

TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND WOODROW WILSON'S 14 POINTS

Treaty of Versailles (1919)

Main Provisions:

1. War guilt clause: Germany accepted responsibility.
2. Reparations: Germany paid significant damages (\$33 billion).
3. Territorial changes: Redrew European borders.
4. Military limitations: Germany's military reduced.
5. League of Nations: Established to prevent future wars.

Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points (1918)

Principles:

1. No more secret treaties.
2. Freedom of the seas.
3. Removal of economic barriers.
4. Reduction of armaments.
5. Self-determination for nations.

Specific Points:

1. Evacuation of occupied territories.
2. Restoration of Belgium.
3. Return of French territories.
4. Italian borders adjusted.
5. Autonomous development for Austro-Hungarian peoples.
6. Romania, Serbia, and Montenegro granted independence.
7. Ottoman Empire's Turkish territories secure.
8. Poland's independence recognized.
9. League of Nations established.

Influence and Impact:

1. Shaped Treaty of Versailles.
2. Inspired international cooperation.
3. Failed to prevent future wars (WWII).
4. Led to formation of League of Nations.
5. Influenced United Nations Charter.

Criticisms and Controversies:

1. Punitive measures against Germany.
2. Failure to address colonial claims.
3. Inequitable treatment of nations.
4. Idealistic vs. practical approach.
5. Wilson's health issues during negotiations.

Key Players:

1. Woodrow Wilson (USA)
2. David Lloyd George (UK)
3. Georges Clemenceau (France)
4. Vittorio Orlando (Italy)

Legacy:

1. Reorganization of Europe.
2. Rise of international organizations.
3. Precursor to United Nations.
4. Shaped modern international relations.
5. Continues to influence global politics.