

Key individuals



Kaiser Wilhelm II

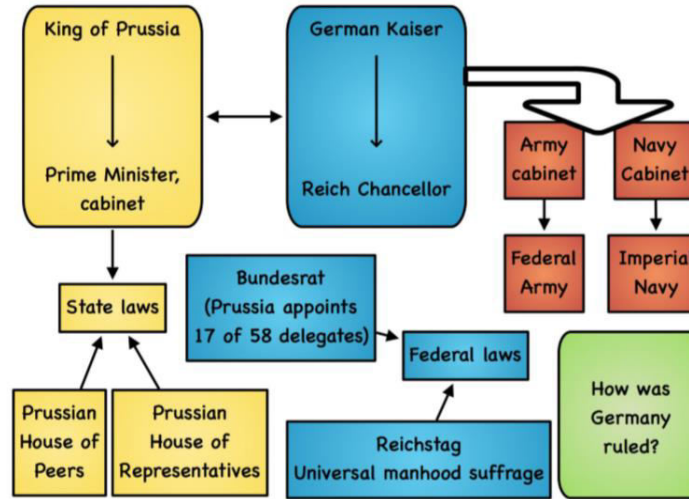


Friedrich Ebert

Life in Germany

- Industrialisation took place rapidly.
- By 1913 Germany was producing more iron and steel and as much coal as Britain.
- They dominated the European electrical and chemical market.
- Workers were unhappy and joined trade unions to improve their conditions.
- This led to the growth of a new political party called the SPD.

How was Germany governed?



'A place in the sun'

- The Kaiser wanted an empire to rival that of Britain's and this was known as Weltpolitik or world policy.
- The Kaiser believed in the power of the military and usually wore uniform.
- The empire included Togo, Camerouns, East Africa and South West Africa.
- To protect the empire the Kaiser wanted a navy the size of Britain's. He introduced a series of Naval Laws to expand the navy and the army grew too. It was 5 million men by 1914.

Key dates

18th Jan 1871	Germany is created
1888	The 29 year old Wilhelm became Kaiser
1898 - 1912	Naval Laws increased spending to expand the Navy
1914	August, WW1 began
28/10/18	German naval mutiny at Kiel
9/11/18	Kaiser Wilhelm abdicated
11/11/18	Germany surrendered ending WW1

KEY VOCABULARY/ TERMS

Kaiser, militarism, Bundesrat, Chancellor, Reichstag, industrialisation, trade union, SPD - Social Democratic Party, socialism, Weltpolitik, patriotic, mutiny, abdicate, November Criminals