



Making of the Modern World 122



Lecture #5: Ism, Ism, Ism

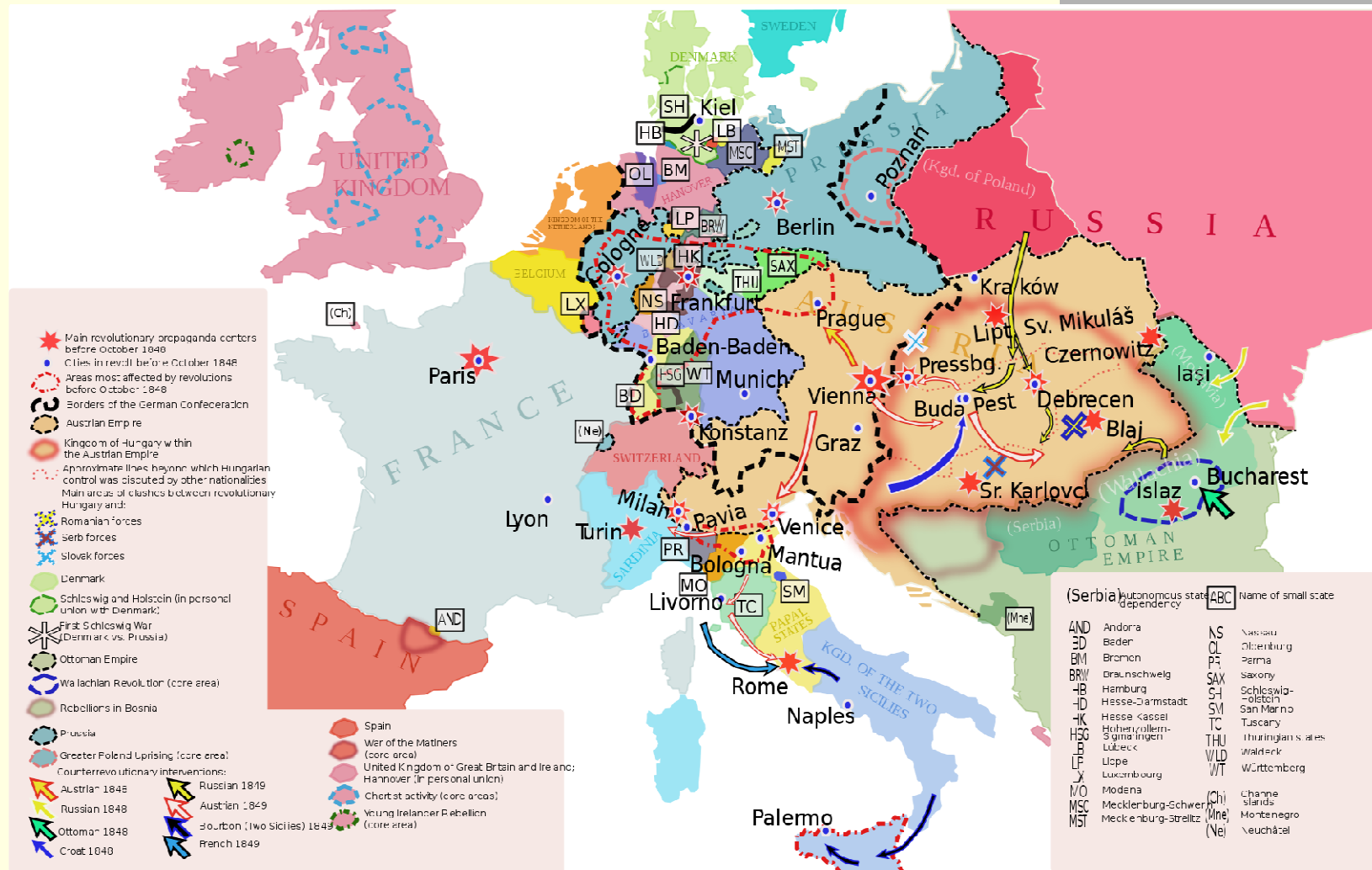
Europe in 1800



Europe in 1900



1848



France



Poland



Britain



Germany



Conflicts in Europe

- National Conflicts
- Social Conflicts
- Imperial Conflicts

Nationalism

- Political ideology that identifies with a “nation” above other forms of political identification.

What is a nation?

- The product of:
 - Ethnicity
 - History
 - Language
 - Culture
 - Food
 - Mythology
- According to Benedict Anderson it is an “imagined community”

Imagined Communities

- "an imagined political community - and imagined as both inherently limited and sovereign"
- A community not based on face-to-face contact but socially constructed in a mental image
- The modern media, print culture, and capitalism largely responsible for this phenomenon.
- Also, romantic attachment to history and "the people"

German Unification

German Unification



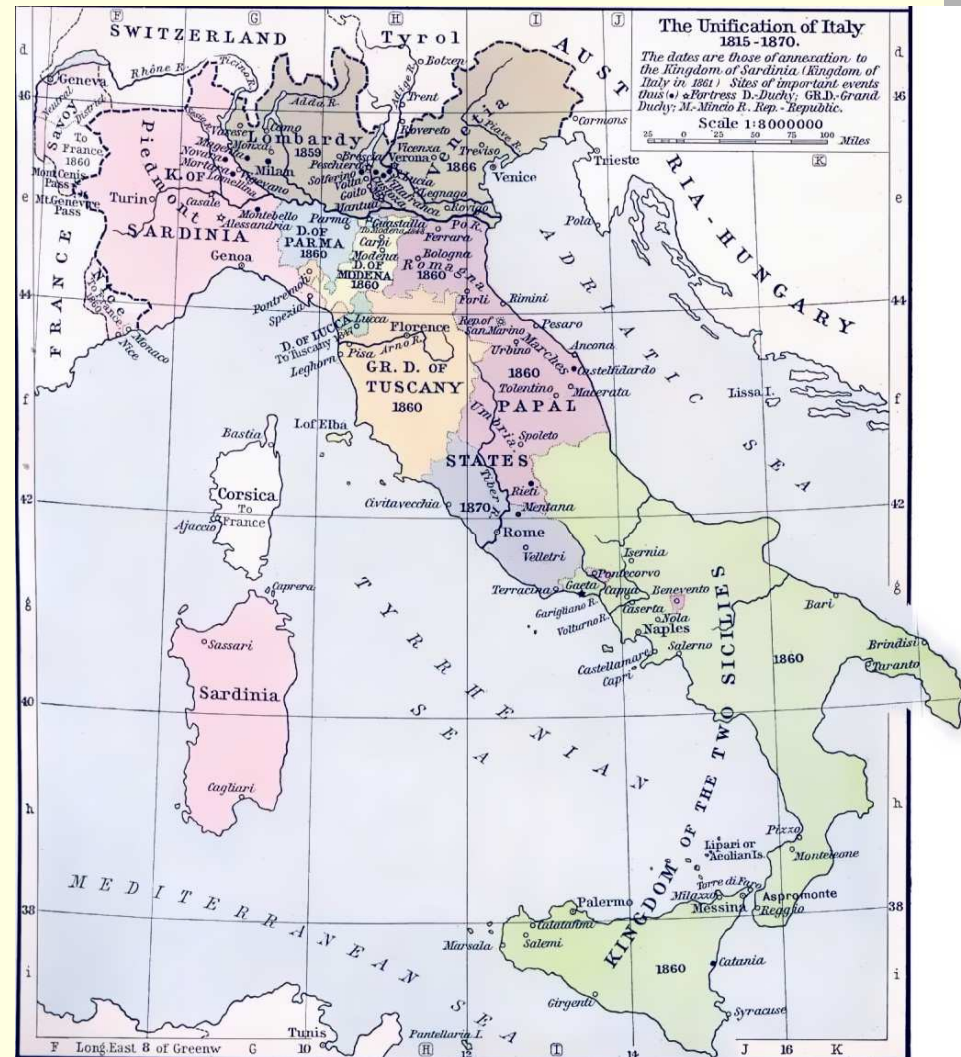
German Unification



German Unification



Italian Unification



Italian Unification



■ Giuseppe Mazzini

Italian Unification



The Script of Nationality

- What does it mean to be an American?

“It is peculiarly easy to become an American. The adjective provides no reliable information about the origins, histories, connections, or cultures of those whom it designates.”

-Michael Walzer

- Who is in and who is out?

The American Script



The American Script



The Script of Anti-Semitism

- Religious
- Economic
- National
- Racial

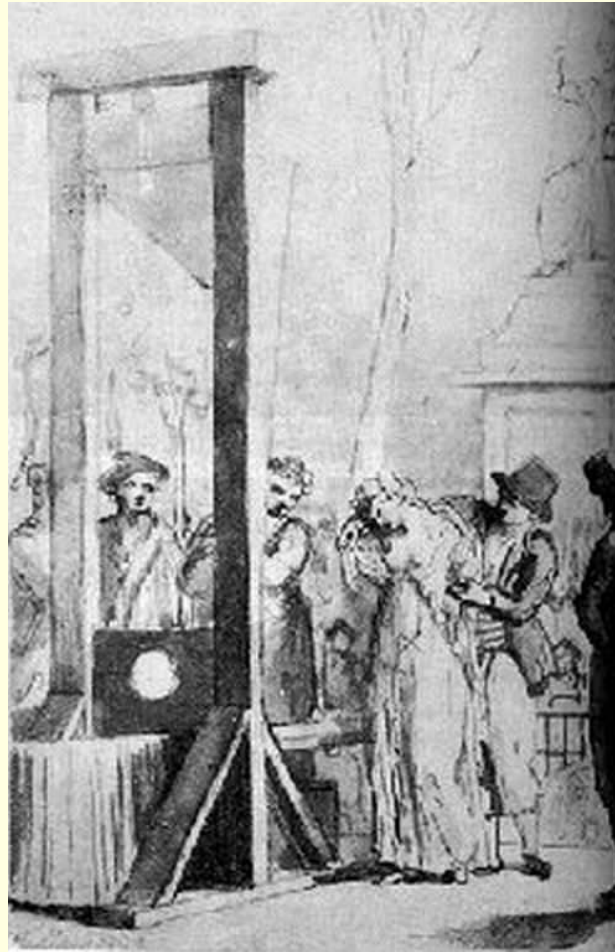
- The Pogroms of 1848

Olympe de Gouges



- 1748-1793
- *Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen* (1791)
- Killed by guillotine in 1793 because of criticism of Robespierre

Guillotined



Declaration of the Rights of Woman

“This revolution will only take effect when all women become fully aware of their deplorable condition, and of the rights they have lost in society”

“Women have the right to mount the scaffold, they must also have the right to mount the speaker’s rostrum”

Mary Wollstonecraft



- 1759-1797
- British writer and advocate of women's rights
- *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792)
- Argues that women are not naturally inferior to men, but their treatment makes them so.

Vindications of the Rights of Women

- Axioms:

- Reason is responsible for “man’s pre-eminence over the brute creation.”
- Virtue exalts one being above another.
- Knowledge arises from man’s struggle with passions.

- Prejudice is the enemy of reason.

- “despotic ladies”

Vindication of the Rights of Woman

- Any system based on subordination of rank is injurious to morality.
- Reason is perfectible.
- Wollstonecraft's view of human nature is taken from Locke:
 - Reason is the great equalizer among people
 - Knowledge comes from generalizations based on observation.
- The power to attain knowledge has been wrongly denied to women.

First Wave of Feminism

- 1848~1915
- Seneca Falls Convention
- Focused on *de jure* inequalities
- Seeking formal equality before the law:
 - Vote
 - Contract
 - Property
 - Legal Recognition
- Culmination is the 19th Amendment

Seneca Falls Convention



- July 19-20, 1848 at Seneca Falls, NY
- Begun by women excluded from anti-slavery convention
- Foundational moment in movement for women's suffrage

The Declaration of Sentiments

- “When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one portion of the family of man to assume among the people of the earth a position different from that which they have hitherto occupied, but one to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes that impel them to such a course.”

The Declaration of Sentiments

- “We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal;...”
- “The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world. ”

Grievances

- He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise.
- He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she had no voice
- Having deprived her of this first right as a citizen, the elective franchise, thereby leaving her without representation in the halls of legislation, he has oppressed her on all sides.
- He has made her, if married, in the eye of the law, civilly dead.
- He has taken from her all right in property, even to the wages she earns.

Grievances

- He has made her morally, an irresponsible being, as she can commit many crimes with impunity, provided they be done in the presence of her husband. In the covenant of marriage, she is compelled to promise obedience to her husband, he becoming, to all intents and purposes, her master – the law giving him power to deprive her of her liberty, and to administer chastisement.
- After depriving her of all rights as a married woman, if single and the owner of property, he has taxed her to support a government which recognizes her only when her property can be made profitable to it.

Grievances

- He has usurped the prerogative of Jehovah himself, claiming it as his right to assign for her a sphere of action, when that belongs to her conscience and her God.
- He has endeavored, in every way that he could to destroy her confidence in her own powers, to lessen her self-respect, and to make her willing to lead a dependent and abject life.

19th Amendment

- “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

-The Constitution of the United States

- Ratified on August 18th, 1920

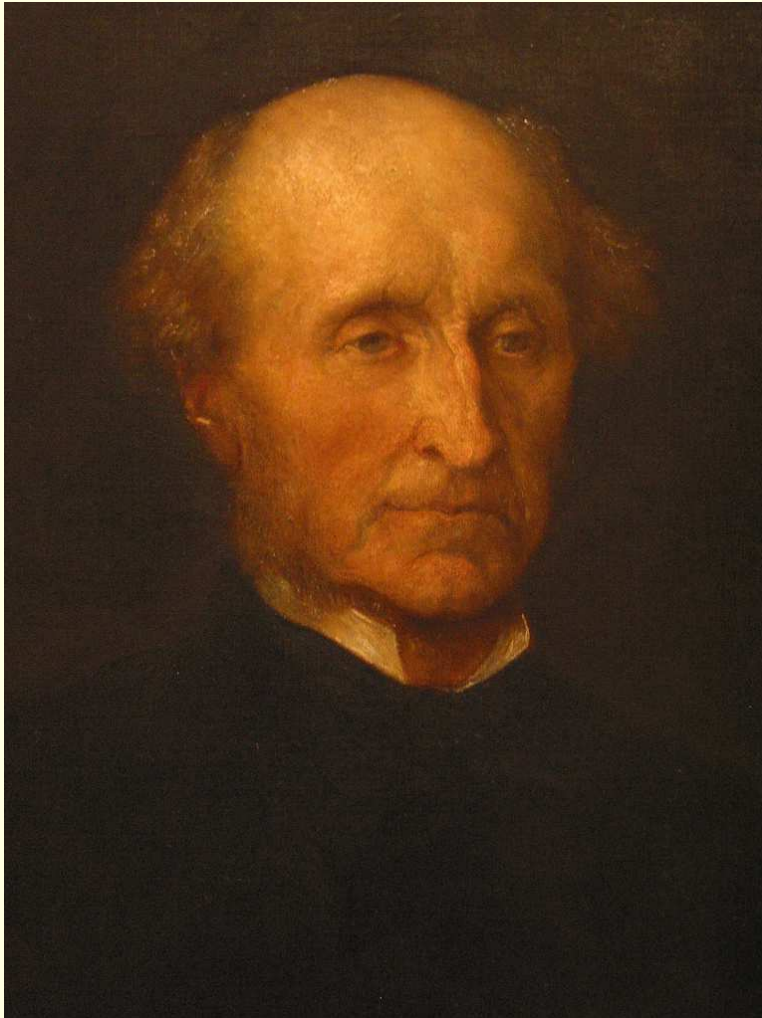
Views of the 1st Wave

- Women have “a higher and holier mission” in the home.
 - And outside of politics & economy
- “man-hating, embittered, sex-starved spinsters... castrating, unsexed non-women who burned with such envy for the male organ that they wanted to take it away from all men, or destroy them, demanding rights only because they lacked the power to love as women.”

A False Choice

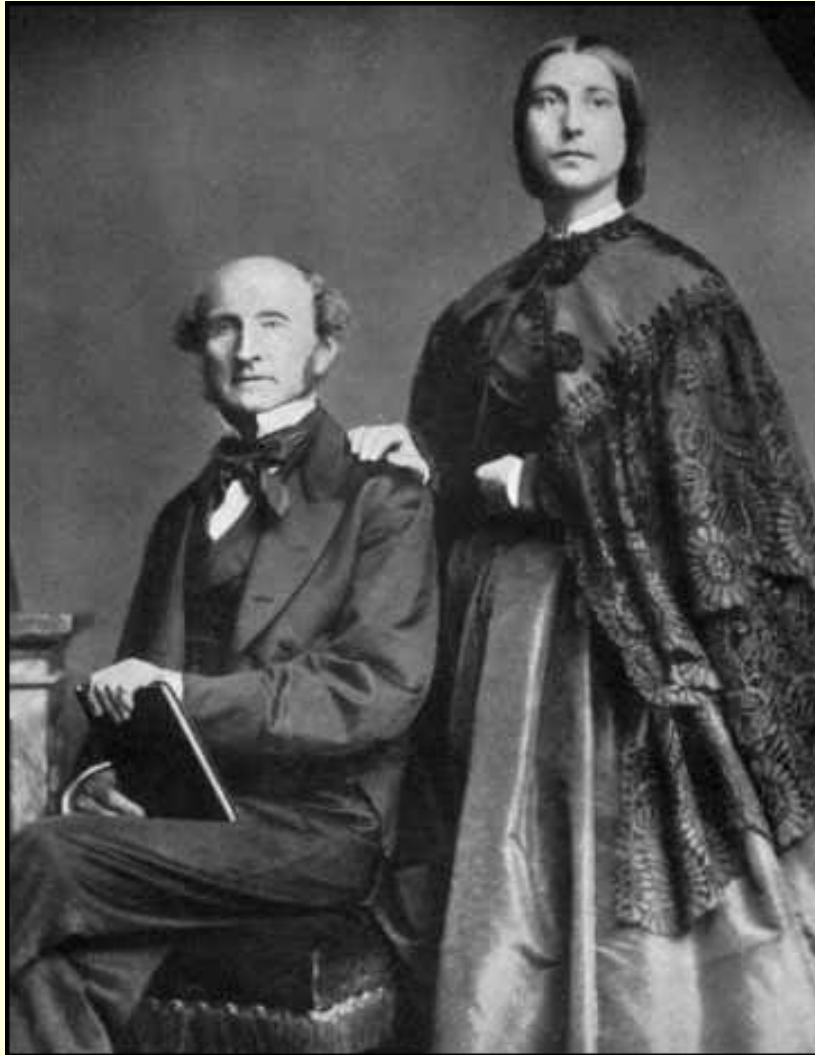
- Later generations of women abandoned the first wave of feminism, “But what choice were they offered? In that corner, the fiery, man-eating feminist, the career woman—loveless, alone. In this corner, the gentle wife and mother—loved and protected by her husband, surrounded by her adoring children.”

John Stuart Mill



- 1806-1873
- English philosopher and economist
- Marries Harriet Taylor in 1851
- *On Liberty* (1859)
- *The Subjection of Women* (1869)
- Was the first person in Parliament to call for women's right to vote

Harriet Taylor Mill



Ca. 1834

The Subjection of Women

- “That the principle which regulates the existing social relations between the two sexes—the legal subordination of one sex to the other—is wrong in itself, and now one of the chief hindrances to human improvement; and that it ought to be replaced by a principle of perfect equality, admitting no power or privilege on the one side, nor disability on the other.”

-John Stuart Mill

On Liberty

- Things to understand about *On Liberty*
 - Tyranny of the Majority
 - Harm Principle
 - Paternalism
 - Free Speech and Discussion

The Tyranny of the Majority

- “And in general, those who have been in advance of society in thought and feeling, have left this condition of things unassailed in principle, however they may have come into conflict with it in some of its details. They have occupied themselves rather in inquiring what things society ought to like or dislike, than in questioning whether its likings or dislikings should be a law to individuals.”

Freedom of Thought and Discussion

- Why free thought, speech, and discussion:
 - Humans can be wrong. Free speech can correct that.
 - Mostly false beliefs can have a grain of truth.
 - Discussion of even falsehoods forces people to justify rather than accept dogma
 - Dissent encourages critical thinking and individuality.

Human Nature

- “Human nature is not a machine to be built after a model, and set to do exactly the work prescribed for it, but a tree, which requires to grow and develop itself on all sides, according to the tendency of the inward forces which make it a living thing.”

-John Stuart Mill

Romantic Liberalism



“Out of the crooked timber of humanity...”



The Harm Principle

- “...the only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient warrant. He cannot rightfully be compelled to do or forbear because it will be better for him to do so, because it will make him happier, because, in the opinions of others, to do so would be wise, or even right.”

-John Stuart Mill

Individuals create Society

- “The worth of a State, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it;... a State which dwarfs its men, in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands even for beneficial purposes—will find that with small men no great thing can really be accomplished; and that the perfection of machinery to which it has sacrificed everything will in the end avail it nothing, for want of the vital power which, in order that the machine might work more smoothly, it has preferred to banish.”

-John Stuart Mill