Treaties shaping South East Europe and Middle East after the end of WWI

Treaty of Sevres Treaty of Lausanne



Collaborative presentation by students
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Treaty of Sevres August 10th 1920

- The Treaty of Sèvres was signed after more than fifteen months were spent on drawing it up. Great Britain, Italy and France signed it for the victorious Allies. Russia was excluded from the process and by 1920 America had withdrawn into a policy of isolation.
- A treaty, part of the Versailles Peace Settlement, signed between the Allies and Turkey, effectively marking the end of the Ottoman empire and making new arrangements in the so called Middle East.
- The terms of the Treaty of Sèvres were harsh and many in the Ottoman Empire were left angered and embittered by their treatment.



- Adrianople and most of the hinterland to Constantinople (now Istanbul) was returned to Greece
- the Bosporus was internationalized and demilitarized
- a short-lived independent Armenia was created
- Syria became a French mandate
- and Britain accepted the mandate for Iraq, Palestine, and Transjordan.

- Smyrna was put under effective control of Greece while technically remaining within the Ottoman Empire. The people of Smyrna, who were Greeks by great majority, were given the chance of a plebiscite on whether they wished to join Greece as opposed to remaining in the Ottoman Empire. This plebiscite would be overseen by the League of Nations.
- Greece was also given Thrace.
- The Dodecanese Islands were formally handed over to Italy who was also given influence in the coastal region of Anatolia.

- Like the other defeated Central Powers, the Ottoman Empire had military restrictions imposed on it. The Ottoman Army was limited to 50,000 men. An air force was forbidden and the navy was limited to thirteen boats - six schooners and seven torpedo boats. The Treaty of Sèvres also contained clauses that allowed the Allies to supervise these military terms.
- The treaty was rejected by a rebellion by the Turkish nationalist leader Mustafa Kemal.

Treaty of Lausanne July 24th 1923

- The final treaty concluding World War I. It was signed by representatives of Turkey (successor to the Ottoman Empire) on one side and by Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Greece, Romania, and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (Yugoslavia) on the other.
- The Treaty of Lausanne led to the international recognition of the sovereignty of the new Republic of Turkey as the successor state of the Ottoman Empire. after the success of Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) in the Graeco-Turkish War (1921–2). As result of the Treaty, the Ottoman public debt was divided between Turkey and the countries which emerged from the former Ottoman Empire.

Conventions and Protocols

- Kurdistan lost its autonomy
- Turkey's reconquest of Armenia was confirmed
- Turkey accepted that Palestine and Syria were to be mandated to Britain and France
- Italy was confirmed in the Dodecanese
- Britain took rule in Cyprus

- Greece had to surrender Smyrna (Izmir) and eastern
 Thrace, including Adrianople (Edirne).
- The Aegean islands except Imbros and Tenedos remained under Greek sovereignty
- The Dardanelles remained demilitarized and open to shipping, as supervised by a League of Nations Commission.
- The final settlement of the Turkish-Greek border resulted in a large refugee crisis, as over one million Greeks were forced to leave Turkey (mainly from Smyrna), while some 350,000 Moslems were forced to leave Greece

