

**The Origins of World War I: How the Great Powers
Prepared for War in Time of Peace, and How the War
Came Because the Great Powers Were So Well Prepared**

*It will be better to depend upon the
great armaments for maintaining peace.*
—Captain Mahan

*The moral is obvious: it is that great
armaments lead inevitably to war.*
—Sir Edward Grey

Serbia — “Piedmont of the South Slavs”

Gavrilo Princip — “the annunciator of liberty”
Colonel Dragutin Dmitrijevič
The Black Hand
Vidov Dan — Anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo – June 28, 1389

Ottoman Empire — “The Sick Man of Europe”

Austria-Hungary

Ausgleich — 1867 (Dualism)
Franz Joseph — Emperor 1848–1916
Franz Ferdinand — “Trialism”
Sophie Chotek — morganatic marriage to Franz Ferdinand June 28, 1900
Lexa von Aehrenthal — foreign minister 1906–1912
Sarajevo
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Balkans — “The Powder Keg of Europe”
— “Not worth the bones of a Pomeranian grenadier”

Russia

Alexander III — Tsar 1881–1894
Nicholas II — Tsar 1894–1917
A. P. Izvolskii — foreign minister 1906–1910; ambassador to France 1910–1917
S. D. Sazonov — foreign minister 1910–1916: “I do not dislike Austria, I despise her.”
General Ianushkevich — Chief of the General Staff: “I will . . . smash my telephone.”

France

Raymond Poincaré — President 1913–1920: “Serbia has warm friends in the Russian people. And Russia has an ally, France.”
Triple Entente

Germany

Otto von Bismarck — Chancellor 1864–1890
Wilhelm II — Kaiser 1888–1918
“blank check”
Schlieffen Plan (mobilization)
Triple Alliance

England

Sir Edward Grey — foreign minister 1905–1916: “The lights are going out all over Europe.”

Usual Causes Given

1. Militarism
2. Nationalism
3. Imperialism
4. International Anarchy

Suggested Reasons

1. Lack of diplomatic & military options
2. National honor
3. Fear, Suspicion, & Hatred
4. Incompetence among Leaders