



Imperialism and World War I

It is generally understood that one of the primary causes of World War I was the widespread imperialism of the time. Many countries were seeking to expand their influence and power by taking over other countries. France and Britain already had large empires. Germany and Russia wanted large empires as well, so imperialistic motives caused both competition and conflict between all these countries, who did not trust each other. Choose one of the countries that eventually became involved in World War I. Research what was going on in this country in the decades and years leading up to World War I, keeping track of your sources. What was this country's relationship to imperialism?

My Country: _____

Imperialism (actual and aspirations)

How did this country's imperialistic activities affect their relationships with other countries? Which other countries?

Exactly when and why did this country enter World War I?

Based on what you have learned, what is your opinion of imperialism in general? Is it necessary? Is it worth it? It is inevitable? Etc. Using your research to support your position, write an essay about your topic. Be sure to properly cite your sources.