

Summary of Articles in the Treaty of Versailles:

Article 45: As compensation for the destruction of coal mines in France, Germany must give the output of German mines in the Saar basin to France for 15 years.

Article 51: Alsace-Lorraine will be returned to France

Article 80: Germany will respect the independence of Austria.

Article 81: Germany recognizes the complete independence of Czechoslovakia. The new country contains a mountainous area known as the Sudetenland containing a large German population. (Given to Czechoslovakia to provide a natural buffer against Germany)

Article 82: Germany recognizes the complete independence of Poland. (The new country contains land formerly part of Germany to give it access to the sea)

Article 119: Germany surrenders all her rights and titles over her overseas colonies. (These former colonies will be mostly given to the British and French to administer)

Article 160: The German military forces shall not exceed 100,000 men. The draft is outlawed.

Article 181: The German navy must not exceed 6 battleships, 6 light cruisers, 12 destroyers, and 12 torpedo boats. No submarines are to be included.

Article 198: The Armed Forces of Germany must not include any air forces.

Article 231: Germany and her Allies accept the responsibility for causing all the loss and damage to the Allied Powers.

Article 233: Germany will pay for all damages done to the civilian population and property of the Allied Governments. [The figure was later set at \$33 billion].

Article 428: To guarantee the execution of the Treaty, the German territory situated to the west of the Rhine River will be occupied by Allied troops for fifteen years. (After 15 years the area was to remain a demilitarized zone)

Other provisions:

1. German factories could not produce war materials.
2. Most of the German navy was handed over to the Allied countries to replace Allied ships lost in the war.
3. New nations of Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia were created out of the former Austrian-Hungarian Empire.
4. New nations of Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia were created out of land won by Germany from Russia.
5. The League of Nations, a world body to promote peace and prevent future wars, was established.
 - A. Article Ten of League Charter: If a member went to war other members will stop trade with or use force against the aggressor.
 - B. League members also agree to guarantee existing political boundaries.
 - C. Germany and the Soviet Union are denied membership.