

When Compromise Leads to Conflict:
Balkanization and the Lead Up to the First World War

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Throughout the course of history many bonds have been formed between various groups of people. These bonds or agreements are typically a method of way of making a situation better for both sides involved. A surrender at the end of a war means a country can remain alive after defeat. It is in this way that we see agreements between countries as causing peace; they are compromises for the benefit of everyone. Contrary to this logic, many problems and disagreements can arise from these agreements. In the case of the First World War, these agreements are what actually caused the conflict in the first place. Through the process of balkanization, fracturing parts of Europe that in turn needed assistance from other countries, alliances were forged in such a way with disagreement between fundamentally nationalist Baltic States that by the turn of the century, a world war was inevitable and the only question left was when would the conflict begin.

The Beginning of Balkanization

In the late 19th to early 20th century, a process known as balkanization began impacting all of Europe, ravaging the political and economic scenes. The term originates from the Balkan States where it is most well known. In 1362 the Ottoman Empire entered into the Balkan Peninsula, taking over all power and ruling for many years until the early 18th century. The Treaty of Carlowitz, of 1699, gave the Croatia-Slavonia and Transylvania regions to Habsburg and the 1718 Treaty of Passarowitz gave the Banat of Temesvár to Habsburg.¹ The loss of control from the Ottomans left the Balkan Peninsula with a great amount of freedom. This

¹ "Balkanization", Encyclopedia Britannica, last modified 2016, accessed January 5, 2018, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Balkanization>.

freedom led to the fracturing of nearly the entire peninsula into various nation-states. Various nationalist movements created the centralized communities that ruled the area for many years.

As the region broke into the various nation-states, they still required the type of support they had received when ruled by the Ottomans. They still retained their national identities and in many ways grew apart from their neighbors, seeing them more as enemies than before they were separate countries. For many years, the Balkan states survived with border disputes turning the maps into a broth of quickly changing borders. The most significant states were Romania, Bosnia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Turkey, and Greece, who paled in comparison to the Austro-Hungarian empire that once ruled parts of them looming to the North.

Forging Alliances

The events of World War One happened because of the alliances forged between the various European Powers and other countries such as the Balkan States. While country's have been creating alliances since countries existed, the number of and complexity of those alliances grew greatly with European Involvement in the Balkans. While hundreds of treaties, alliances, and other diplomatic agreements were signed into existence during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, several alliances created the political scene of pre-WWI Europe.

The Concert of Europe was more of a predecessor to European alliances, but it still played a large role in the influencing of the Balkans by Europe. The Concert of Europe was a congress system created by the largest European Powers, known as the Great Powers. It consisted of the United Kingdom, Austria, Prussia(which would become Germany), and France

which joined ten years after the group's founding in 1808.² While the Concert began to break up and fail by the mid to late 1800s, the Great Powers continued to influence world politics for many years to come.

While the Great Powers worked for the benefit of Europe in general, smaller alliances also worked to support smaller groups of European Nations. One of those such alliances was the Triple Alliance. The Triple Alliance was a military alliance between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. This alliance was formed in secret in 1882 to ensure mutual protection if any of the members of the alliance fell under attack. It was renewed regularly until it was broken in 1915 with the outbreak of WWI. In the beginning of The Great War, Germany joined Austria-Hungary to aid in the fight against Serbia, while Italy held back. The next year, Italy joined the fight on the side of the Allies, against Germany.

The Triple Alliance, while created in secret, was not completely unknown, and it worried the other members of the Great Powers. In retaliation to the Triple Alliance, the UK, France, and Russia created the Triple Entente, an agreement very similar to the Triple Alliance in 1917. The Triple Entente was actually preceded by the Entente Cordiale which was a treaty of peace and support between England and France established in 1904³. France and Russia were already allied from the Franco-Russian Alliance Military Convention of 1892⁴. From there the only

² "Concert of Europe", New World Encyclopedia, last modified 2009, accessed January 7, 2018, http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Concert_of_Europe

³ "Entente-Cordiale," The Avalon Project, Yale Law School, last modified 2015, accessed January 7, 2018. http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/entecord.asp.

⁴ "Franco-Russian Alliance Military Convention - August 18, 1892," The Avalon Project, Yale Law School, last modified 2008, accessed January 7, 2018. http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/frumil.asp.

alliance needed to complete the circle between the three countries was the Anglo-Russian Entente, created in 1907⁵.

The Triple Alliance and Triple Entente were extremely influential in Europe, but their biggest impacts wouldn't come until the First World War began. Down in the Balkan Peninsula, on the other hand, things were still stirring. The Ottoman Turks had come back into the Balkan Peninsula and had taken land from many of the Balkan States. Russia, who had much to lose if their influence in the Balkans died out to the Turkish rule, organized the nations into the Balkan League, a group of the Balkan Nations impacted by Turkish Invasion: Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Montenegro. This 1912 alliance allowed the Balkan States to unite and fight out the Turks⁶.

The Balkan League ended up failing as Bulgaria became too power hungry and ended up losing its alliance to Russia in the second Balkan War of 1913, but the impact of the league on the First Balkan War was crucial to the future of European politics.

In 1915, the Treaty of London between the Triple Entente and Italy was signed. It gave Italy extra territory at the end of the war in return for Italy joining the side of the Allies. It called for Russia to direct a large amount of its military to Austria-Hungary so Italy would be left alone, and that Italy will be protected at all times by Anglo-Franco troops⁷. In effect, it put Italy on the side of the Allies while completely defending it from any retaliation from the two countries previously allied with Italy: Germany and Austria-Hungary.

⁵ The Anglo-Russian Entente - 1907," The Avalon Project, Yale Law School, last modified 2014, accessed January 7, 2018. http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/angrusen.asp.

⁶ Hall, Richard C, "*Balkan Wars 1912-1913*", Freie Universität Berlin, last modified 2014, accessed January 7, 2018.

⁷ Duffy, Michael. "*Treaty of London, 26 April 1915*," firstworldwar.com, last modified 2009, accessed January 7, 2018. <http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/london1915.htm>.

The Balkan Wars

“Fear a European War”⁸ wrote one New York Times writer, and fear they should have, as in 1912, the time the article was published, the first Balkan War was beginning and with fighting in the Balkans, fighting in the rest of Europe was doomed to come. The Balkan wars were the final straw in the already contentious state that Europe was in. The Triple alliance and Triple Entente had placed the major Western European powers on two sides. It was now a matter of time before some event set everyone off and brought a war upon Europe. The Balkans, having built alliances with various Northern nations early on, were a powerful force in European political doings and if Western Europe could keep them peaceful, then they could themselves remain peaceful. Unfortunately, relations between the Balkan states were not good. The nationalism that grew from the creation of the nation-states created a strong distaste if not hatred for neighboring countries. Tensions brewed in the Balkan Peninsula as can be seen in “Fear of a Balkan War”⁹, an article printed on the front page of the New York Times in 1903, nearly a decade before the first true Balkan War actually broke out.

Throughout the 19th century, Turkey wormed its way into the Balkan Peninsula, taking land from Albania, Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, and Bulgaria. The Turks were remnants of the Ottoman Empire which was long gone from the peninsula. Turkish power enraged most everyone in the region and members of various impacted nations got together, forming the Balkan League to fight back against the invading Turks.

The league consisted of men from Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro. Montenegro was the first member of the league to declare war on Turkey on October 8, 1912,

⁸ “Fear a European War” New York Times, October 26, 1912. ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

⁹ “Fear of a Balkan War,” New York Times, October 26, 1912, ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

with the other members joining in over the next two weeks.¹⁰ The end goal for the League was capturing Constantinople, the largest city in the peninsula, as well as a historic symbol of Ottoman power in the region. The Bulgarian forces went to take Adrianople to cut off European and Asian Turkey while the Serbian army attacked Kumanovo, pushing into Turkish controlled Macedonia. Turkish Ottomans were pushed back out of Europe and by December 3 a peace treaty was signed between the Ottoman Empire, Bulgaria, Montenegro, and Serbia, but Greece continued fighting. Ambassadors from the European Great Powers met to decide on how to continue the support of their interests in the continually more independent Balkans. On January 23, 1913, the Turks ran a coup in an attempt to take back conquered lands in the South-East of the peninsula. The Turks failed, and by late March they had lost Janina to Greece, and Adrianople, the main purpose of the continued war, to Bulgaria.¹¹

Ironically, the First Balkan War, a war of connection of the Balkan Nations, ended up leading the peninsula into more disagreement than there had been in in the first place. Near the end of the first war, after Turkey had retreated from Albanian territory, Montenegro continued to siege until threatened by the Great Powers. After the end of the first war, however, Bulgaria arose as the major military power of the region, and tried to use this to strengthen itself further. While nearly every country in the region desired to take Macedonia, Bulgaria decided to take Macedonia for itself. The openness of Macedonia for capture is known as the Macedonian Question, one of many so called questions discussed by political and economic theorists deciding on how to influence the Balkan Peninsula in their advantage. The Macedonian question originates from the fact that Macedonia is one of the least ethnically and culturally defined

¹⁰ "Balkan Wars", Encyclopedia Britannica, last modified 2017, accessed January 7, 2018, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Balkan-Wars>

¹¹ Hall, Richard C, "*Balkan Wars 1912-1913*", Freie Universität Berlin.

regions in the peninsula. It was made up of Serbs, Bulgarians, and Greeks, but it took many years to come to an agreement over what to do with Macedonia.¹²

Bulgaria began its war to take Macedonia on June 29, 1913. The Ottomans took this as an opportunity to take back Adrianople, and Romania was able to take some of Bulgaria's Northern territory. Pushback from Serbia and Greece left Bulgaria with little power over Macedonia as well.¹³

The Balkan wars began the turning of the cogs in European alliances that would soon create a great war. Bulgaria's hostility in the Second Balkan War forced Russia to lose its alliance with Bulgaria, leaving Serbia as Russia's only ally in the Balkans. Russia's part in the war was minimal, but it did help jumpstart the Balkan League, possibly being the main proponent of the First Balkan War. As Leon Trotsky wrote on the purpose of the First Balkan War, "It seemed to me that if during the period of the First Balkan War it was impermissible to publicize this war as one of "liberation," in view of the consequences that follow it, then now, when these terrible consequences have taken place, a Russian politician's duty is not to look for the guilty men in the first place on the banks of the little river Vladaia, but on those of a river much farther North."¹⁴

This shift in alignment with European powers was the final straw.

¹² "History of Macedonia", Mount Holyoke College, last modified 2016, accessed January 6, 2018, <https://www.mtholyoke.edu/~kolev20k/History%20of%20Macedonia.html>

¹³ Hall, "*Balkan Wars 1912-1913*", Freie Universität Berlin.

¹⁴ Trotsky, Leon. *The Balkan Wars 1912-13*. (New York: Pathfinder Press, 2015), 484-485.

The Inevitability of the War

Tensions in Europe were great, and it was only a matter of time before everything fell apart. On June 28, 1914, a Serbian nationalist shot Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, mortally wounding him and his wife¹⁵. The same day, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Tensions had been brewing between Serbia, an ally of the Entente, and Austria-Hungary, an ally of the Alliance, for some time and one singular assassination blew up into a calling from aid in both parties that created the world war.

On July 30th, the Russian army was mobilized to assist Serbia against Austria-Hungary, and in response, Germany declared war on Russia the next day. Two days later, on the third, Germany declared war on France and the next day invaded Belgium, causing Britain to declare war on Germany. By August tenth, Britain had declared war on Austria-Hungary. After several battles were fought across Europe, on the 29th of October Turkey, now occupying the Eastern region of the Balkan Peninsula, joined the fight on the side of Germany. On April 26th of the next year, Italy signed the Treaty of London, joining the side of Britain and on May 23rd it finally declares war on Austria-Hungary¹⁶. With Italy joining the Allies, all of the major European Powers had joined the war.

Every single country who engaged in the First World War did so due to one alliance or another. Whether it was the Triple Entente backing each other up against the German war machine, or Germany rushing to Austria-Hungary's aid when Russia saw the engagement as an opportunity to gain Bulgarian territory, an alliance was always the cause. While Italy broke its

¹⁵ "See Serb Plot in Royal Murders," New York Times, June 30, 1914, ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

¹⁶ "WWI Timeline," The National Archives & Imperial War Museum, last modified 2014, accessed January 5. <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/firstworldwar/timelines/timeline1916.htm>.

alliance with Germany to side with the Anglo-Franco alliance, it only did so with the signing of the Treaty of London, which made breaking its first alliance profitable.

The Alliances forged by the Triple Entente, Triple Alliance, and Balkan League, created a separation of the European powers. That fracture left Europe in a state of chaos with distrust between the various powers. The Balkan States served as an area for the powers to fight their battles away from themselves, in a pseudo-proxy war. The Balkan Wars were the last straw in the turbulent European scene. The First Balkan War served as an opportunity for Russia to grow its influence in the Balkan Peninsula while without itself getting involved. If Bulgaria had not initiated the Second Balkan War, WWI may have been postponable a few more years, but Bulgaria fighting against Serbia and invading Macedonia, Russia cut its ties to Bulgaria and sided solely with Serbia. This left Bulgaria open to be allied with Austria-Hungary against Serbia. The same nationalist ethic that had existed in the Balkan Nations from the beginning grew stronger in Serbia, until it came to a point where tensions between itself and Austria-Hungary were too great. At that turning point, war broke out. As said By Richard Hall, “The First World War was not the Third Balkan War; rather the Balkan Wars were the beginning of the First World War.”¹⁷

That turning point was made inevitable by the history of balkanization, which forged alliances between nationalist Balkan States who could only align when fighting the greater power of the Ottomans. Their constant need of support from larger Northern nations, created an inevitability that to solve century-old disputes, Allies would jump sides until everyone was fighting, creating a great World War. These endless compromises caused the world to plunge into one of the largest conflicts the world has seen.

¹⁷ Hall, “*Balkan Wars 1912-1913*”, Freie Universität Berlin.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary

“The Anglo-Russian Entente” 1907 Avalon Project, Yale Law School.

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/angrusen.asp.

This document was a digitized version of the Anglo-Russian Entente of 1907. It was useful to see the sort of agreements that were made between countries at that time, especially with England and Russia who were not great allies at the time, but still agreed to their terms in order to have a mutually beneficial alliance between the two.

“Arbitration Convention Between the United States and Austria-Hungary” Avalon Project, Yale

Law School. 15 January 1909 http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/aust09.asp

This source was a part of the Avalon Project, showing the text from the Arbitration Convention Between the United States and Austria-Hungary of 1909. This was more evidence showing how various countries made agreements between themselves to stay out of each others' business in order to keep international relations simpler and more bound by writing.

“Balkan Revolution and Its Effect on Austria.” *New York Times*, 15 Dec. 1912. *ProQuest*

Historical Newspapers [ProQuest], Ottoman Empire.

This was--+- a newspaper article from the New York Times in 1912, at the dawn of the First Balkan War. It was interesting to see the American view of the Balkan War while it was going on. As America had agreed to stay out of Austria-Hungary's business, and thusly was at least somewhat positive in its view of the country. This article showed a sympathy for Austria-Hungary, although it was impacted by the war very little.

“Complete Correspondence That Led up to England's Declaration of War Against Germany.”

New York Times, 23 Aug. 1914, pp. 1–6. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers [ProQuest]*.

This collection of telegrams between British officials near the dawn of WWI, published to the *New York Times* in 1914 showed the complexity of decision-making in political circles, while also demonstrating once again how the alliances built up over the years impact how countries make large decisions like declarations of war, and how quickly they make them.

Vienna, Done at. “The Dual Alliance Between Austria-Hungary and Germany.” Avalon Project, Yale Law School. 7 Oct. 1879, avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/dualalli.asp.

This Avalon Project documentation of the Dual Alliance Between Austria-Hungary and Germany of 1879 showed the beginning of the Triple Alliance as well as more evidence of diplomacy between nations. Unlike many agreements made around this time, this one calls for immediate assistance of the opposite party when they are in need, something fairly binding for the two countries sitting in different places in Europe to agree to.

“The Entente Cordiale Between England and France.” Avalon Project, Yale Law School. 8 April 1904 http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/entecord.asp

This is the Avalon Project version of the original alliance between England and France that set the foundation for the Triple Entente. This document was one of the several that I looked through while writing the section of my paper on the Triple Entente. It was odd to see much of the agreement decide on the state of Egypt, which while I thought of as a British-controlled country, was said to be untouched by Britain for France’s benefit.

“Fear of a Balkan War.” *New York Times*, 18 Feb. 1903. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers*
[ProQuest].

This headline from the New York Times in 1903 gives very good evidence to show that tensions in the Balkans were brewing for many years before the First Balkan War actually began. This document along with several other news clippings was extremely influential to the forming of my thesis

“Fear a European War.” *New York Times*, 26 Oct. 1912. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers*
[ProQuest].

This New York Times article from 1912, two years before the great European war, speaks on the different causes that could push Europe into war. While most of my information on the political state of Europe at the time came from other sources, it was still helpful to see the American view on Europe at a time when the US was not particularly involved in European politics.

“The Franco-Russian Alliance Military Convention.” Avalon Project, Yale Law School. 18 August 1892, http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/frumil.asp.

This document held on the Avalon Project shows the final decisions made during a military convention between France and Russia in 1892. The conciseness of the document made it easy to understand while still showing everything decided at the convention. Seeing this alliance early on in the building of the Triple Entente was helpful in determining the history of the Triple Entente as well as seeing the state of European diplomacy in the 19th century.

“Kaiser, Like King, a Factor for Peace.” *New York Times*, 23 Aug. 1914, pp. 1–6. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers [ProQuest]*.

This New York Times article from 1909 yet again showed the US’s positive attitude towards what would become one of the Central Powers. It was strange to see the American opinion of Germany be so positive when Germany was an enemy to Britain and France, American Allies. Apart from that, it also told of Germany interfering in the Balkans to push its own influence which explains Russia’s fear of losing its own influence on the Balkans as Germany was busy pushing its own agendas with the help of Austria-Hungary, its ally.

“Peace in Balkans Assured by Powers.” *New York Times*, 23 Aug. 1914, pp. 1–6. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers [ProQuest]*.

This article from the New York Times in 1914, near the beginning of WWI, views the European powers, especially Britain and France, as defenders of peace in the Balkan region. This reflects my understanding of Britain’s motives in the Balkans, which was to keep ties strong for economic gain while maintaining calm in the area to avoid disruption of the area. It also mentions Britain as somewhat overpowering Greece which fits with how the Great Powers dealt with most disputes in the Balkans at the time. It is fairly ironic to see a newspaper clipping about peace “assured” by Britain’s actions merely months before the First World War breaks out.

“See Serb Plot In Royal Murders.” *New York Times*, 30 June 1914, pp. 1–2. *ProQuest Newspapers [ProQuest]*.

This news clipping from the *New York Times* in 1914 details the attacks on the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary in 1914. The article was published two days after the Archduke’s assassination which showed how information still took time to travel across the world back in the time of WWI. While this sort of account of the event that set off the First World War is available to read many places across books and website, this initial account that may have been one of the first read by Americans was interesting to see to understand the American view of Europe at the time.

“Shows Conspiracy That Started War.” *New York Times*, 28 Mar. 1919, pp. 1–1. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers [ProQuest]*.

This was a section of the *New York Times* published in 1919, years after WWI was over. It details an alleged plot by the German Kaiser to frame Serbia for the assassination of the Archduke and therefore jumpstart a war. While I couldn’t find enough evidence to say in my paper that this story was the truth, there are several references to such a thing across various historical writings that give a very interesting twist to WWI.

“St. Petersburg Politics.” *New York Times*, 28 Jan. 1900. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers [ProQuest]*.

This *New York Times* Article from 1900 talks about US relations with Germany from the Russian perspective. While the article mostly focuses on the point that Russia is publishing newspapers about US relations, the important part of the article is those relations themselves. The article says that the US is considering allying itself with the

Triple Alliance. While if you take into account previous US agreements with Germany and Austria-Hungary, this makes good sense, it is not mentioned much and is therefore important to note.

“Thirteen Nations Now at War Against the Central Powers.” *New York Times*, 8 Apr. 1917.

ProQuest Historical Newspapers [ProQuest].

This short segment from the *New York Times* in 1917 simply shows the populations of every country involved in the war. While this source was very minor, it did help conceptualize how outnumbered the four countries making up the Central Powers were compared to the rest of the world.

“The Treaty of Alliance Between Germany and Turkey.” Avalon Project, Yale Law School. 2 August 1914, http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/turkgerm.asp.

This treaty document found on the Avalon Project shows the treaty of assistance between Germany and Turkey at the onset of World War One. Turkey had been badly impacted by the Balkan Wars and was at a weak point at the time of the treaty. The Alliance between the two countries added another Balkan player to Germany’s side of the war, greatly helping it with the war with Russia as well as on Serbia.

Secondary

Danforth, Loring, et al. “Balkans.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 15 Oct. 2017, www.britannica.com/place/Balkans#ref43537.

This article in the *Encyclopedia Britannica* is a small description of the Balkans and the Balkan Peninsula geographically. It describes the various borders and features of the

region which was beneficial in understanding the significance of the Balkans in general politics as well as World War One.

Duffy, Michael. "Treaty of London, 26 April 1915." *First World War.com*, 22 Aug. 2009, www.firstworldwar.com/source/london1915.htm.

This digitized version of the Treaty of London of 1915 helped me in understanding how Italy joined into the war as well as what it gained from that. The Treaty of London was a big contradiction to the Triple Alliance and showed how alliances can always be broken for a price as well as the fact that Italy's alliance with Germany was much different from Germany's alliance with Austria-Hungary.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Austria-Hungary." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 10 Nov. 2017, www.britannica.com/place/Austria-Hungary.

This article on the Encyclopedia Britannica on Austria-Hungary helped me to gain a better understanding of the history of Austria-Hungary and its significance in the Balkan Peninsula. The connection of the Austro-Hungarian Empire being a later version of the Habsburg Empire didn't click at first but this article clearly explained the whole history of the empire and how it changed of the years.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Balkan Wars." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 23 Oct. 2017, www.britannica.com/topic/Balkan-Wars.

This Encyclopedia Britannica gave an overview of the Balkan Wars while explaining the backstory to them as well. It also detailed the aftereffects of the war. While it did not go into too much detail, was still useful to see the effects of the Balkan Wars on World War One and foreign relations later on.

Fife, Robert H. "Italy and the Triple Alliance." *The North American Review*, vol. 200, no. 707, 1914, pp. 538–548. *JSTOR*, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/25108267.

This article taken from the North American Review journal explains the history of Italy's relationship with the Triple Alliance. The historical insight that this article provides into the history of Italy betraying Germany in its alliance.

Hall, Richard C. "Balkan Wars 1912-1913." *International Encyclopedia of the First World War*, 8 Oct. 2014, encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/balkan_wars_1912-1913.

This article by Richard Hall on the Balkan Wars was an in depth description of both Balkan Wars between 1912 and 1913. It thoroughly explained the individual gains and losses of the sides of the wars with each passing battle to give an understanding of the situation the war was in at any time. Few other sources gave anywhere near as much detail on the wars as this one and it was very useful in writing the segment of my paper on the Balkan Wars.

History.com Staff. "Archduke Franz Ferdinand Assassinated." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009, www.history.com/this-day-in-history/archduke-franz-ferdinand-assassinated.

This short article on the assassination of the archduke explains the details of the assassination as well as the beginning of WWI. While other sources explained the two separate issues in this article, this one showed the bridge between the assassination and the beginning of the war which is part of the supporting evidence for my thesis.

Moneta, E. T. "The Triple Alliance." *The Advocate of Peace (1894-1920)*, vol. 63, no. 7, 1901, pp. 147–148. *JSTOR*, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/25751803.

This article from the Advocate of Peace explains the history of the Triple Alliance and its tie-in to other alliances within Europe. While I did not delve too deep into those other minor alliances, seeing the connection of many small alliances is further evidence of the significance of European alliances around the turn of the century.

Pringle, Robert W. "Balkanization." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 9 Aug. 2016, www.britannica.com/topic/Balkanization.

This article from Encyclopedia Britannica, while it didn't delve deep into historical details, did explain the history of balkanization itself and certain places that it has been used, especially when the process results in major ethnic problems. It helped in my understanding of balkanization which was essential to the ideas that it took to organize my thesis.

Schmitt, Bernadotte E. "Triple Alliance and Triple Entente, 1902-1914." *The American Historical Review*, vol. 29, no. 3, 1924, pp. 449–473. *JSTOR*, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/1836520.

This short segment about the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente states the significance of the alliances with the outbreak of WWI. Within my research it was clearly shown how the alliances created a cause for war, but this article was an early one that stated the fact of significance of the alliances to war.

Tomaszewski, Fiona. "Pomp, Circumstance, and Realpolitik: The Evolution of the Triple Entente of Russia, Great Britain, and France." *Jahrbücher Für Geschichte*

Osteuropas, vol. 47, no. 3, 1999, pp. 362–380. *JSTOR*, JSTOR,
www.jstor.org/stable/41050402.

This essay by Fiona Tomaszewski on the Triple Entente documents the history of the Entente back to its early days of separate bonds between the three final members. It was very helpful to have a historical backbone to the Entente before researching it in further detail to see the specific terms of each separate alliance.

Trotsky, Leon, et al. *The Balkan Wars, 1912-13: the War Correspondence of Leon Trotsky*.
Pathfinder, 2015.

This book is a collection of writings by Leon Trotsky, a military and political strategist around the early 1900s, during the Balkan Wars. Trotsky worked heavily in Russia and his detailed observations of the state of the Balkans from a Russian perspective. He wrote very deeply about specific conflicts in the Balkans at the time to a point where it was possible to really understand certain small problems while at the same time understanding the bigger ideas like the Eastern Question that he discusses throughout his work.

Anne Frank Museum Amsterdam, 12 Jan. 2009,

[www.annefrank.org/templates/public/pages/timeline/contentitem.aspx?item=11311
&epslanguage=en](http://www.annefrank.org/templates/public/pages/timeline/contentitem.aspx?item=11311&epslanguage=en).

This map of the Central and Allied Powers during the First World War was helpful in conceptualizing the size of the Central Powers and their position geographically. While other sources shared the same information, this one managed to show it in a visual way which was good for understanding WWI and its two sides.

“Papers Relating to the Foreign Relations of the United States 1918 Russia Vol. 1 - The Bolshevik Coup d’Etat.” Avalon Project, Yale Law School. 7 November 1917

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/ch5menu.asp.

This collection of documents from between the US and Russia was fascinating to look at to understand the flow of information between diplomats at the time. Russia’s ability to continue fighting the war while undergoing a revolution is fascinating America’s handling of that shows the strength of American support for the allied powers by 1917, as earlier it had greatly supported Austria-Hungary, a great enemy of Russia.

“Concert of Europe.” *New World Encyclopedia*, 4 Jan. 2009,

www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Concert_of_Europe.

This online encyclopedia entry explained the history of the Concert of Europe, a congressional system implemented between the greater European powers. The Concert was influential in building Western-European influence in the Balkans as well as forming the precedent for alliance between great European countries. It also goes into how the Concert quickly failed, leaving its successes unrecognized in later years.

"The Annual Register for 1914: Austria Goes to War." Chadwyck-Healey Historical Documents, 2005, *History Study Center*, .

This summation of the events of 1914 explains Austria’s role in starting the First World War. It goes into extensive detail on the varying levels of power in countries and how certain people make many of the decisions, cascading into dire consequences.

“The First World War.” *The National Archives*, United Kingdom,

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/firstworldwar/index.htm.

This website created in memorial of the first world war has various useful sources to look into as well as good information on the First World War. While little of my project focused on the war, understanding it was essential for understanding the Balkans before the war which was the basis of my paper.

“Formal Breakup of the Ottoman Empire at the End of World War I.” *Saylor.org*,

www.saylor.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/HIST232-1.1.1-Formal-Breakup-of-the-Ottoman-Empire-FINAL.pdf.

This essay on the collapse of the Ottoman Empire explained the causes for and the process of the Ottoman Empire finally breaking up after years of its power being very limited. The difference between the Ottoman Empire and Turkey is somewhat unclear through the history of the Balkan Peninsula but this paper makes it understandable how one turned into the other over many years of internal change.

“History of Macedonia.” *The Question of Macedonian Identity*, Mount Holyoke College,

www.mtholyoke.edu/~kolev20k/History%20of%20Macedonia.html.

This research project on Macedonia compiled by a student at Mount Holyoke College was one of the few well sourced explanations of the history of Macedonia and its diversity of ethnicities. Understanding the Macedonian Question was very important for understanding the purpose of the Second Balkan War.

“Peace Conference at the Hague 1899.” Avalon Project, Yale Law School.

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/haguemen.asp

This Avalon Project collection of documents brings together several agreements concerning the US and Russia in understanding their early diplomacy before the First World War forced them to be Allies.