

Chapter 28 Terms to Know

Kellogg-Briand Pact:

After **WWI**, some focused on decreasing the size of the military in the Washington Naval Arms Conference (1921), and others tied themselves to the League of Nations. However, on **August 27, 1928** the Kellogg-Briand Pact (a.k.a Pact of Paris) was signed in an **attempt to outlaw wars of aggression and settle all disputes diplomatically**. The dignitaries who arranged the meeting were **Aristide Briand and Frank B. Kellogg**, the prime minister of France and the U.S. Secretary of State respectively. Other peace advocates such as **Nicholas M. Butler and James T. Shotwell** influenced this movement in an effort to **cease future wars**. Originally, the plan was posed to Kellogg and **President Coolidge** by France as a bilateral agreement. However, as the U.S.A feared that this could be taken as an alliance rather than a contract, the plan was **proposed to all nations**. Countries who signed included the **U.S.A., France, the U.K. and its dominions, Germany, Italy, and Japan** as well as many others. Obviously, the pact ultimately failed in its objective when events like the **Mukden Incident** (Japanese invasion of Manchuria (1931)) and **WWII militarism** came into play, but **this movement promoted international optimism by essentially banning war and pressured the U.S.A to become more involved in world affairs (less isolationist)**.

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Friedrich Nietzsche:

Nietzsche, active in that **late 1800s**, claimed that **society's overemphasis on rationality choked out natural creativity** and that the **Christian "Slave Morality"** exalted human weakness, prompting him to declare that **"God is dead"** as modern, lazy Christians have killed him. From the **German** philosopher's eyes, democracy, reason, progress, and propriety were the very things strangling human development. Although his dim outlook left many people at a loss, it also **suggested that humanity must overcome meaninglessness and find it in their own lives as an individual**. Following his death in **1900 and WWI**, Nietzsche's work began to grow in popularity and **left an influential mark on modern existentialism and future philosophers, such as Jean-Paul Sartre, for both his dark and empowering ideas**.

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Modern Existentialism:

A broad range of thoughts composed the modern existentialism of the **age of anxiety following WWI**. Many were **atheists** and encouraged by **Nietzsche's** ideas. In the **1920s**, the movement gained its first foothold in **Germany** as **Martin Heidegger** and **Karl Jaspers** appealed to the young thinkers of the age, but **France was its stronghold** by the rise of **Hitler** in the **1930s**, the movement led by Jean-Paul Sartre and **Albert Camus**. Threats of the Nazis pushed for people to redefine themselves and their morals, particularly French men and women. The prominent philosopher **Jean-Paul Sartre** maintained that **people merely exist** and have to find their own meaning, yielding the **intellectual crisis** of the age in which religion, reason, and progress were all questioned. **Characterizing life and purpose through actions and choices** would prove the only means to overcome the chaos of existence. **Modern Existentialism was either terrifying or strengthening to those who heard it, and it was symbolic of the bedlam of the age of uncertainty**.

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