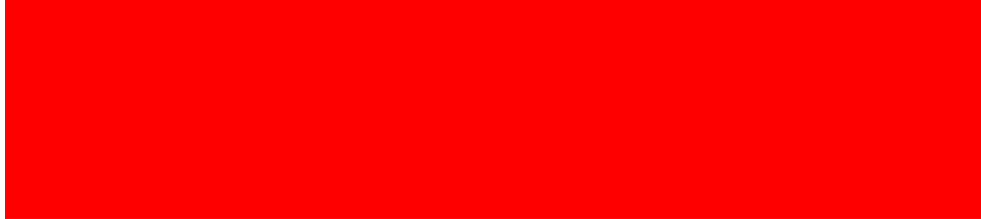
- **Leader:** King Faisal II
- **Ideology:** Constitutional Monarchy (British-Aligned)
- **Lore:** Iraq emerged as a British client state during the Napoleonic Century, carved from Ottoman territories to secure oil fields and counter French influence in the Levant. By 1936, the young King Faisal II rules under British guidance, but nationalist movements and socialist agitators (inspired by the Internationale) threaten stability. Iraq's strategic position makes it a flashpoint for British, French, and Ottoman ambitions.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **British Loyalty:** Strengthen ties with Britain, securing military aid to suppress dissent.
 - **Arab Nationalism:** Break from Britain, uniting with Arab states like Syria or Saudi Arabia against European powers.
 - **Socialist Iraq:** Join the Internationale, overthrowing the monarchy and aligning with North Germany.
 - **Ottoman Restoration:** Rejoin the Ottoman Empire to counter socialist and nationalist threats.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



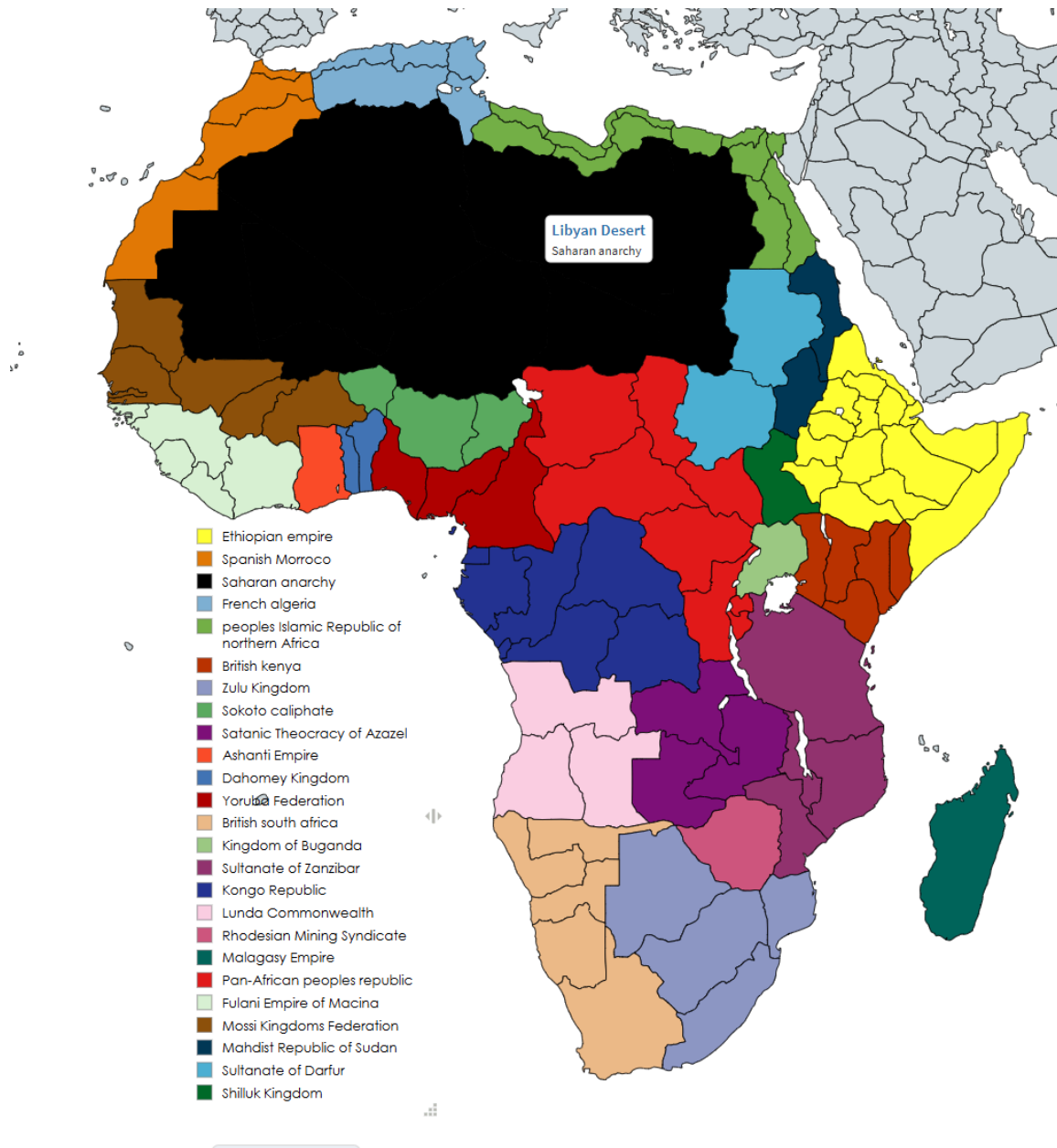
- **Leader:** King Abdulaziz Ibn Saud
- **Ideology:** Absolute Monarchy (Non-Aligned, leaning toward Central Concord)
- **Lore:** The Saud dynasty unified much of the Arabian Peninsula in the early 20th century, exploiting the Ottoman Empire's weakness and European rivalries. By 1936, Saudi Arabia is a conservative monarchy rich in oil but militarily weak, navigating tensions between British influence (via Iraq and the Gulf), French ambitions, and socialist ideas seeping from the Internationale. The kingdom seeks to expand its influence over Arabia while maintaining its traditionalist identity.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Arabian Hegemony:** Conquer Yemen, Oman, and other Gulf states to dominate the peninsula.
 - **Central Concord Alliance:** Align with the South German Empire and CSA for monarchist solidarity.
 - **Modernization:** Adopt limited reforms to industrialize and strengthen the military, risking traditionalist backlash.
 - **Islamic Socialism:** A radical faction embraces Internationale-inspired socialism, transforming the kingdom.

Yemen

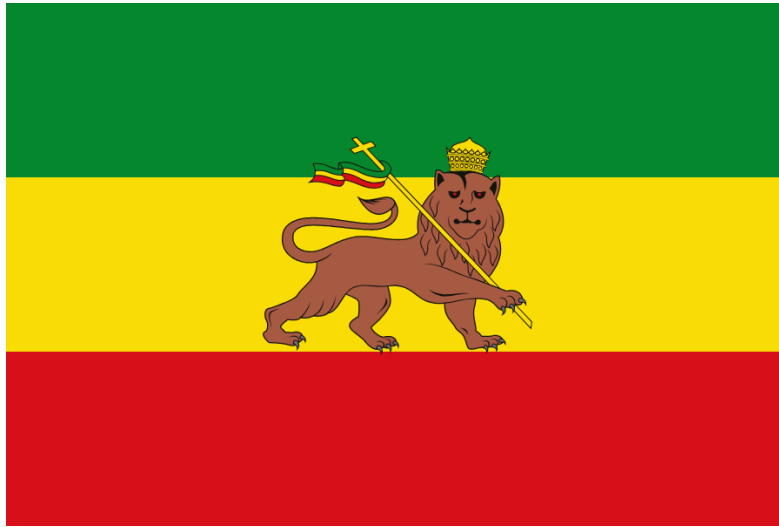


- **Leader:** Imam Yahya Muhammad Hamid ed-Din
- **Ideology:** Theocratic Monarchy (Neutral)
- **Lore:** Yemen maintained its independence through the Napoleonic Century by resisting Ottoman and British encroachment, leveraging its rugged terrain and tribal alliances. By 1936, Imam Yahya rules a conservative, isolated state, wary of Saudi expansion, British influence in Aden, and socialist ideas from the Internationale. Yemen's strategic position on the Red Sea makes it a potential ally or target.
- **Possible Paths:**
 - **Tribal Unity:** Consolidate tribal support to strengthen Yemen's defenses and economy.
 - **Anti-Colonial Alliance:** Join Syria or Persia in an anti-European coalition.
 - **Socialist Uprising:** A radical faction aligns with the Internationale, overthrowing the Imamate.
 - **Saudi Submission:** Become a Saudi client state to counter British influence.

Africa



Ethiopian Empire



Leader: *Emperor Haile Selassie I*

Ideology: Orthodox Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The ancient Christian empire of Ethiopia survived the Napoleonic Century as Africa's most successful independent state, playing European powers against each other while modernizing internally. After defeating Italian colonial attempts in the 1890s with French military advisors, Ethiopia expanded into Somali and Sudanese territories during the chaos of European wars. By 1936, it stands as the beacon of African independence, but faces internal tensions between Orthodox traditionalists, Muslim minorities, and modernizing factions influenced by European ideologies. The Emperor walks a careful line between preserving ancient traditions and embracing the changes needed to compete with industrialized nations.

Possible Paths:

- **Lion of Judah** -- Modernize the military and expand into the Horn of Africa
- **Orthodox Crusade** -- Align with other Orthodox Christians against secular ideologies
- **African Liberation** -- Lead a pan-African independence movement
- **Socialist Revolution** -- Radical factions overthrow the monarchy for the Internationale

Sokoto Caliphate



Leader: *Caliph Hassan dan Mu'azu*

Ideology: Islamic Theocracy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The great Fulani Islamic empire of West Africa survived European colonization by forming strategic alliances with the Ottomans and later playing French and British interests against each other during the Napoleonic Century. Controlling vast territories from the Niger bend to Lake Chad, Sokoto became the dominant Muslim power in sub-Saharan Africa, modernizing its cavalry with European weapons while maintaining strict Islamic governance. By 1936, the Caliphate faces pressure from coastal European enclaves, socialist ideas filtering south from Algeria, and the challenge of governing diverse ethnic groups under Islamic law. Internal debates rage between traditionalist clerics and modernist administrators over how much European technology to adopt.

Possible Paths:

- **Islamic Renaissance** -- Unite all Muslim West Africa under Sokoto leadership
- **Modernist Caliphate** -- Embrace European technology while maintaining Islamic governance
- **Holy War** -- Launch jihad against all European colonial presence
- **Federal Islam** -- Create a more decentralized system respecting ethnic diversity

Ashanti Empire



Leader: *Asantehene Prempeh III*

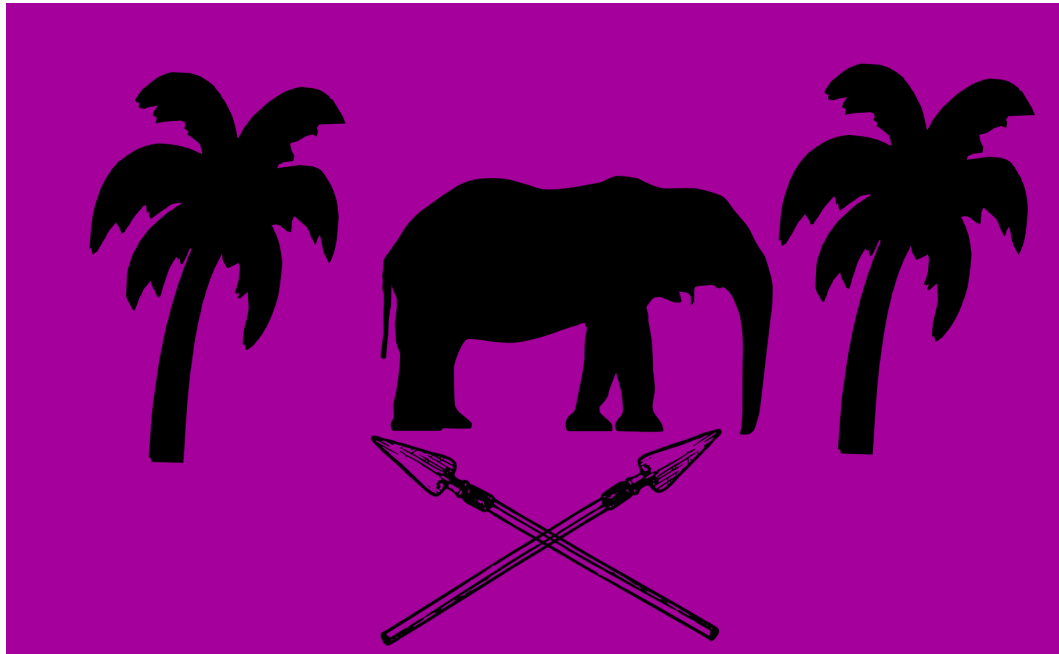
Ideology: Traditional Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The powerful Akan kingdom successfully resisted full British colonization during the Napoleonic Century by exploiting European rivalries, accepting French military advisors while trading gold with British merchants. The Golden Stool remains the sacred symbol of Ashanti unity, while the kingdom modernized its famous military system with European firearms and tactics. By 1936, Ashanti controls the richest gold fields in West Africa and key trade routes to the interior, but faces pressure from British coastal enclaves and French expansion from the north. The traditional council system struggles to balance ancient customs with the demands of modern governance and industrial development.

Possible Paths:

- **Golden Empire** -- Expand to reclaim all traditional Akan territories
- **European Partnership** -- Align with France or Britain for protection and modernization
- **Pan-African Leadership** -- Lead West African unity against colonial powers
- **Constitutional Monarchy** -- Modernize governance while preserving traditions

Dahomey Kingdom



Leader: *King Agoli-agbo II*

Ideology: Warrior Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The fierce kingdom of the Fon people survived French colonization through a combination of military resistance and diplomatic maneuvering, becoming France's most troublesome "protectorate" before declaring independence during World War I. Famous for their elite female warriors, the Amazons, Dahomey modernized its military with European weapons while maintaining traditional martial culture. By 1936, the kingdom controls crucial palm oil and slave-trading routes (though slavery is officially abolished), balancing between French pressure from the north and British influence from Nigeria. The monarchy struggles with modernization while preserving the warrior traditions that define Dahomean identity.

Possible Paths:

- **Warrior Expansion** -- Conquer neighboring territories, revive Amazon regiments
- **French Accommodation** -- Accept limited French oversight in exchange for modernization aid
- **Republican Revolution** -- Overthrow the monarchy for a modern democratic state
- **Pan-African Militarism** -- Lead an anti-colonial military alliance

Yoruba Federation



Leader: *Alafin of Oyo Adeyemi I Alowolodu*

Ideology: Federal Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

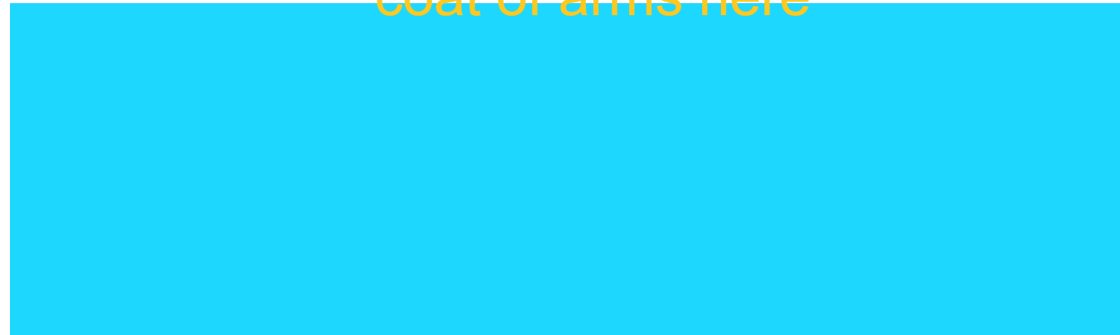
Lore: The great Yoruba city-states united into a complex federation during the 19th century to resist both Sokoto Islamic expansion and British colonization from Lagos. This unique system balances the authority of traditional obas (kings) from major cities like Ibadan, Abeokuta, and Ife with a rotating federal leadership and modern administrative structures. By 1936, the Federation controls crucial trade routes between the coast and interior, with a thriving economy based on cocoa, palm oil, and craftsmanship. However, tensions between traditionalists wanting stronger oba authority and modernists pushing for democratic reforms threaten the delicate federal balance, while external pressure from British Nigeria and French territories adds to instability.

Possible Paths:

- **Yoruba Empire** -- Centralize power under the Alafin, expand into neighboring territories
- **Democratic Federation** -- Transform into a modern constitutional federal state
- **Socialist Revolution** -- Urban workers and intellectuals overthrow traditional rulers
- **Pan-Nigerian Unity** -- Unite with other Nigerian peoples against colonial division

Kingdom of Buganda

coat of arms here



Leader: *Kabaka Mutesa II*

Ideology: Constitutional Monarchy (British-influenced)

Lore: The sophisticated kingdom on Lake Victoria's shores survived European colonization by skillfully balancing British and German interests while internally modernizing its parliamentary system, the Lukiiko. Buganda's strategic control of the Nile's source and fertile agricultural lands made it invaluable to European powers, allowing the Kabaka to maintain significant autonomy while accepting British "protection." By 1936, the kingdom faces complex internal divisions between Christian converts, traditional believers, and a small but growing Muslim minority, while educated Bugandans debate whether to strengthen ties with Britain or push for complete independence. The monarchy's authority is increasingly challenged by educated commoners and rival kingdoms within the East African region.

Possible Paths:

- **Great Lakes Empire** -- Unite Uganda and expand into neighboring territories
- **British Dominion** -- Formalize ties with Britain for protection and development
- **Independence Movement** -- Break all European connections, assert full sovereignty
- **Federal East Africa** -- Create a confederation with other East African kingdoms

Sultanate of Zanzibar



Leader: *Sultan Khalifa bin Harub*

Ideology: Arab Constitutional Monarchy (British-influenced)

Lore: The island sultanate survived as an independent trading empire by maintaining careful balance between British naval protection and Arab cultural identity, controlling the East African coast's lucrative spice and ivory trade. Zanzibar's unique position as an Arab state ruling over African territories creates complex political dynamics, while the sultanate's wealth from cloves and strategic Indian Ocean position makes it valuable to European powers. By 1936, the Sultan faces growing pressure from mainland African independence movements, Arab nationalist ideas from the Middle East, and internal tensions between the Arab elite and African majority population. The recent abolition of slavery has disrupted traditional economic structures while new ideologies challenge the sultanate's authority.

Possible Paths:

- **Omani Restoration** -- Rebuild historical ties with Oman and Arabian Peninsula
- **Swahili Federation** -- Unite the East African coast under Zanzibar leadership
- **Revolutionary Republic** -- Socialist or nationalist revolution overthrows the sultanate
- **Indian Ocean Empire** -- Expand maritime trade networks and island territories

Kongo Republic



Leader: *President António de Oliveira Salazar*

Ideology: Authoritarian Republic (Portuguese-influenced)

Lore: The ancient Kingdom of Kongo transformed into a republic in 1912 after a constitutional revolution led by Portuguese-educated elites who sought to modernize while maintaining independence from colonial rule. This unique experiment blends traditional Kongo customs with Portuguese administrative systems and Catholic Christianity, creating a complex political structure where traditional chiefs work alongside elected officials. By 1936, the Republic controls the crucial mouth of the Congo River and rich mineral deposits, but faces pressure from Belgian enclaves upstream and internal tensions between modernizers and traditionalists. The government struggles to balance Portuguese cultural influence with growing African nationalist sentiment while managing ethnic diversity within its borders.

Possible Paths:

- **Greater Kongo** -- Reclaim all historical Kongo territories from Belgian and Portuguese control
- **Lusitanian Partnership** -- Deepen ties with Portuguese interests for development aid
- **Socialist Republic** -- Join the Internationale through workers' revolution
- **Pan-African Democracy** -- Lead democratic movements across Central Africa

Lunda Commonwealth



Leader: *Mwata Kazembe XVIII*

Ideology: Traditional Federation (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The great Central African empire evolved into a unique commonwealth system during the early 20th century, maintaining traditional kingship while adopting federal structures to govern diverse ethnic groups across vast territories. The Lunda system successfully resisted Belgian and Portuguese colonization by controlling copper and ivory trade routes while modernizing military tactics with captured European weapons. By 1936, the Commonwealth faces the challenge of industrializing its rich mineral resources while preserving traditional authority structures that have kept the federation united. Internal debates between traditionalist chiefs and educated elites over modernization threaten unity, while external pressure from European mining companies and neighboring states adds complexity to governance.

Possible Paths:

- **Imperial Restoration** -- Centralize power under the Mwata, revive traditional empire
- **Mineral Federation** -- Industrialize using copper wealth while maintaining federal structure
- **Socialist Commonwealth** -- Transform into a workers' state aligned with the Internationale
- **Pan-African Confederation** -- Lead Central African unity against European exploitation

Rhodesian Mining Syndicate



Leader: *CEO Cecil John Rhodes III*

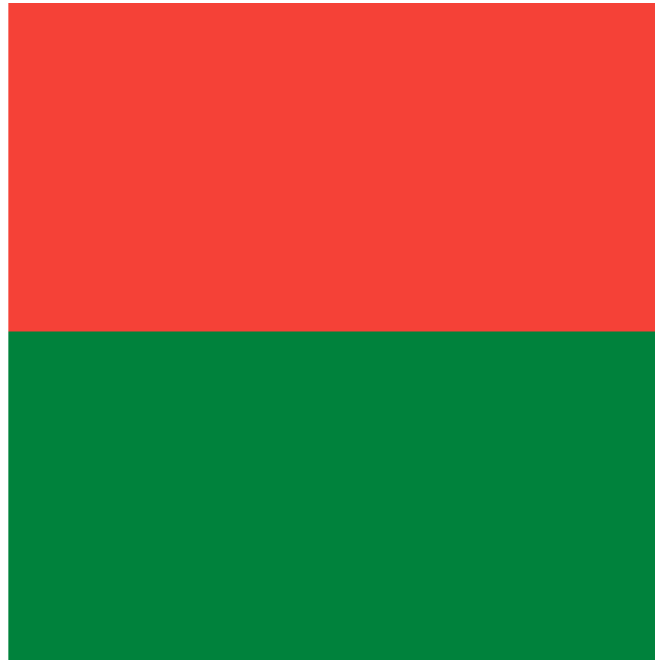
Ideology: Corporate State (British-aligned)

Lore: What began as Rhodes's mining company evolved into an unprecedented corporate state when the company's board effectively became the government after the collapse of formal British administration during World War I. This unique experiment in corporate governance controls vast mineral wealth across Zimbabwe and Zambia through a board of directors rather than traditional political structures, with company shareholders effectively serving as citizens. By 1936, the Syndicate operates as a profit-driven state where economic efficiency takes precedence over democratic representation, creating a technocratic system that delivers prosperity to shareholders while exploiting African labor. Growing labor unrest and pressure from neighboring African kingdoms threaten the corporate model's sustainability.

Possible Paths:

- **Corporate Expansion** -- Extend company control across Southern Africa
- **Democratic Reform** -- Transform into a conventional democratic state
- **Workers' Revolution** -- Socialist uprising overthrows corporate rule
- **Apartheid System** -- Formalize racial segregation to maintain control

Malagasy Empire



Leader: *Emperor Ranavalona III*

Ideology: Isolationist Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The Merina kingdom successfully unified Madagascar and resisted French colonization by adopting a policy of armed neutrality, modernizing its military while maintaining traditional Malagasy culture and the unique blend of African, Arab, and Indonesian influences that define the island. After defeating several French invasion attempts during the Napoleonic Century's chaos, the empire developed into a powerful naval and military state controlling strategic Indian Ocean trade routes. By 1936, Madagascar faces pressure to choose sides in global conflicts while internal tensions between highland Merina rulers and coastal peoples threaten unity. The monarchy struggles with modernization while preserving the ancestral traditions and complex caste system that define Malagasy society.

Possible Paths:

- **Indian Ocean Empire** -- Expand naval power and control regional trade routes
- **Malagasy Unity** -- Integrate all ethnic groups under centralized imperial rule
- **Republican Revolution** -- Overthrow the monarchy for a modern democratic state
- **Isolationist Fortress** -- Fortify the island against all foreign influence

Pan-African Peoples Republic



Leader: *Chairman Marcus Garvey Jr.*

Ideology: Pan-African Socialism (Internationale Member)

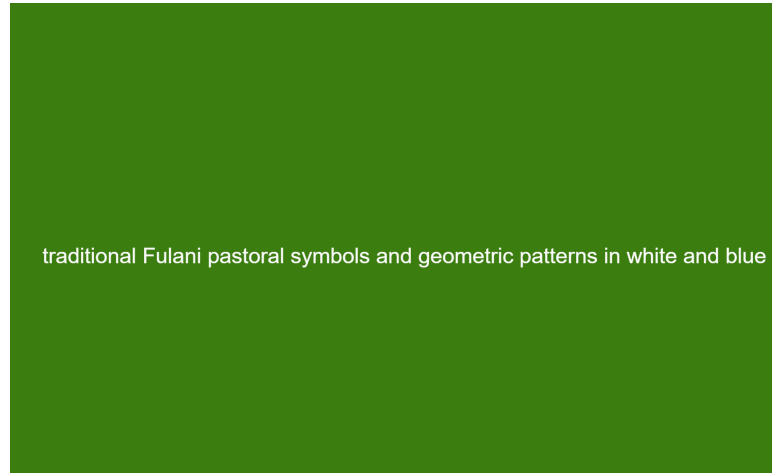
Lore: Born from a socialist revolution in the former German Cameroon during the chaos of World War I, this radical state emerged as Africa's first explicitly pan-African government, dedicated to liberating the entire continent from European rule through revolutionary warfare. Founded by a coalition of African intellectuals, German socialist advisors, and local revolutionary movements, the Republic serves as the Internationale's primary base in Africa while promoting African socialism as distinct from European Marxism. By 1936, the state faces constant pressure from surrounding colonial territories and conservative African kingdoms while struggling to balance traditional African communalism with modern socialist ideology. Internal debates rage between those wanting closer ties to the Internationale and African nationalists seeking a uniquely African revolutionary path.

Possible Paths:

- **Continental Revolution** -- Spread pan-African socialism across the entire continent
- **Internationale Loyalty** -- Align closely with North Germany and global socialism
- **African Socialism** -- Develop a unique blend of African traditions and socialist ideology

- **Anti-Colonial War** -- Focus on military liberation of neighboring territories

Fulani Empire of Macina



Leader: *Almamy Sekou Amadou III*

Ideology: Islamic Republic (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The Fulani jihadist state that emerged in the Inner Niger Delta during the 19th century survived European colonization by transforming from a theocracy into a unique Islamic republic that blends traditional Fulani pastoral culture with modern administrative systems. This evolution occurred during the Napoleonic Century as the empire successfully resisted French expansion while modernizing its military and adopting constitutional limitations on religious authority. By 1936, Macina controls crucial river trade routes and vast cattle-raising territories, serving as a cultural bridge between the Islamic Sahel and animist forest regions. The state faces internal tensions between traditional Fulani nomads wanting pastoral freedom and settled populations demanding agricultural development, while external pressure from the Sokoto Caliphate and French territories threatens independence.

Possible Paths:

- **Fulani Confederation** -- Unite all Fulani peoples across West Africa
- **Islamic Modernization** -- Balance religious governance with technological advancement
- **Pastoral Republic** -- Focus on traditional cattle culture and nomadic rights
- **French Accommodation** -- Accept limited French oversight for development aid

Mossi Kingdoms Federation

Idk what to make for this flag

Leader: *Mogho Naba Koom III*

Ideology: Traditional Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The ancient Mossi kingdoms of Ouagadougou and Yatenga united into a federation during the late 19th century to resist both Islamic expansion from the Sokoto Caliphate and French colonial pressure from the coast. This unique political system maintains traditional divine kingship while creating federal institutions to coordinate defense and trade across the Mossi territories. Famous for their resistance to Islamic conversion and their sophisticated traditional political systems, the federation survived the Napoleonic Century by playing European powers against each other while preserving ancestral customs. By 1936, the federation faces pressure to modernize while maintaining the traditional authority of the Mogho Naba and the complex system of chiefs that governs Mossi society, with external threats from both Islamic neighbors and European colonial territories.

Possible Paths:

- **Mossi Empire** -- Expand federation control across the Volta River basin
- **Traditional Resistance** -- Strengthen ancestral customs against foreign influence
- **Modernist Federation** -- Adopt European technology while preserving Mossi identity
- **Pan-African Alliance** -- Join broader African resistance movements

Mahdist Republic of Sudan



Leader: *Khalifa Abdullah al-Mahdi*

Ideology: Islamic Revolutionary State (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The Mahdist movement successfully expelled Egyptian and British forces during the chaos of the Napoleonic Century, evolving from a purely religious uprising into a functioning Islamic republic that controls the crucial Nile trade routes. After the original Mahdi's death, the state transformed into a unique system blending Islamic law with revolutionary republican principles, rejecting both traditional monarchy and European secular governance. By 1936, the Republic faces complex challenges balancing religious authority with practical governance needs while managing diverse ethnic groups and competing economic interests along the Nile. The state's strategic position between Egypt, Ethiopia, and Central Africa makes it a crucial player in regional politics, while internal debates rage between religious hardliners and pragmatic administrators over modernization and foreign relations.

Possible Paths:

- **Mahdist Expansion** -- Spread the revolutionary Islamic model across Northeast Africa
- **Republican Islam** -- Develop a unique blend of Islamic law and democratic governance
- **Pan-Islamic Alliance** -- Unite with other Islamic states against secular ideologies
- **Nile Federation** -- Create a confederation with other Nile Valley peoples

Sultanate of Darfur



Leader: *Sultan Ibrahim Dud Murra*

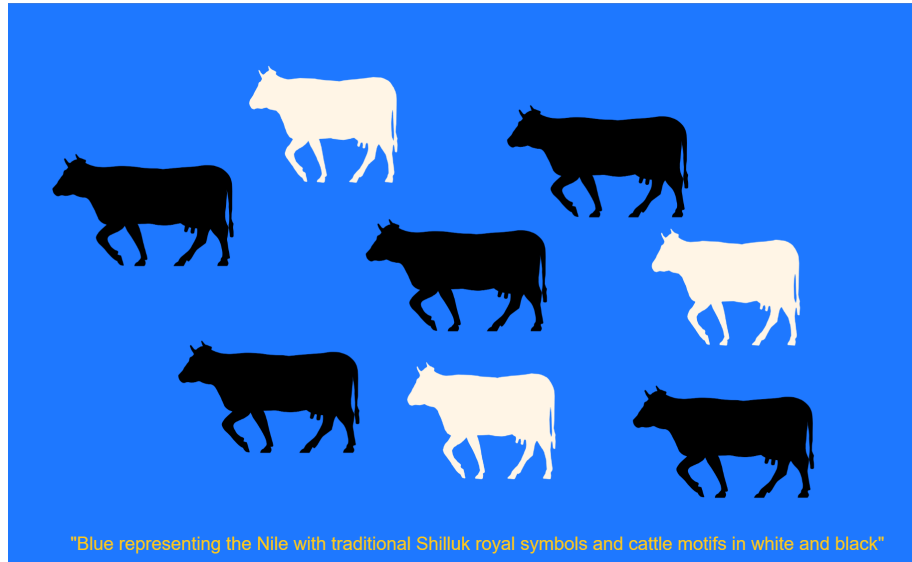
Ideology: Islamic Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The ancient Sultanate of Darfur survived the upheavals of the 19th and early 20th centuries by skillfully balancing relationships with Egypt, the Ottoman Empire, and various European powers, maintaining independence through diplomatic maneuvering and control of trans-Saharan trade routes. Unlike many African states, Darfur successfully modernized its military and administration while preserving traditional Islamic monarchy and the complex system of tribal governance that defines the sultanate. By 1936, Darfur controls valuable trade connections between North and Central Africa but faces pressure from the expanding Mahdist Republic to the east and French territories to the west. The sultanate struggles with internal tribal tensions and the challenge of maintaining traditional authority while adapting to modern political and economic pressures.

Possible Paths:

- **Darfur Empire** -- Expand sultanate control across the Chad-Sudan region
- **Islamic Confederation** -- Unite with other Muslim states against secular neighbors
- **Modernist Monarchy** -- Embrace European technology while maintaining Islamic governance
- **Tribal Federation** -- Decentralize power to accommodate diverse ethnic groups

Shilluk Kingdom



Leader: *Reth Nyikang Dak*

Ideology: Divine Monarchy (Non-Aligned)

Lore: The Shilluk kingdom along the White Nile represents one of Africa's oldest continuous monarchies, surviving centuries of external pressure by adapting just enough to modern realities while maintaining the sacred nature of divine kingship central to Shilluk culture. The kingdom successfully resisted Egyptian expansion and Mahdist conquest by leveraging its strategic position controlling river traffic and its reputation for fierce independence. By 1936, the Shilluk face the challenge of preserving traditional cattle-based economy and divine monarchy while competing with modernized neighbors and dealing with pressure from British, Mahdist, and Ethiopian territories. The sacred nature of the Reth's authority creates unique political dynamics where traditional religious practices intersect with modern governance needs.

Possible Paths:

- **Nilotic Empire** -- Unite all Nilotic peoples under Shilluk divine kingship
- **Sacred Resistance** -- Strengthen traditional culture against foreign influence
- **Constitutional Monarchy** -- Modernize governance while preserving royal authority
- **Pan-African Spiritualism** -- Lead traditional African religions against foreign ideologies

Satanic Theocracy of Azazel



Leader: High Priestess Echidna Voss.

Ideology: Satanic Theocracy

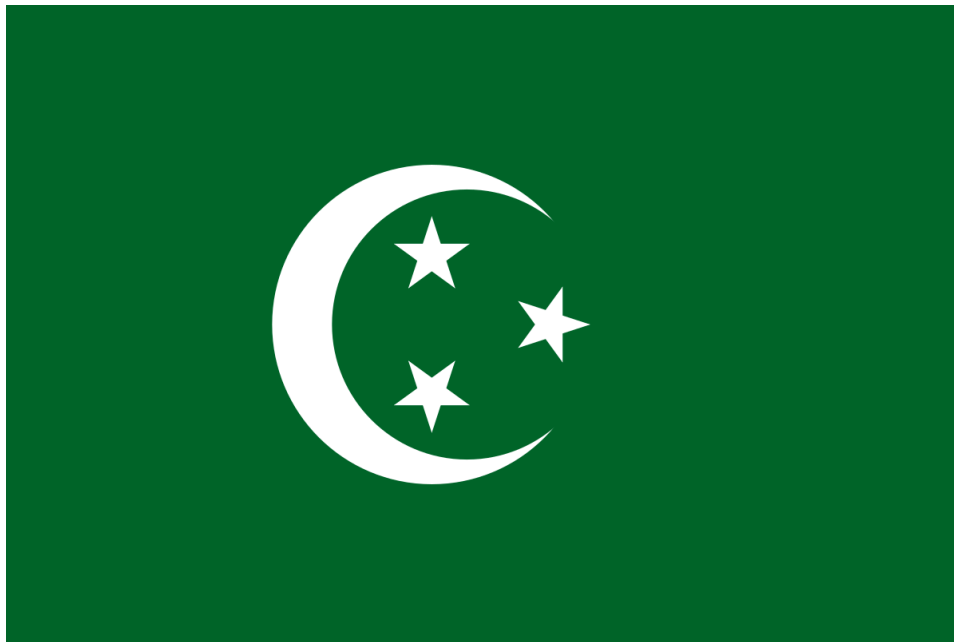
Lore: In the chaos of the Napoleonic Century, European occultists—fleeing witch-hunts and inspired by forbidden texts like those of Éliphas Lévi—fled to Africa's interior, allying with native tribes resisting colonial enclaves. By the 1880s, these groups coalesced around a Gnostic interpretation of Satan as the "Serpent of Knowledge," a liberator from the "demiurge" gods of Abrahamic faiths (echoing Ophite cults). Azazel rose as a theocratic state in the 1910s amid the Last War, declaring independence through ritualistic "black masses" that allegedly summoned infernal pacts for victory against French and British forces. By 1936, it's a secretive society where rituals replace laws, blending human sacrifice myths (exaggerated propaganda) with pragmatic magic for espionage and guerrilla warfare. Surrounded by native empires and European outposts, Azazel exports "enlightenment" via underground cults, threatening to ignite occult revolutions worldwide.

Possible Paths:

- **Infernal Expansion:** Perform "rituals" to gain claims on neighboring African states, boosting manpower through "demonic conversions"
- **Alliance with the Internationale:** View socialism as "Satanic equality," joining North Germany to spread revolution; unlock focuses for subversive agents in Europe

- **Pact with the Shadows:** Pursue neutrality, building a "global cult" network; gain tech bonuses in cryptography and psychology (representing occult knowledge), but risk civil war from rival sects.
- **Apocalyptic Reformation:** Embrace a progressive twist (inspired by non-theistic Satanism like the Satanic Temple), focusing on anti-colonial justice and empathy; shift ideology to Democratic, allying with Britain or the USA against monarchists.

Islamic Republic of Northern Africa (a bit different format for this one)



Name (short): IRNA — Islamic Republic of Northern Africa

Summary: A continental-sized republic born from anti-colonial upheaval and Nile-Mediterranean commercial interests — religiously grounded, fiercely regionalist, and strategically vital because of the Suez and Libyan oil.

Brief origin

After a wave of early-20th century anti-colonial revolts and a failed attempt by imperial powers to reassert direct rule in the 1920s, Egypt and Cyrenaica federated into a republican union. The new state fused Islamic constitutional rhetoric with republican institutions to attract both conservative rural elites and urban nationalists, trading unmatched Suez transit revenues and Mediterranean ports for international recognition and defence guarantees when needed.

Government & ideology

- **Official system:** Islamic Republic with a constitution that combines clerical oversight (a Council of Scholars) and elected assemblies.
- **Ideological tone:** Conservative-religious republicanism — neither theocratic autocracy nor liberal secularism; in gameplay map to a custom ideology (or a modified non-aligned/authoritarian mix).
- **Key slogans:** “Sovereignty of the People, Guidance of the Faith.”

Society & internal factions

1. **Council of Scholars (Ulama conservatives):** Protect religious law and social norms; prefer diplomatic stability and trade revenues.
2. **Moderate Republicans (urban elites, merchants, bureaucrats):** Push modernization, centralization of state authority, and Suez revenue management.
3. **Arab/North African Nationalists (younger officers, students):** Favor active foreign policy, pan-Arab/Pan-African ties, and land reform.
4. **Cyrenaican Tribal Leaders / Bedouin Notables:** Autonomy-minded, control desert trade routes and local militias; crucial for desert security and oil concessions.
5. **Sufi/Religious Reformists & Islamic Socialists (minor):** Advocate social programs and limited state intervention; can ally with republicans against clerical hardliners.

Gameplay implications: Balancing these factions creates engaging internal politics decisions — support for one grants bonuses but angers others (e.g., boost manpower vs. increase unrest).

Economy & resources

- **Strategic assets:** Suez Canal transit fees, Mediterranean ports (Alexandria, Tobruk), and Libyan oil fields (smaller than global giants but meaningful regionally).
- **Primary economy:** Mixed — Nile agriculture (cotton, grain), port/transport income, and extraction concessions.
- **Weaknesses:** Limited heavy industry, dependence on transit revenues vulnerable to maritime warfare and blockades, and uneven regional development (Cairo delta vs. Cyrenaican desert).

Military & doctrine

- **Doctrine:** Emphasis on mobility and coastal defense — fast motorized brigades, light armored units for desert warfare, and a modest navy to protect Suez approaches.
- **Unique forces:** Desert militias levied from tribal contingents (cheap manpower, low organization but resilient in home terrain); National Guard units controlling the Nile.
- **Limitations:** Small aircraft industry, limited dockyards, need for foreign advisers/shipyards to build a blue-water fleet.

Diplomacy & likely alignments

- **Primary interest:** Protect Suez revenues and avoid major-power domination of the Canal.
- **Plausible foreign paths:**
 - **Napoleonic Pact alignment:** Accept financial/defence guarantees from Pact powers in exchange for infrastructure investment and recognition.
 - **Neutral modernizer:** Balance diplomats between blocs, sell transit access to the highest bidders, and pursue industrialization.
 - **Join Concord/Anti-Socialist bloc:** If threatened by revolutionary movements, IRNA may side with conservative empires for stability.
 - **Sympathy to Internationale:** A minor chance — strong social program promises and anti-imperial rhetoric could push the IRNA leftward if radicalized.

National spirits / gameplay mechanics (suggested)

1. **“Suez Revenues”** — passive economic bonus reflecting transit fees.
 - a. Example: +0.10 daily political power; +5% factory output for civilian factories (represents easy revenue), but +5% naval trade goods dependency (vulnerable to blockades).
2. **“Desert Militias”** — tribal levies provide manpower but reduce central control.
 - a. Example: +10% recruitable population effectiveness, +0.05 partisan risk if autonomy is suppressed.
3. **“Clerical Oversight”** — stability buff if Council has influence, but slows social reforms.

- a. Example: +10% stability or +0.05 political power gain, -10% political reform speed.
- 4. **“Under-Industrialized Heartland”** — slows heavy industry growth to make industrialization a mid-game project.
 - a. Example: -15% construction speed for military factories until industrialization focuses completed.

Flavor events & event chains

- **Nile Bargain (early event):** Negotiate a revenue-sharing agreement with landowners and the Council — choices: land reform (reduce landowner power, increase stability hit but boost manpower), or elite pact (stability and foreign investment).
- **Cyrenaica Autonomy Crisis:** Tribal notables demand greater autonomy; options: grant limited self-rule (reduce unrest, lose centralized manpower bonus) or military suppression (gain temporary order, increase long-term resistance).
- **Suez Transit Crisis (world tension trigger):** Major power blockades or military actions near the Canal force IRNA to choose to close the Canal (hurt global trade but preserve sovereignty), accept foreign naval escorts, or nationalize transit (risk diplomatic penalties and economic shocks).
- **Oil Concessions & Unrest:** Discovery or expansion of oil fields triggers negotiations with foreign companies — choice between full nationalization, mixed concessions, or foreign control (tradeoff: revenue vs. independence).
- **Call to Pan-African/Arab Solidarity:** Military coup/charismatic leader uses IRNA as a rallying point for regional unity — can provoke intervention or diplomatic realignment.

Focus tree branch ideas

1. **State Building (industrialization):** ports → rail across desert → limited heavy industry (unlocks military factory events).
2. **Suez Diplomacy:** sign trade treaties, accept foreign guarantees, or nationalize transit (major diplomatic consequences).
3. **Tribal Integration:** integrate Bedouin contingents into national forces or grant autonomy (affects manpower and stability).

4. **Religious Settlement:** appease the Council of Scholars for stability or push secular reforms (opens social welfare techs).
5. **Oil & Resource Policy:** nationalize oil, create concessions, or invite foreign development (affects strategic resources and trade relations).

Each branch should have meaningful tradeoffs: security vs. modernization; revenue vs. independence; centralization vs. local autonomy.