

## **The First World War as a Catalyst of Geopolitical Change**

Student Name

University

Course

Professor Name

Date

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The First World War is the prologue to the most significant geopolitical change. As a result of it, the Ottoman Empire, the Russian Empire, and the German Empire collapsed. The world political community was in crisis since the war was filled with dramatic events. The number of participating countries was too large to consider it a local conflict. One of the most important but unfairly forgotten in some literature and documentaries results of the First World War was the German revanchist spirit, which became the core of the Second World War.

The First World War became a disaster for the entire geopolitical space, as it involved many actors both from European and Asian regions. Many actors with their interests (often hidden) still cannot come to a consensus many years after the war. Unexpectedly for the civilized countries, which possessed substantial financial reserves, gold, lands, and colonies, the war was growing in magnitude. The war involved different ethnic groups, cultures, and ambitions, which contradicted each other and could not be satisfied simultaneously. This seems as a geopolitical level of narration, but behind every culture and state is the fate of an ordinary person who ended up in a war, leaving family and friends (Gilbert, 2020). As a result, the war dragged on, involving more and more new characters and new events. One of these events was the October Revolution, which took place in the Russian Empire against the backdrop of hunger, hostilities, poverty, and human despair.

The society of that time had not faced conflicts of the scale of the First World War, so the countries did not know how to continue it or how to put an end to it. The distribution of forces became more apparent over time: the strongest of this world stood out and even concluded peace treaties, which had considerable impact on that and subsequent world wars. Ahead was the Great Economic Crisis of 1929, wars for independence, decolonization in some parts of Europe, Stalinization, and a personality cult in the USSR. This war was the prologue to an essential stage of

technologization, industrialization, and other vital changes in the world.

## Reference

Gilbert, A. (2016). *World War I: A concise military history*. Lume Books.