

Sometime in the early 21st century (but not in the last ten years), the core area of a post-fascist Europe that won WWII, forcibly assimilated most of western Afro-Eurasia, and evolved into an industrialized, spacefaring superpower was ISOTed to OTL. The transferred area was 'copied and pasted' from its original timeline to OTL; the displaced portion was sent to an uninhabited Earth-like world. The ISOT area included continental Europe west of Russia (with East Karelia, part of the Rostov Oblast, and the Kuban); southern Caucasus; North Africa; and most of the Middle East (Anatolia, the Levant, Mesopotamia, northwestern Iran, Khuzestan, and Eastern Arabia). The Event also caused an uncanny wave of cosmic energies that made a few important reality changes in other areas of the world to make them more similar to the other timeline.

The vast majority of the ISOT area belonged to the European Empire, a post-fascist and federal equivalent of the EU. It also included an equivalent of Greater Israel (with no Arab/Muslim population) in former Mandatory Palestine.

In the original timeline, early occurrence and a different course and outcome of WWI and the Soviet Revolutionary Wars as well as a more aggressive Comintern caused continental Europe west of the Soviet bloc to unite in a federal EU equivalent in the early 20th century. The European peoples came to accept a Pan-European identity that was superposed on the national and regional ones. Later an equivalent of the Great Depression made the EU experience a fascist regime change that turned it into the European Empire. These circumstances drove European fascism to experience a few important changes in its ideology and policies.

It embraced Pan-European nationalism instead of the ethnic ones and took a more pragmatic and inclusive character. It became able to welcome friendly Eastern European and MENA people in its in-group if they accepted collaboration and assimilation in the new order. It was opportunistically willing to leave the Jews alone and support their Zionist project if they stayed friendly. It came to regard Asians and Latinos as honorary Whites, esp. if they were Westernized, fair-skinned, and not loyal to Muslim religion and culture.

It refocused its genocidal hate against political opponents, hostile nationalists, the Communists, disabled people, the Blacks, diehard Arabs/Muslims, and the Roma. It stayed a sworn enemy of the USSR and strived to absorb the Soviet space but refocused its Lebensraum colonization projects on MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa. The fascists' grand plan was to unite Europe, destroy the USSR and the British Empire, assimilate the British Isles, Russia, and MENA, and turn Sub-Saharan Africa into a settler colony.

Parallel changes arising from the same or similar factors occurred in the rest of the world too. Canada, Australia, and New Zealand broke away from the British Empire in a political backlash to WWI and merged with the USA. This precedent combined with various other factors (the Mexican Revolution causing a 2nd Mexican-American War, the Banana Wars, political instability in Latin America) prompted the USA to annex the rest of North America and northern South America. The enlarged USA settled the legacy of slavery and the segregation issue by transferring the Black minority to West Africa. Greater Liberia arose across southern West Africa to absorb them. In a

similar way, the Aboriginal Australians were transferred to Melanesia. The African-Americans were replaced by an increased number of European, Asian, and Latin American immigrants and their descendants. No legal limitations were established for this kind of immigration. The peoples of North America and Australasia accepted a Pan-American identity that was superposed on the regional ones. They embraced a positive attitude towards non-WASP people except the Blacks.

Japan achieved an effective political, cultural, and socio-economic fusion with Korea and Taiwan. The Japanese-Korean Empire annexed and thoroughly colonized Sakhalin/Karafuto, Greater Manchuria, and Hainan. Southeast Asia (except the US Philippines) broke away from European colonial domination thanks to the turmoil in Europe and with Japanese support. It achieved independence as a set of client states of Japan-Korea that were bound to it in a Pan-Asian union, the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

The USSR annexed Finland, the Baltic states, part of Eastern Europe, northwestern Iran, Greater Mongolia, and Xinjiang. It set up the Balkans (bound in a federation), Turkey, Iran, and North China as Communist client states. The British Empire took over the rest of the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa. Fascist Europe kept control of Northwest Africa. South Africa annexed the rest of Southern Africa. When Europe went fascist, Greater South Africa experienced a similar regime change and switched its allegiance to the EE, first as a client state, later with a full political merger. The fascists started to implement their colonization plans in the African territories they controlled.

An equivalent of WWII took place between the Axis alliance (the EE and Japan-Korea) and an awkward Allies coalition (Britain, the USSR, and their clients). The Axis reaped a decisive victory and conquered most of Afro-Eurasia. It went out of its way to avoid picking an unnecessary fight with America. Nonetheless, the USA made a limited intervention that prevented the Axis conquest of the British Isles and India. This kept those areas aligned to the abhorring Western bloc. However, the Americans were not interested in picking a costly, unprovoked, and likely futile fight with the Axis to try and contest its control of most of Afro-Eurasia. A Cold War between the American and Axis blocs ensued.

The Axis powers partitioned Afro-Eurasia. The EE implemented forced assimilation of Russia, Central Asia, and most of MENA. Collaborationist Russians, Central Asians, North Africans, and Middle Easterners were absorbed in Greater Europe. Nationalist and ideological opponents as well as diehard Muslims were exterminated or deported. A few areas of perceived low value (northern West Africa, most of Arabia, Greater Afghanistan) were left alone and carved out as dumping grounds for surviving diehard Muslims. Much the same way, the EE took over and colonized most of Sub-Saharan Africa. The African natives were first enslaved and ruthlessly exploited, then exterminated or deported and replaced with European settlers. West Africa was left alone, part to function as a dumping ground for surviving Blacks and diehard Muslims, part to ensure the security of Greater Liberia in a deal with America.

The European fascists were content to deal with the Jews in a mutually satisfactory way by letting them have their own Zionist homeland and transferring the entire European Jew population in it, as

long as they stayed friendly to the Axis hegemony. With the vast majority of western Afro-Eurasia as its colonial playground, fascist Europe was not bothered by carving out a piece of not-so-great value to be the Zionist homeland and keep it as an autonomous client state. They agreed to let it be established in former Mandatory Palestine where the Zionist settlers had already done some serious colonization work before the war. The Arab/Muslim population was removed.

The Cold War between the American and Axis blocs unfolded. Over time, the flaws of the fascist system, the constraints of the Cold War, and the pressure of socio-economic and technological progress eventually forced Europe to implement a series of important political and economic reforms. These reforms allowed an important degree of liberalization and established a multi-party system. They made Europe evolve into a hybrid authoritarian-democratic system that political scholars might variously label 'illiberal' or 'partial' democracy, as well as 'competitive' authoritarianism. There also was a series of economic reforms that reduced state intervention in the economy and toned down the levels of (but not entirely rooted out) corruption and cronyism. These reforms allowed the EE to become as prosperous and efficient as OTL modern China.

These factors combined to ensure a stabilization of the new status quo that defused any potential revolutionary crisis. European citizens still had reasons to complain about corruption and cronyism, which remained chronic problems to a degree. However, liberalization, economic prosperity, and widespread patriotic pride for the achievements and superpower status of the EE ensured stabilization of the new status quo. In these circumstances, the ruling elites enjoyed a sufficient degree of genuine popular support to stay in power without much need for coercion.

The EE was a semi-presidential federation. Its political system included a President and a legislative lower chamber elected by the European people, a Cabinet nominated by the President and approved by the lower chamber, and an upper chamber elected by the various member states, regions, and organized sections of the European population such as labor unions and agricultural, business, and professional associations. The national constitutions of the various member states were usually based on a similar model. Multi-party elections regularly occurred for those bodies; they were sufficiently competitive and 'free and fair' for supporters of the system and its moderate reform-minded critics, not really so for radical opponents. Passive electorate was subject to meritocratic constraints and reserved to people who somehow distinguished themselves in various fields.

In practice, the ruling elites had an oligarchic character and still enjoyed a wide degree of influence over the media, the economy, the civil service, and the security forces. Incumbents were often able to exploit these advantages to perpetuate themselves into power for a good while, at least until age, poor health, political fatigue, power struggles, or declining success and popularity forced a change.

Loyal European citizens enjoyed a degree of civil liberties and political rights that was not too

different from their counterparts in the Western democracies, as long as their actions did not threaten state security or the vital interests of the rulers. If they did, the regime was able to use red tape, economic pressure, and targeted law enforcement to harass and silence its radical critics. Non-governmental organizations and political movements might be crushed by onerous regulations or even suffer a ban under various pretexts. Security forces retained a wide degree of legal leeway and ability to curb civil liberties in the name of 'national security', with limited civilian oversight. However, media, unions, political movements, NGOs, and academia that did not set themselves in radical opposition to the regime were generally able to enjoy a good degree of autonomy.

As it concerned the European party system, it was mostly structured in a three-party model and wholly adapted to work within a Pan-European framework. The dominant faction was the European People's Party, a center-right organization that advocated Pan-European nationalism, meritocracy, ruthless defense of European security, moderate social conservatism, pragmatic environmentalism, and a welfare-state mixed economy. The Fatherland Party included far-right conservatives and nostalgic 'true believers' of the old fascist system. The Rainbow Alliance was an umbrella group of centrist and center-left reformist movements (in this timeline, the rainbow never became a LGBTQ symbol).

As it concerned personal civil and social liberties, the most striking differences with the Western democracies involved the reproductive, euthanasia, and lifestyle laws. Behind a facade of voluntary choice, these laws in practice mandated the abortion or suppression of children and adults with serious genetic diseases or physical and mental disabilities. The main exception involved disabilities incurred for a 'meritorious' cause, such as military service or work-related injuries and illnesses, which got full welfare support barring the most extreme cases. There also were substantial legal and social penalties for people that made themselves a 'burden' to society through obesity, smoking, alcoholism, substance abuse, and other 'unhealthy' lifestyles, as well as environmentally unfriendly habits.

Much the same way, the state harshly discriminated and persecuted LGBTQ people and the minority was subject to widespread social ostracism. As a rule, and in practice, coming out, male or exclusive homosexuality, advocacy of LGBTQ rights, effeminacy, obvious queerness, and serious violations of gender norms brought much worse retaliation than staying in the closet, bisexuality, being able to pass as cis het, and laying low. European society typically regarded homosexuality, addiction, and unhealthy lifestyles as harmful conditions that were half a disease, half a vice or habit. Therefore, it tried hard to suppress and uproot them by a mix of medical and law enforcement means.

European society had evolved to acknowledge the value of gender equality and sexual freedom for heterosexuals, and grant them a similar degree of legal protection and social support as in Western industrialized countries. Industrialization, affluence, and natalist policies drove irresistible social

trends that made legal and social emancipation of women, their widespread employment, and cishet sexual liberation necessary and inevitable. Past a point, dominant social values and state ideology adapted to cope by acknowledging them as beneficial. On the other hand, society upheld and cherished traditional masculine values and did not suffer an ideological critique of them. Therefore, there was very little sympathy or tolerance for radical feminism.

As a rule, European society loathed moralistic sentimentalism, cared little for equality for its own sake, and regarded properly applied brutality and ruthlessness as values. It cherished efficiency, meritocracy, unity of the people, and a well-ordered, peaceful society. Its ideal for individuals concerned a harmonious blend of intellectual and physical prowess. Therefore, it valued and promoted equality of opportunity and collective solidarity to a serious degree, including an efficient and extensive welfare state for citizens that made a valuable contribution to society. On the other hand, the reproductive, euthanasia, and lifestyle laws carried a strong degree of genuine popular support.

The vast majority of the European public did not regard them as oppressive, since they reflected values that over time had become ingrained in European society. In recent years, progress of biotechnologies had been providing more and more effective alternative ways of dealing with genetic and health problems. Therefore, it seemed that the need for the most brutal remedies in order to safeguard the cherished eugenic strength of the European people might gradually fade away. Much the same way, there was widespread expectation that similar means might also allow eradication of the LGBTQ ‘problem’.

As it concerned the past, modern European society expressed a solid majority consensus in favor of the benefits of increased freedom and against what it came to regard as the negative aspects of the fascist system: corruption, cronyism, lack of civil liberties, totalitarian control, and state intrusion in personal life. On the other hand, there also was widespread gratitude and patriotic pride for the rise of Greater Europe as a strong and united multi-continental superpower and the other accomplishments of fascism. One might expect the average European to be defiantly apologetic and unrepentant about historical events that in hindsight seemed necessary to unite and expand Greater Europe, protect its security, and establish its superpower status. There was very little patience or tolerance for arguments that dared to question the political legitimacy of the EE or the validity of its borders due to the past atrocities of fascism. Europeans usually answered such arguments with cynical remarks about the inevitability of Darwinist competition between different civilizations throughout history, the sorry fate of losers in similar past events, and the hypocrisy of the Western powers.

Denial was a frequent stance: the Europeans often denied or minimized the occurrence of outright, purposeful mass exterminations, and justified undeniable population losses for ‘undesirables’ as the side effects of poor living conditions, counterinsurgency policies, or the hardships involved in the

deportation process. They also exaggerated the amount of assimilation and deportations that had taken place. There was an extremely prejudiced attitude about pious Muslims. Europeans regarded their hostile attitude and past refusal of assimilation for the sake of loyalty to their culture and religion as a hallmark of irredeemable degeneracy and dangerous fanaticism. They deemed such people as rabid and backstabbing zealots that were the dregs of their respective ethnicities and deserved whatever happened to them.

Much the same way, decades of racist propaganda, pop culture, and education based on falsified science made Europeans thoroughly persuaded that the Blacks were subhuman and dangerous savages that only truly belonged in bondage, reservations, or a grave. They usually justified any undeniable achievement of Black people that exceeded expectations as the result of miscegenation with, or dominant influence of, superior ethnicities. They assumed that such factors typically made the 'hybrids' much more cunning and devious, but no less dangerous.

Europeans usually took the sorry state of post-colonial African and Islamic lands and the hostile attitude of their inhabitants as justification and confirmation of their prejudices. As a rule, they willfully ignored or disregarded any role of past European colonialism and its atrocities in causing these events. Of course, foreign Blacks, religious Muslims, LGBTQ people, addicts, and obese or disabled people (except for 'meritorious' causes) were not welcome in Europe barring exceptional circumstances. Unauthorized trespassing of 'undesirables' in European territory brought extremely harsh punishment. Europeans traveling abroad went out of their way to avoid dealing with them and often had serious difficulties to contain their prejudices for the sake of expediency. When contact was truly necessary, especially trained personnel typically handled it.

Besides the coming of Greater Europe, the Event also caused a few important reality changes in the rest of the world. North America, northern South America, and Australasia merged in a Pan-American union that was based on the US system with a few constitutional and statutory tweaks. Socio-economic and infrastructure differences between the various sections of the new union were smoothed out. This also included the Nicaragua Canal being built and the Panama Canal getting expanded. Any significant nationalist opposition to the new status quo vanished. The vast majority of the population of North America and Australasia accepted a Pan-American identity that was superposed on the national and regional ones. They also embraced a positive attitude towards non-WASP people except the Blacks. The Canadian provinces (except PEI that merged with NS), the Australian states, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Territory (thanks to a population boost) became US states. The Hispanic section was reorganized in a suitable number of US states to fit in a North American union.

The African diaspora in the enlarged USA was transferred to Sub-Saharan Africa. In a similar way, the Aboriginal Australians were transferred to Melanesia. The African-Americans were replaced by an increased number of European, Asian, and Latin American immigrants and their descendants.

US history was retconned to justify these changes retroactively. E.g. it established that the Blacks had been sent to Africa sometime between the Reconstruction and the early 20th century, and the Great Migration and the civil rights movement had never taken place.

Much the same way, Japan, reunified Korea, Taiwan, and Hainan merged in an East Asian federation. The vast majority of the population of these areas embraced a Pan-Asian identity that was superposed on the national and regional ones. Socio-economic and infrastructure differences between the various sections of the new union as well as the effects of Communist rule in certain areas were smoothed out. The peoples of the new union dropped any attachment to hostile nationalist grievances with each other. East Asian history was retconned to justify these changes retroactively. Russia reabsorbed the Central Asian states in a Eurasian union it dominated. Th

The technological level of the EE was broadly similar to the OTL developed countries in many fields, with the main exception of space, energy, and biological technologies, where they were substantially better than OTL. The EE had several stations in Earth orbit and the Lagrange points, as well as several bases on the Moon, on Mars, in the asteroid belt, and in the upper atmosphere of Venus. These assets got included in the ISOT. Uptime powers had mastered nuclear pulse propulsion as a quick and efficient means of interplanetary travel. Uptime technological development included the creation by the two superpowers and their great power allies of an efficient missile defense system.

As it concerned human biotechnologies, they had achieved efficient control of metabolism and hibernation, across-the-board progress in drugs, viable cloning and xenotransplantation, significant advances in tissue and organ regeneration as well as life extension. Embryonic selection and germline genetic engineering had developed to the point where they can uproot many genetic disorders as well as select and enhance various desirable traits in the germline. In the energy field, they had made significant advances in 'green' and nuclear technologies, and, in all likelihood, they were relatively close to achieving fusion power. These achievements enabled the EE to be basically independent from fossil fuels for its energy needs, thanks to a combo of renewable energy sources, nuclear power, energy efficiency, recycling, public transport, and electric vehicles.

The reality-change wave allowed the USA and the EAU (but not other downtime powers) to get the same technological assets as the EE. This included both powers getting energy independence from fossil fuels and a missile defense system, as well as America getting the same space assets as Europe. US history was retconned to establish that America had never let its engagement in the space race lapse, had developed a missile defense system during the Cold War, and had made massive investments for energy independence after the 1970s oil crises. The USSR had failed to keep the pace with these developments.