

Traveling they say, broadens the mind. And when we travel in Europe we wonder:

How did mosques and Ottoman built bridges like this get into southeast Europe—like here in Bosnia



and while we certainly think that Prague is beautiful,

Many Czechs will tell you that all this glorious baroque architecture was built by the Austrians, not the Czechs



And when you visit Warsaw, Poles will tell you that hideous buildings like this are soviet, not theirs

So this short trip through Europe's maps is meant to explain just a little about how borders moved, and how cultures moved with them

This is how Europe looked after the Treaty of Vienna in 1815.

There were three big empires—the Austrian Empire, ruled by the Habsburgs

The Ottoman, or Turkish empire, ruled by its sultans, and the Russian empire, ruled by the Romanovs.

Germany— there wasn't a country called Germany yet -- Prussia was the dominant state. Poland? From the 1790s until 1918 there was no country called Poland—it had been carved up by the Russians, the Prussians and the Austrians



By the beginning of 20th century, the Ottoman Empire had been greatly reduced and these four countries came into existence:

Romania

Bulgaria

Serbia

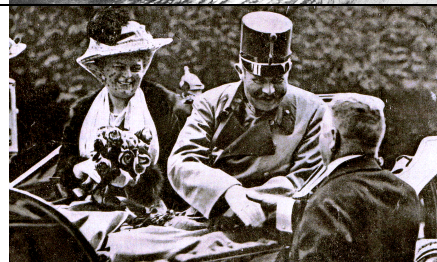
Montenegro

and since 1867 the weakened Austrian Empire had become the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



Beginning in 1871 Germany was united under Chancellor Von Bismarck and ruled by Kaiser Willelm I and his successors



Here's the Austrian archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo in June 1914—A few minutes after this picture was taken, he and his wife has were assassinated



This was the event that touched off the First World War. Some called it the Great War.

<p>Millions died. And when the smoke cleared in 1918, all the great empires of Europe had vanished</p>	
<p>Afterwards, Russia became the Soviet Union</p>	
<p>—led first by Lenin, then Stalin</p>	
<p>Germany became a very weak democracy</p>	
<p>—to be replaced in 1933 by Adolf Hitler’s Nazi Germany</p>	
<p>And here is what Europe looked like between the two world wars:</p> <p>Poland was reborn, And here is a new country called Czechoslovakia. Austria and Hungary were greatly shrunken while Romania, which had been on the Allied side in the First World War, was greatly enlarged.</p>	<p>East Central Europe, ca. 1930</p> 
<p>Here’s another country formed out of disparate states—Yugoslavia</p>	
<p>So the winners from this redrawing of Europe were happy but too many others weren’t. And war came again.</p>	
<p>The Second World War saw tens of millions dead, cities destroyed,</p>	
<p>and of course, the destruction of the vast majority of Europe’s Jewish population</p>	
<p>The Soviet Union occupied these countries and during the cold war that followed</p>	<p>Post war map</p>
<p>the Berlin Wall—erected right in the center of what had been the capital of Germany—became the symbol of a divided Europe</p>	
<p>And then it was over. 1989 was the Annus Mirabilis—the miracle year. Communism</p>	

collapsed in Central Europe,

And two years later in 1991-- it collapsed in the Soviet Union as well.



And then a year after that, Yugoslavia was torn apart, creating these new countries.

And it's still not finished—as I think you've seen from this presentation, history never is.