

# SSUSH15: Analyze the origins and impact of US involvement in World War I.



## HE WAS BOUND TO GET IN WRONG

[The infants presented to the umpire are labeled to represent the various claims of English, French, Italian, Polish, Russian, and even the enemy]

(From the *News* (Detroit, Mich.)



## THE GAP IN THE BRIDGE.

*Punch Magazine* of London  
(December 1919)

***Element C: Explain Wilson's Fourteen Points and the debate over US entry into the League of Nations.***



# Wilson's Fourteen Points



President Wilson's  
Fourteen Points

1. Open diplomacy
2. Freedom of the Seas
3. Removal of economic barriers
4. Reduction of armaments
5. Adjustment of colonial claims
6. Conquered territories in Russia
7. Preservation of Belgian sovereignty
8. Restoration of French territory
9. Redrawing of Italian frontiers
10. Division of Austria-Hungary
11. Redrawing of Balkan boundaries
12. Limitations on Turkey
13. Establishment of an independent Poland
14. Creation of an Association of Nations



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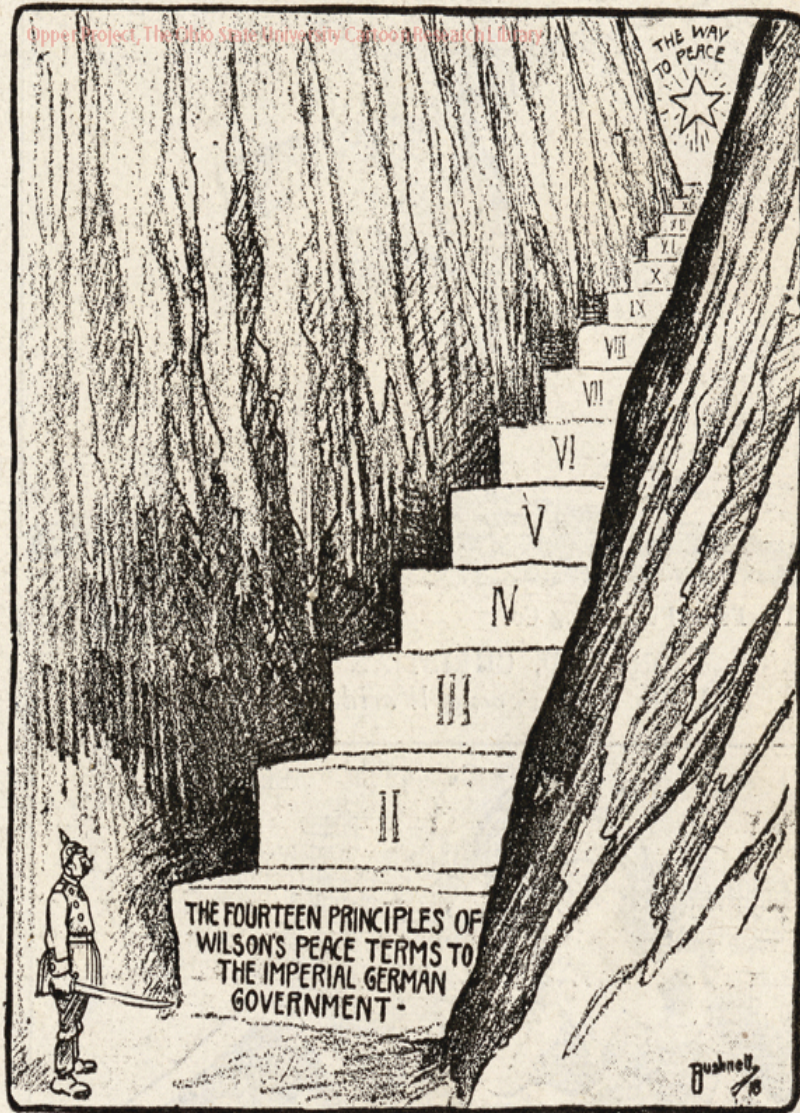
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(From the *News* (Detroit, Mich.)

- ❑ In January 1918, President Wilson spoke to Congress about the war aims of the nation.
- ❑ His plan ultimately became known as the Fourteen Points and was designed to create a lasting peace in the world.
  - Once negotiations for the Treaty of Versailles were completed in June 1919, the United States was divided over whether to join the League of Nations - a vital component of the Treaty.
  - Wilson's Fourteen Points became a guide for the negotiations at Versailles to secure peace after World War I.
    - Some of Wilson's suggestions were accepted, some modified, and some rejected by the countries represented at the peace conference.



# Wilson's Fourteen Points



□ The Points included the following:

1. Open diplomacy (no more secret treaties),
2. Freedom of the seas,
3. End international trade barriers,
4. Reduce armaments,
5. Impartial dealings with colonies and their natives,
- 6.-13. Group of points dealing with the right of self-determination for the people of eastern and central Europe,
14. Create an international organization, the League of Nations, to help keep the peace.

IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT, WILHELM!

From the Central Press Association (Cleveland, Ohio)

# The League of Nations



- ❑ During the postwar treaty negotiations, Wilson worked hard to get as many of his Fourteen Points as possible included in the treaty.
  - The Fourteenth Point, which proposed a League of Nations, was one that President Wilson was particularly committed to securing for world peace.
    - After much negotiation, the League of Nations was included in the final provisions of the Treaty of Versailles.
    - The treaty drafted at Versailles had to be ratified by the United States Senate as the final step for implementation in the United States.
  - Although Wilson believed strongly in the League of Nations, there was significant opposition to the concept among many Americans.
    - Public opposition to the League of Nations ultimately led the Senate to vote against ratification of the treaty.
    - Isolationists in the Senate believed that by joining the League of Nations, the United States would be obligated to get involved in future European conflicts.



THE GAP IN THE BRIDGE.



# The League of Nations



- ❑ One of the most vocal critics of the League was Senator Henry Cabot Lodge.
  - Lodge was a Republican and Wilson was a Democrat.
    - They held different ideas about the role the United States should take in world affairs.
  - Lodge was a powerful and respected Senator who served as his party's majority leader and was on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
    - Lodge, and others from his party, believed that he should have been involved in the treaty's negotiations.
  - Although Wilson traveled across the United States to try and gain public support for the treaty's ratification, it was eventually rejected in the Senate.
- ❑ The League of Nations was created and made up of primarily European nations, but the United States never joined.

