

Prescribed subject 1: Peacemaking, peacekeeping—international relations 1918-36

This prescribed subject addresses international relations from 1918 to 1936 with emphasis on the Paris Peace Settlement—its making, impact and problems of enforcement—and attempts during the period to promote collective security and international cooperation through the League of Nations and multilateral agreements (outside the League mechanism), arms reduction and the pursuit of foreign policy goals without resort to violence. The prescribed subject also requires consideration of the extent to which the aims of peacemakers and peacekeepers were realized and the obstacles to success.

Areas on which the source-based questions will focus are:

- **aims** of the participants and peacemakers: **Wilson and the Fourteen Points**
- **terms of the Paris Peace Treaties 1919-20**: Versailles, St Germain, Trianon, Neuilly, Sèvres/Lausanne 1923
- the geopolitical and economic **impact of the treaties** on Europe; the establishment and **impact of the mandate system**
- **enforcement** of the provisions of the treaties: US isolationism—the retreat from the Anglo-American Guarantee; disarmament—Washington, London, Geneva conferences
- **the League of Nations**: effects of the absence of major powers; the principle of collective security and early attempts at peacekeeping (1920-5)
- the **Ruhr Crisis** (1923); Locarno and the **“Locarno Spring”** (1925)
- **Depression** and **threats to international peace** and collective security: Manchuria (1931-3) and Abyssinia (1935-6).

8. Interwar years: conflict and cooperation 1919 - 39

This section deals with the period between the two World Wars and the attempts to promote international cooperation and collective security. Obstacles to cooperation, such as post-war revisionism, economic crises and challenges to democracy and political legitimacy in Italy, Germany and Spain respectively, all require examination and consideration. The policies of the right-wing regimes and the responses of democratic states are also the focus of this section.

- **Germany 1919-33:** political, constitutional, economic, financial and social problems
- **Italy 1919-39:** Mussolini's domestic and foreign policies
- The impact of the **Great Depression** (case study of its effect on one country in Europe)
- **Spanish Civil War:** background to the outbreak of the Civil War; causes and consequences; foreign involvement; reasons for Nationalist victory
- **Hitler's domestic and foreign policy (1933-39)**
- Search for **collective security; appeasement in the interwar years;** the failure of international diplomacy; the outbreak of war in 1939