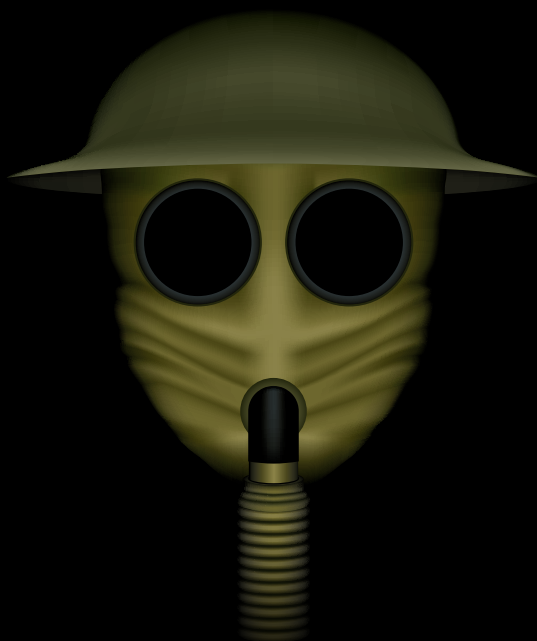


the great  
**WAR** 1914-1918  
TO END ALL WARS



4 | 11  
DECEMBER | NOVEMBER  
2017 | 2018

National Historical Museum - Old Parliament Building

Contents	
Foreword	..... 1
The Great War <i>from Europe to the world</i>	..... 2
Dilemmas and disagreements	..... 10
Greece at war	..... 20
The end	..... 26
Afterword	..... 28

Guidebook of the temporary exhibition  
**“The Great War to end all wars, 1914-1918”**

*Old Parliament Building*  
*December 4, 2017 - November 11, 2018*

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 National Historical Museum

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## FOREWORD

The Great War of 1914-1918, an unprecedented event, is a turning point for world history. It was the first truly global conflict and the first to use modern military technology to a devastating effect.

The influence of the War of 1914-1918 is still having an impact in society today. The seeds of the Second World War can be found here, as well as the dissolution of the world's empires.

**The war to end all wars** definitively transformed the face of Europe, laying the foundations for a new age.

**The years 2014-2018 mark the centenary of the Great War.**

It is a global anniversary of commemoration, which prompts us to re-evaluate the strength of civilization. The brutality and inhumanity on such a scale during the War ushered the world into a century of excessive and often unreasonable violence.

“

### Poppies

We came upon a hill blessed with abundant springs. Its flank was scarlet with poppies. A Russian regiment also headed for the front had already chosen this spot to rest, and we were commanded to halt there as well. [...]

We ate together; we talked together for hours, neither group comprehending a jot of the other's tongue. Yet we understood each other perfectly, for love as well as hate is an international language. [...]

When we lined up in fours again and were about to depart, the Russians placed poppies in our rifle-muzzles, transforming our column into a strange kind of religious procession carrying steel candles alight at the tips with the most exultant of flames. [...]

Such great quantities of love exist in this world! Abundant love, covering the earth like a river that floods tidal plains in springtime. Blossoming love, an entire hillside scarlet with poppies begging to be picked. And to pick them is so very, very easy. All you need to do is bend down.

— Stratis Myrivilis, *Life in the Tomb*  
 Translated by Peter Bien —

”



**Remembrance cross**  
 British memorial for the Great War, bearing the image of a poppy flower. Identical ones are still in use on graves of the fallen.  
 — V.N. collection

The exhibition does not offer a complete narrative of wartime events. It aims at briefly presenting the sociopolitical experience of the war, especially focusing on Greece.

# THE GREAT WAR

## from Europe to the world

The Great War to end all wars. 1914-1918

### A fragile peace

At the dawn of the 20th century, the Great Powers' policies were strongly imperialistic. The British Empire, France, Italy, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Russia and later the United States of America and Japan, claimed portions of the world for themselves.

The gradual reduction of available territories led to a series of clashes, the first of which is the **Great War**.

The massive scale of this war was unexpected, as it happened at a time of intense commercial development and growing financial interdependence.

### And thus it all began

On June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz-Ferdinand, heir to the Habsburg throne of Austria-Hungary, was murdered in Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia.

**The murder of Archduke Franz-Ferdinand**  
His murderer was Gavrilo Princip, a Serbo-Bosnian student and member of the "Black Hand" secret society, which was related to the Yugoslav nationalist movement.

By Mimis Antoniadis.  
— E.S.-B. collection



**Austria-Hungary used the murder as a motive for resolving their disputes with Serbia.**

With the support of Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, they issued an ultimatum which Serbia rejected, and then declared war on July 28.

Russia mobilized to support Serbia and Germany declared war upon Russia and France.

The declarations of war succeeded one another, and soon the European states and their colonies were divided into two opposite camps.

### Europe on the eve of war

#### British Empire

Great Britain was a fully urbanized and industrialized state. The nation's prosperity depended entirely upon world trade and the colonies. Therefore, the primary strategic goal was to maintain maritime supremacy, which was now being threatened by German naval development.

#### France

After France was defeated in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, they ceded the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. Intense resentment and the fear of neighbouring Germany, led to reconciliation with their former adversaries, Britain and Russia.

#### Russia

The Russian Tsars were totalitarian rulers of a still agricultural and semi-feudal society. Maintaining military prowess necessitated heavy industry though, which was making its first delayed steps. The ideology of panslavism gave Russia grounds for interfering with the smaller Slavic states of Central and South-Eastern Europe.

#### Austria-Hungary

The Habsburg Empire was a dual monarchy. The Germanic Austrians had conceded autonomy to the Magyars of Hungary, the second most powerful nation of the empire. The empire was made up of multiple ethnicities: Slovaks, Romanians, Croats, Czechs, Poles, Ruthenians, Slovenes, Serbs, etc.

#### Germany

In Germany, Kaiser Wilhelm II wielded full power and the system's foundation was militarism. War was constantly considered as a strong possibility, because of the widespread fear of "encirclement" by their enemies. This fear was often expressed in national and racial terms, as a need to prevail over their Slavic neighbours.



**British caricature map of Europe in 1914**  
By Walter Emanuel.  
— P.S. collection

## THE ALLIES

France and Britain had resolved their colonial disputes with the **Entente Cordiale** (1904). Russia joined in 1907, after facing defeat by Japan, and the alliance was renamed the **Triple Entente**.

At the outset of the War, Britain, France and Russia agreed not to sign separate peace treaties. From that point on, they are also referred to as the **Allies**.

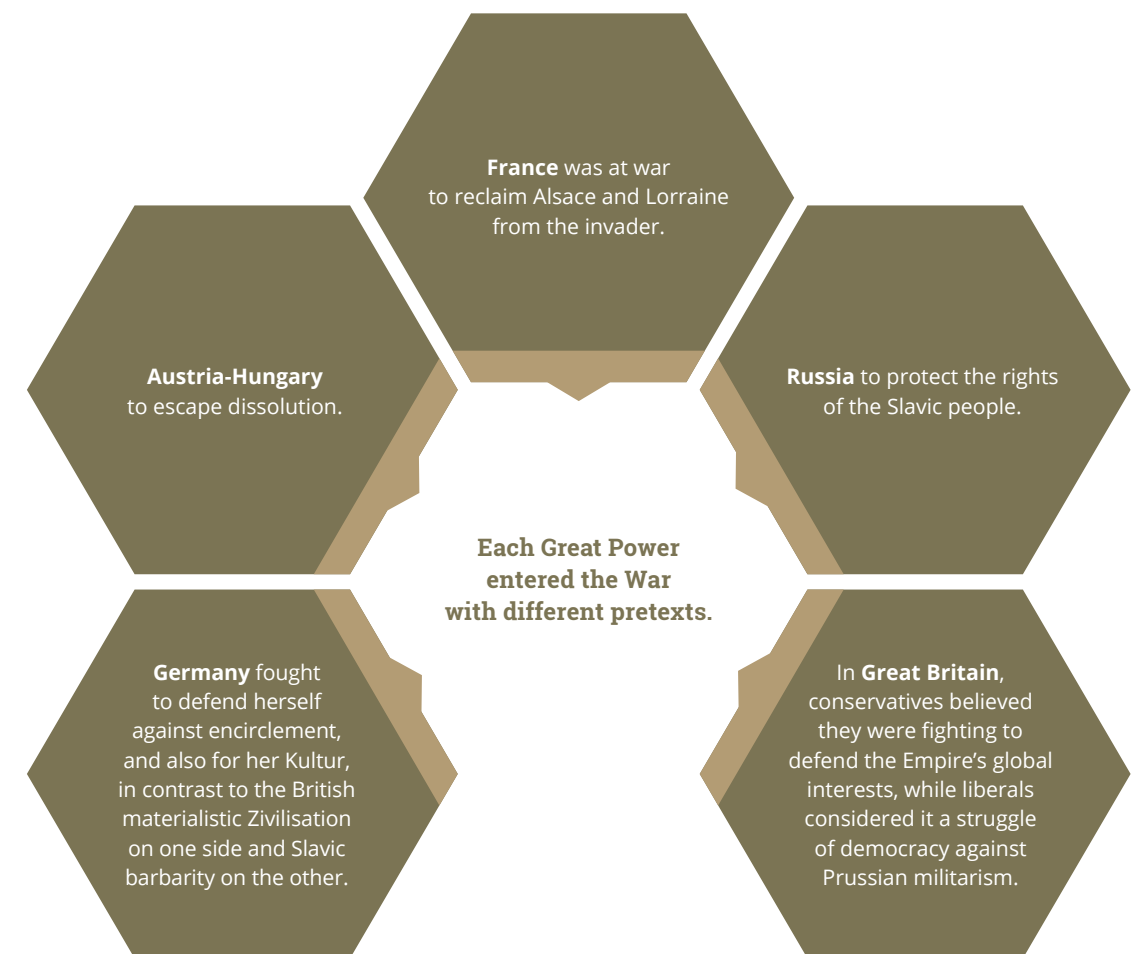
## A world divided

### THE CENTRAL POWERS

Germany and Austria-Hungary were known as the **Central Powers** due to their geographic position between their opponents. The common ethnic German identity of their ruling classes and the shared fear of their neighbours were the main factors for the coalition, which was also joined by Bulgaria and Ottoman Empire.

### Why are we fighting?

Initially, the War was hailed with enthusiasm. It was believed that the force of modern weaponry would make it a short war, like the previous ones. Thousands of young Europeans enlisted voluntarily, despite the lack of a definite military aim in any official propaganda.



## War!

From the first battles it was clear that this would be a static war. Hidden in trenches, men fought for positions that they would keep with small – but extremely bloody – advancements, for the next four years.

Often, after long and difficult marches, the troops would arrive at the front to face an unbearable situation. They would serve for a week to ten days, hoping to be relieved before any major attack.

Survivors would return to the reserve lines for rest and recovery, before being sent back into the trenches.

Making coffee at the front  
— NHM



## Life and Death

### Life in the trench

**Soldiers experienced endless hours of boredom alternating with times of absolute terror.**

At night, they were expected to repair or dig new trenches, note the enemy positions with patrols, gather, recognize and bury some of the corpses lying around.

Most offensives were initiated at dawn, so everybody needed to be on the alert then.

During daylight, they could rest, write to their loved ones, tend to their equipment, and try to eradicate the numerous rats, lice and fleas.

**Under no circumstance were they allowed to leave the trench.**

German playing cards

The set portrays flags of the Central Powers and historical figures of the time.

— NHM



German gas mask  
— I.L. collection



### Chemical death

In 1915, the Germans tried out a new weapon, a **poisonous chlorine gas**.

The chemicals proved to be very effective, at least in the beginning. Very soon however, Allied troops were equipped with gas masks and also included chemical weapons in their own arsenal.

Chemical gases and masks became the characteristic image of the Great War, creating an even more disastrous and inhumane environment.



## Modern times

### Firearms

Both sides soon realized the huge potential of machine guns and heavy cannons. These weapons completely changed combat methods: defensive lines, dug into trenches, held the advantage, while frontal offensives were cut to shreds by the machine gun fire. Older massed offensives now seemed more like mass suicide.



German MG08 machine gun of the Ottoman army  
Bears Ottoman seal in Arab script.  
— NHM

Transporting a small "lake" submarine by train  
Published in *The Illustrated War News*, 28.4.1915.  
— V.N. collection



### Submarines

Since the beginning of the War, Great Britain hindered German trade and supply routes. As a result, Germany turned to submarines. The Allied practice of hiding weapons within civilian ships, led the Germans to respond by targeting them. They thus abandoned the strict international rules of naval warfare.

### Zeppelins

German Zeppelins, navigated airships named after their inventor Graf von Zeppelin, were mainly used in reconnaissance missions. Their navigation capabilities and fire power were too weak for them to be more than a heavy nuisance, while their size made them an easy target.

### Tanks

Tanks were created to enable offensives on open ground. Crawlers solved the problem of moving a huge weight over irregular and muddy terrain. Tank operations cleared the way for infantry to move in behind them.

### Helmets

Helmets were re-issued as standard equipment in the Great War armies, after having been previously used only for show. From the first battles, great casualties were attributed to head injuries. Helmets became standard issue. They did not protect against direct hits as much as against shrapnel and debris.

### Aeroplanes

The Great War was the first one to see a systematic use of aeroplanes. Initially, they assumed mainly reconnaissance missions. By 1917 they had been so improved as to enable German Gotha bombers to initiate attacks even on London. Casualties and damage were in reality insignificant, but the effect on morale was huge. Britain responded with the formation of the Royal Air Force.



### A Christmas tale

In 1914, along various sections of the Western front, men spontaneously agreed a cease fire to celebrate Christmas. Enemies met on no-man's-land to talk, sing, exchange photographs, food or cigarettes, or even to play football. Elsewhere, even if they did not meet, they stopped shelling.

In subsequent years, officers were stricter and forbade such events. Still, some individual instances were recorded, of this spirit of "live and let live".



Princess Mary Gift Fund Box, 1914

For Christmas in 1914, Princess Mary, member of the British royal family, gave a gift box to all the British soldiers and sailors, who were fighting the War. It contained a season's greeting card, a calendar, a picture of the Princess, cigarettes, tobacco etc.

— I.L. collection

## DILEMMAS AND DISAGREEMENTS

### The Balkans on the balance

The Balkan Wars had ended with the **Treaty of Bucharest** (August 10, 1913), but the result satisfied nobody. All aspired to political and economic stability to re-group, but did not forget their expansionist aspirations.

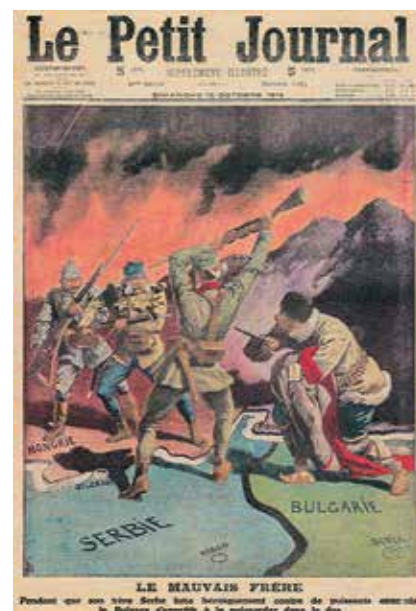
Greece's victory increased the country's territory and population, but exposed her to potential future clashes with the defeated Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria.

**The issues of the Greek-Albanian border and the Aegean Islands status were also unresolved. It was clear that the country's security depended upon a balance of power determined by external factors.**

#### The bad brother

*Bulgarian stabs in the back the Serb who fights against the Austrian. Cover page of Le Petit Journal, 10.10.15.*

— HMS



#### Serbian Camp at Ipsos, Corfu

*Exchange of Serbian Dinars for Greek Drachmas. The Serbian Army, after the defeat by the Austrians and the Bulgarians, fled to Corfu, where it was able to re-group in order to fight at the Macedonian front.*

— NHM



### The war in our backyard

With the outbreak of War, Greece was soon obliged to clarify her position towards Serbia. In 1913, the two states had signed a treaty of mutual assistance. The Greek government now decided to keep a "benevolent neutrality" attitude towards Serbia and remain vigilant that Bulgaria would not attack her.

This policy initially suited the interests of the Allies, who hoped to entice the Ottoman Empire to side with them. Soon, though (October 29, 1914), the Empire entered the war on the side of the Central Powers.

### Gallipoli

At the beginning of 1915, the Allies began an operation to seize the Dardanelles straits.

Their goal was to conquer Constantinople, the Ottoman Empire capital, and to open up the naval gateway to Russia.

The Allies' request for Greek assistance resulted in two diverging opinions on the country's foreign policy. Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos warmly favoured participation, while King Constantine wanted Greece to remain neutral.



Leather document holder  
depicting German-Turkish friendship.  
— I.L. collection

On **April 25, 1915**, a joint force of British, Australians, New-Zealanders, Indians, French and Senegalese landed near Gallipoli. However, after eight months of operations, the Allied forces were defeated.

#### British H.M.S. Talbot shelling enemy positions in Suvla bay, Gallipoli

*Watercolour by Norman Wilkinson, published in his own work: The Dardanelles, 1915.*

— NHM



#### British aircraft at the Gallipoli Expedition

*Watercolour by Norman Wilkinson, published in his own work: The Dardanelles, 1915*

— NHM





## The Allies' landing in Salonika

After their failure to capture the Dardanelles and Bulgaria's entry into the War on the side of the Central Powers, the Allies realized the importance of a Balkan front.

**They thus looked for a suitable base for their operations in Serbia.**

French troops disembark in Salonika

— THC

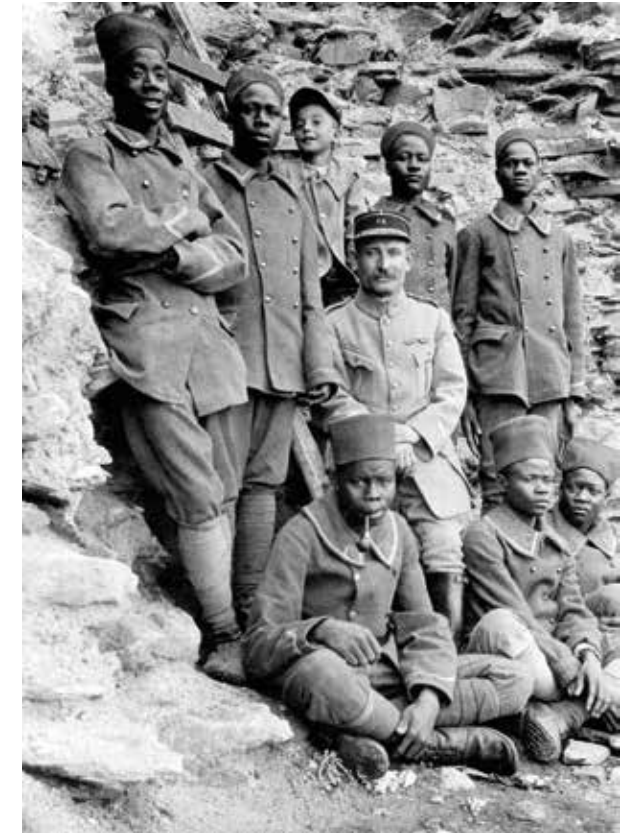


**In the autumn of 1915, with Venizelos's acquiescence, the Allies landed their Armée d'Orient in the harbour of Salonika, under the command of General Maurice Sarrail.**

By the end of the War, more than 700,000 soldiers from Entente countries and their colonies had served on the Macedonian front.

Men of French colonial corps from Africa with their commanding officer

— THC



“

«As for the city, it is a boundless barracks, grimy and repulsive, swarming with all the tribes of Israel, all dress in khaki.

[...]

All brought by the Europeans from the four corners of the earth to kill and be killed “for the freedom of all peoples”».

— Stratis Myrivilis, *Life in the tomb*  
Translated by Peter Bien —

”



### The Movement of National Defense

Germany was demanding that the allies be ousted from Salonika. After occupying Fort Rupel on the Greek-Bulgarian border, during the summer of 1916 the German-Bulgarian forces took hold of Serres, Drama, Kavala and eventually the whole of Eastern Macedonia.

The daily waves of refugees arriving in Salonika highlighted the potential threat of invasion.



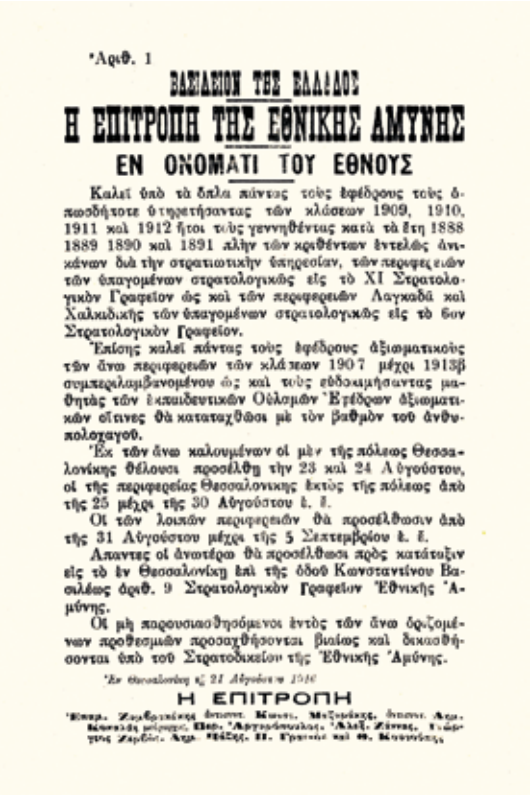
Demonstration in Salonika

*In the period leading to the forming of the Movement of National Defense, the city was rocked by demonstrations against the surrender of Eastern Macedonia.*

— THC

In general, there was concern that the government in Athens was indifferent to what was happening in Macedonia and was passive towards the oncoming national disaster.

**Their intention was to join the Allied forces in fighting any threat to national security.**



Mobilization order from the Provisional Government of the National Defense

— V.N. collection

The Movement of National Defense began in August, headed by Perikles Argyropoulos, Alexandros Zannas, Col. Pamikos Zymvrakakis et al.

### The Triumvirate

**Venizelos** didn't initially side with the Movement of National Defense. He supported Greece's participation in the War but had no intention of undermining the King's position.

Eventually he left for Crete. Numerous politicians and military officials followed in support of him. There, together with Admiral **Pavlos Koundouriotis**, he declared a revolution, which was later joined by General **Panagiotis Danglis**. The three of them became known as the **Triumvirate**.

Eleftherios Venizelos

*Sculpted by Nikolas.*

— NHM



Military jacket and cap of General Panagiotis Danglis

— NHM



Military cap of Admiral Pavlos Koundouriotis

— A.K. collection

**In October 1916, after touring the islands for military recruits, the Provisional Government arrived in Salonika and took command of the forces of National Defense.**

## The National Schism

### Greece was effectively divided.

Athens maintained control of the mainland south, while Salonika held northern Greece and the Islands.

The Entente did not recognize the Salonika Provisional Government, but they demanded that Athens hand over military equipment.

When Constantine refused, they landed 3,000 men in Athens, as a show of force. The army resisted and made the troops withdraw. The Allied squadron in Phaleron bay shelled the city.



**Ceremony for the delivery of the flag to the 4th Reg., Serres Division**  
*This is the symbolic commencement of a military unit's active duty.*  
— NHM

### These bloody events were known as the November Events.

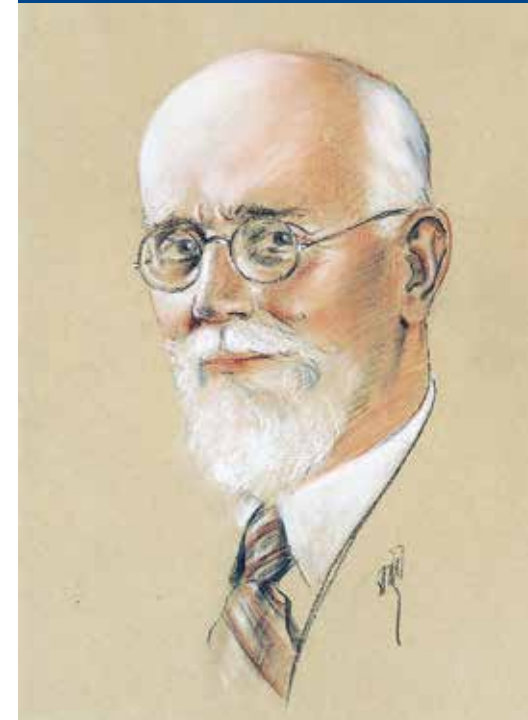
After the events, a wave of violence erupted against Venizelists, who were held responsible. The imposed demobilization was accompanied by the creation of informal bands of conscripts, which exacerbated the climate of state terrorism.

## Two personalities, two policies

The rivalry between Venizelos and Constantine was the visible sign of diametrically opposed worldviews. Greece had just recently grown in international significance, but still had not resolved a number of acute internal issues. These old and new issues were brought to a head under the pressures of war.

The severity of the confrontation  
led to a very personal enmity  
between the protagonists and their followers.

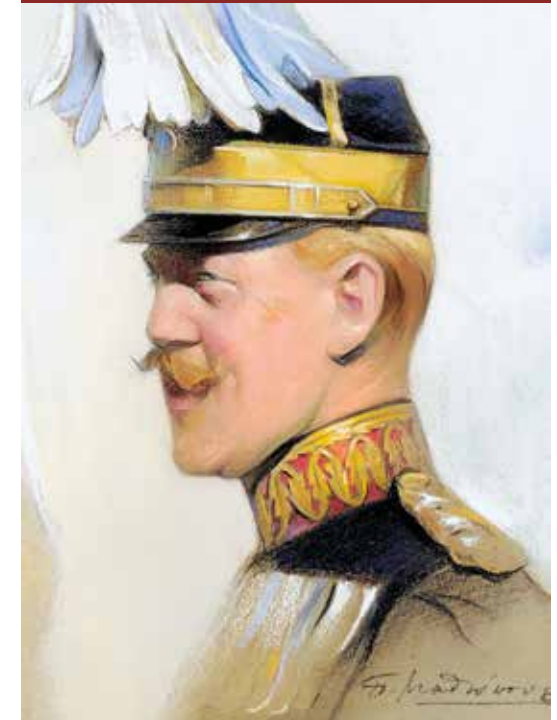
**The consequences of the National Schism would impact Greek society for decades.**



**Eleftherios Venizelos**  
*Charcoal and crayons on paper by Pavlos Mathiopoulos.*  
— NHM

## Constantine's abdication

After the November events, the Allies imposed a strict blockade upon southern Greece. Greek merchant ships were requisitioned and all armed forces of the Crown were forced to retreat to the Peloponnese. In the months that followed, a large portion of the population experienced famine and sickness.



**King Constantine**  
*Pastel on paper by Pavlos Mathiopoulos.*  
— NHM

In June 1917 the Allies occupied the Isthmus of Corinth and demanded the King's abdication.

Constantine was forced into exile and his second son Alexander was crowned King.

## Your country needs you!

The Great War was the first instance in which propaganda played such an important role, due to the media.

It took many forms in several countries – neutral or otherwise – and was used intensively by both sides.

New media, such as the radio and cinema, along with older forms such as newspapers and posters, were mobilized in a war of words and images.

The aims were manifold: to heighten the citizens' morale; to manipulate public opinion; to stir passion against the enemy; and apply pressure to countries who remained neutral.



National mobilization poster. By the Patriotic Union  
— NHM



## GREECE AT WAR

### To War!

On July 28, 1917, upon taking charge of a re-unified Greece, Venizelos declared war on the Central Powers.

The previous parliament was reconvened, thus named the **Lazarus parliament**. Venizelist military officers and public servants returned to office.

A general conscription was not immediately ordered. There were profound shortages in equipment and a general feeling of dissatisfaction among Constantine's supporters, who considered this a war imposed by foreigners.

**Universal conscription was only completed one year later.**

Caricature of Venizelos sharpening the knives of war  
By Frixos Aristeos.  
— NHM



“

One thing we had to learn (how hushed the officers' voices were when they told us, how clouded in mystery) was that we are not fighting another Balkan War this time. Zeal is out of place here; there is no call for any hurly-burly or hazzaing. In sum, impetuosity, that lunacy of the Greeks, is a defeat here. What are we dealing with this time is a subterranean war. Concealment is all; the best soldier is the one who hides himself best.

— Stratis Myrivilis, *Life in the tomb* —

”

#### German uniform and outfit

Uniform overcoat, camouflage helmet and gas mask with case, belt with cartridge pouches, torch, bread bag. Beside him, his backpack with blanket and mess tin.

— I.L. collection



### Life in the Tomb

Trenches were dug on all fronts: in the West, the East, the mountains of Macedonia, and even down in the Mesopotamian desert.

**That's why the Great War was known as the Trench War.**

Wounded in a trench  
Published in *L'illustration*, 4.9.1915.  
— NHM



“

### MUD

«It was like walking through caramel. At every step the foot stuck fast, and was only wrenched out by a determined effort, bringing away with it several pounds of earth till legs ached in every muscle.

No one could struggle through that mud for more than a few yards without rest. Terrible in its clinging consistency, it was the arbiter of destiny, the supreme enemy, paralyzing and mocking English and German alike.

Distances were measured not in yards but in mud.»

— Sidney Rogerson, officer of the 2nd Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment.  
*Battle of the Somme, 1916* —

”





### It's all about luck

During the war, 6,000 soldiers lost their lives each day. Death in the trenches was as likely as it was unpredictable: a matter of fate.

**Soldiers said that “every bullet has someone’s name on it”, hoping that their turn would never come.**

Many wore amulets, depicting religious or good luck symbols, gifts from their loved ones. For the survivors such items became treasured mementoes of the War.

Commemorative cross - amulet  
— NHM

### Macedonian Front

At the Macedonian front, the initial priority was to create a consistent defensive line. The French Armée d’orient developed various infrastructures for their own needs. French soldiers became known as the gardeners of Salonika because of their non-combatant activity.

In December 1917, General Sarraill was replaced by General Guillaumat. He changed the direction of the Allied command, by preparing offensive plans. He insisted on a more active Greek involvement and sought a number of direct attacks to regain territory.



French troops in a trench in Macedonia  
Kilkis area, Central Macedonia, August 1916.  
— ECPAD/EFA



Inspection of contingent of the Serres Division  
Eleftherios Venizelos, Admiral Koundouriotis  
and the French General Régnauld.  
— NHM

### Fire!

In **August 1917** a terrible fire broke out in Salonika.

It began in a poor refugee home. Within 32 hours it had devoured 1/3 of the city. Water shortages, insufficient fire-fighting provisions and the cramped old wooden houses all contributed to the disaster.

Despite the Allied forces refusal to shut down the camps’ water supply to save water, their active contribution in extinguishing the fire was important.

**The new city plan by the French engineer Ernest Hébrard would transform an Ottoman town into a European metropolis.**



Coastal avenue of Salonika after the fire  
Soldiers and civilians standing near a destroyed car.  
— THC

## The battle of Skra

Skra di Legen, a strategic elevation in central Macedonia, was heavily fortified by the Bulgarians.

The Allied attack upon it (*May 1918*) was implemented mainly by Greek forces. The Archipelago Division made a frontal attack, while the Crete and Serres divisions moved from the two sides in cooperation with French, British and Serbian units. They broke the enemy lines and took hold of the elevation at an astonishing speed.

### General Ioannou

*Lieutenant general Ioannou commanded the Archipelago Division of the Venizelist National Defense forces which played an important role in the battle of Skra di Legen.*

*His pompous presence inspired writer Stratis Myrivilis to create the character of General Balafaras in his famous anti-war novel "Life in the Tomb".*

— NHM



### French rifle Berthier Mle 1907/15

*It was used mainly by colonial troops, by the Foreign Legion and by small Allied armies, such as the Greek.*

— NHM



Military trumpet  
— V.N. collection

## The beginning of the end...

The battle of Skra demonstrated that the Greek army had substantial force, but also the weakness of Bulgaria. General d'Espèrey who replaced Guillaumat, designed a general attack to break the whole German-Bulgarian front.

**Implemented in September 1918, this move led to the rapid capitulation of Bulgaria, the first among the Central Powers.**

## ...and the collapse

On the **Macedonian Front**, French, British, Greek and Serbian troops forced **Bulgaria** to capitulate on **September 30**.

The **Ottoman Empire** asked for a truce on **October 30**, beaten by the Allies and local forces in the Arabian Peninsula and the Middle East.

On the **Western Front**, the combined attack of French, British and Americans, forced the **Germans** to retreat. On **October 3**, the Kaiser began peace talks, but he had already lost the confidence of the army and the people. He was exiled to the Netherlands and Berlin was declared a Democracy.

The Italians got the upper hand on the **Italian Front**, and **Austria-Hungary** asked for a cease-fire on **November 3**.

# THE END

The Great War to end all wars. 1914-1918

## The unexpected peace: 11am, 11/11/1918

At the beginning of 1918, war seemed to be a permanent condition. Most states faced acute internal problems: famine, sickness, poverty, dissatisfaction, desertion, riot, revolt. However, no government wanted to accept the other side's terms and lose the war. In mid-1918, the Allies started gaining the upper hand.

The War ended officially  
on **November 11, 1918**, at **11am**,  
after 52 months of bloodshed.

The world had maybe forgotten the initial causes of the conflict, but the results were visible everywhere: millions of dead and wounded and a Europe in deep, destabilizing, shock.

## The Moudros cease-fire

The **treaty of Moudros (Lemnos Island)** was signed on **October 30, 1918**. Through it, the Ottoman Empire surrendered the control of strategic parts of its territory, harbours, railways and military equipment to the Allies.

The Straits of the Dardanelles were opened and a joint naval fleet sailed into Constantinople which was set under international control. The Greek squadron was headed by the celebrated battleship Averof. The Greek population in the city hailed it with delirious enthusiasm.

## The Peace Conference 1919



**The Paris Peace Conference**  
Oil painting by Dimitrios Vasileiou.  
— NHM

The **Peace Conference** took place in **Paris**. It was attended by delegates from the victorious 27 countries, while no representative of the defeated side had been invited, nor any from the new Soviet republics.

It aimed at resolving outstanding issues among victors and defeated and imposing the peace terms upon the latter.

**A separate peace treaty was signed with each defeated opponent.**



**Greek contingent at an inter-Allied parade in Paris**  
Oil painting by Dimitrios Vasileiou.  
— NHM

## Greece in 1920

With the **Peace Treaty of Sèvres** (August 10, 1920), the so-called Greece of two continents and five seas became a reality: Eastern Thrace up to the suburbs of Constantinople, the islands of Imvros and Tenedos, control over Smyrna and its surrounding territory in Asia Minor. The **Great Idea**, a country which would include all areas with Greek population, seemed very close to its fulfillment.

The Treaty of Sèvres was a national triumph for Greece. Soon though, the country was stuck in the maelstrom of the Asia Minor Campaign against nationalist Turkey, which would prove to be costly on many levels.



**Map of Greater Greece after the Treaty of Sèvres**  
— NHM

**Pen with which Eleftherios Venizelos signed the Treaty of Sèvres**  
— NHM





## AFTERWORD

The end of the Great War ushered in a new era for the world. The results were evident in nearly all aspects of human life and activity, especially in Europe: empires collapsed; regimes were changed; states were created; new boundaries drawn; the old social status quo was questioned; new ideologies and movements formed.

Internationally, the Great War was portrayed as a sacrifice to secure at last geo-strategic balance and to end all wars. But after financial crises, political instability and the rise of fascism, another, even more calamitous, confrontation was looming.

The peace treaties imposed very harsh conditions on the defeated, who felt angry and bitter. Whilst the Allies were celebrating the end of, as they saw it, the last war, others considered this peace a temporary truce.

Today many historians describe the period of 1914-1945 as a modern Thirty Years' War.

**The 100th anniversary of the Great War invites us to look at modern society with a new perspective. Its outcome is not a mere memory: this War was a starting point for the shaping of today.**

## Credits

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<b>Conservation and placement of exhibits</b>	Mary Kapotsi Panagiotis Prossalentis Nikoletta Tassiouli Eleni Katsadouri
<b>Technical works</b>	Kostas Goussios Nikos Hatzis
<b>Lenders of exhibits</b>	<b>(V.N.)</b> Vasileios Nikoltsios, <i>Director, Museum for the Macedonian Struggle</i> <b>(THC)</b> Thessaloniki History Center, <i>head Dr. Antonios Satrazanis</i> <b>(WM)</b> War Museum <b>(ECPAD/EFA)</b> Agence d'images de la Défence / Ecole française d'Athènes <b>(HMS)</b> Historical Museum of Serbia <b>(I.L.)</b> Ioannis Lazaridis, <i>collectionner</i> <b>(D.P.)</b> Dimitrios Papadopoulos, <i>@Khaki Depot</i> <b>(A.K.)</b> Andromachi Koundourioti <b>(E.-R.G)</b> Efthymios-Raphael Gourgouris <b>(E.S.-B.)</b> Elli Solomonidou-Balanou <b>(P.S.)</b> Panagiotis N. Soukakos <b>(G.V.)</b> Giorgos Vilmezis Marinos Triandafyllidis, <i>music composer</i> Triandafyllos Vaitsis, <i>sculptor, The house of Shadow</i> Evanthia-Ailin Menoudakou Themistoklis Kontogouris Nikolaos Panos Nikolaos Sideris

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