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Alsace-Lorraine

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The **Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine** (*German: Reichsland Elsass-Lothringen* or *Elsass-Lothringen*), was a territory created by the **German Empire** in 1871 after it annexed most of **Alsace** and the Moselle region of **Lorraine** following its victory in the **Franco-Prussian War**. The Alsatian part lay in the Rhine Valley on the west bank of the **Rhine River** and east of the **Vosges Mountains**. The Lorraine section was in the upper **Moselle valley** to the north of the Vosges Mountains.

The *Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine* was made up of 93% of **Alsace** (7% remained French) and 26% of **Lorraine** (74% remained French). For historical reasons, specific legal dispositions are still applied in the territory in form of a **local law**. In relation to its special legal status, since its reversion to France following World War I, the territory has been referred to administratively as **Alsace-Moselle**.^[1]

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Geography [edit]

The Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine had a land area of 14,496 km² (5,597 sq mi). Its capital was **Strassburg**. It was divided in three districts (*Bezirke* in German):

- **Oberelsass**, whose capital was **Kolmar**, had a land area of 3,525 km² and corresponds exactly to the current **department** of **Haut-Rhin**
- **Unterelsass**, whose capital was **Strassburg**, had a land area of 4,755 km² and corresponds exactly to the current **department** of **Bas-Rhin**
- **Lothringen**, whose capital was **Metz**, had a land area of 6,216 km² and corresponds exactly to the current **department** of **Moselle**

Towns and cities [edit]

The largest urban areas in Alsace-Lorraine at the 1910 census were:

- **Strasbourg** (*Strassburg* in German): 220,883 inhabitants
- **Mulhouse** (*Mülhausen*) : 128,190 inhabitants
- **Metz**: 102,787 inhabitants
- **Thionville** (*Diedenhofen*): 69,693 inhabitants
- **Colmar** (*Kolmar*): 44,942 inhabitants

History [edit]

Annexation to the German Empire [edit]

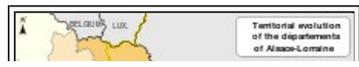
Main article: Franco-Prussian War

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Reichsland Elsass-Lothringen Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine	
Province of the German Empire	
1871–1918	
Anthem <i>Elsässisches Fahnenlied</i> "The Alsatian Flag's song"	
<p>The Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine.</p>	
Capital	Straßburg
Government Reichsstatthalter	Province Eduard von Möller (first) Rudolf Schwander (last)
Legislature	Landtag
Historical era	New Imperialism / World War I
- Treaty of Frankfurt	10 May 1871
-Disestablished	1918
- Treaty of Versailles	28 June 1919
Area	
-1910	14,496 km ² (5,597 sq mi)
Population	
-1910	1,874,014
Density	129.3 /km ² (334.8 /sq mi)
Today part of	France



The newly created **German Empire's** demand of territory from France in the aftermath of its victory in the Franco-

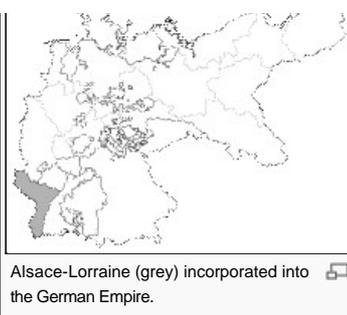


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Alsace-Lorraine (grey) incorporated into the German Empire.

Prussian War was not simply a **punitive** measure. The transfer was controversial even amongst the Germans themselves - **German Chancellor Otto von Bismarck** was strongly opposed to a transfer of territory that he knew would provoke permanent French enmity towards the new State.^[*citation needed*] However, **German Emperor Wilhelm I** eventually sided with **Helmuth von Moltke the Elder** and other Prussian generals and others who argued that a westward shift in the new Franco-German border was necessary and desirable for a number of reasons. From a **nationalistic** perspective, the transfer seemed justified, since most of the lands that were

annexed were populated by people who spoke **Alemannic German dialects**. From a military perspective, shifting the Franco-German frontier away from the **Rhine** would give the Germans a strategic advantage over the French, especially by early 1870s military standards and thinking. Indeed, thanks to this annexation, the Germans took control of the fortifications of **Metz**, a French-speaking town, and also of most of the iron resources available in the region.

However, domestic politics of the new Empire might have been the decisive factor. Although it was effectively led by Prussia, the German Empire was a new and highly decentralized creation. The new arrangement left many senior Prussian generals with serious misgivings about leading diverse military forces to guard a pre-war frontier that, except for the northernmost section, was part of two other states of the new Empire – **Baden** and **Bavaria**. As recently as the 1866 **Austro-Prussian War**, these states had been Prussia's enemies. Both states, but especially Bavaria had been given substantial concessions with regards to local autonomy in the new Empire's constitution, including a great deal of autonomy over military matters. For this reason, the Prussian **General Staff** argued that it was prudent and necessary that the new Empire's frontier with France be under their direct control. Creating a new Imperial Territory (*Reichsland*) out of formerly French territory would achieve this goal: although a Reichsland would not be part of the Kingdom of Prussia, being governed directly from Berlin it would be under Prussian control. Thus, by annexing territory, Berlin was able to avoid delicate negotiations with Baden and Bavaria on such matters as construction and control of new **fortifications**, etc. The governments of Baden and Bavaria, naturally, were in favour of moving the French border away from their territories.

Memories of the **Napoleonic Wars** were still quite fresh in the 1870s. Right up until the Franco-Prussian War, the French had maintained a long-standing desire to establish their entire eastern frontier on the Rhine, and thus they were viewed by most 19th-century Germans as an aggressive people. In the years prior to 1870, it is arguable that the Germans feared the French more than the French feared the Germans. Many Germans at the time thought creation of the new Empire in itself would be enough to earn **permanent French enmity**, and thus desired a defensible border with their old enemy. Any additional enmity that would be earned from territorial concessions was downplayed as marginal and insignificant in the overall scheme of things.

The annexed area consisted of the northern part of Lorraine, along with **Alsace**. The area around the town of **Belfort** (now the French *département* of **Territoire de Belfort**) was unaffected, because its inhabitants were predominantly French speakers and because Belfort had been **heroically defended** by **Colonel Denfert-Rochereau**, who surrendered only after receiving orders from Paris. The town of **Montbéliard** and its surrounding area to the south of Belfort, which have been part of the **Doubs** department since 1816, and therefore were not considered part of Alsace, were not included, despite the fact that they were a Protestant enclave, as it belonged to **Württemberg** from 1397 to 1806. This area corresponded to the French *départements* of **Bas-Rhin** (in its entirety), **Haut-Rhin** (except the area of Belfort and Montbéliard), and a small area in the northeast of the **Vosges** département, all of which made up Alsace, and the *départements* of **Moselle** (four-fifths of it) and the northeast of **Meurthe** (one-third of Meurthe), which were the eastern part of Lorraine.

The remaining département of Meurthe was joined with the westernmost part of Moselle which had escaped German annexation to form the new département of **Meurthe-et-Moselle**.



Kaiser **Wilhelm II** launched the construction of many buildings shaped by a Germanic architecture, in order to **Germanify** the annexed cities. Here the **Imperial railway station of Metz** built in 1908.

The new border between France and Germany mainly followed the geolinguistic divide between **Romance** and Germanic dialects, except in a few valleys of the Alsatian side of the **Vosges mountains**, the city of **Metz** and in the area of **Château-Salins** (formerly in the Meurthe *département*), which were annexed by Germany despite the fact that people there spoke French.^[2] In 1900, 11.6% of the population of Alsace-Lorraine spoke French as mother language (11.0% in 1905, 10.9% in 1910).

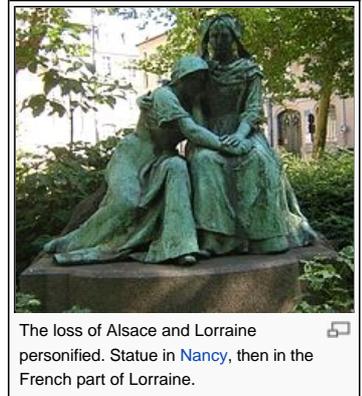
The fact that small francophone areas were affected was used in France to denounce the new border as hypocrisy, since Germany had justified them by the native Germanic dialects and culture of the inhabitants, which was true for the majority of Alsace-Lorraine. However, the German administration was tolerant of the use of the French language, and French was permitted as an official language and school language in those areas where it was spoken by a majority.

The **Treaty of Frankfurt** gave the residents of the region until October 1, 1872 to choose between emigrating to France or remaining in the region and having their nationality legally changed to German. By 1876, about 100,000 or 5% of the residents of Alsace-Lorraine had emigrated to France.^[3]

The "being French" feeling stayed strong at least during the first sixteen years of the annexation. During the Reichstag elections, the fifteen deputies of 1874, 1881, 1884 (but one) and 1887 were called *protester députies* (fr: *députés protestataires*) because they expressed to the Parliament their opposition to the annexation by means of the **1874 motion** in French language: « May it please the Reichstag to decide that the populations of Alsace-Lorraine that were annexed, without having been consulted, to the Germanic Empire by the treaty of Frankfurt have to come out particularly about this annexation. »^[4] The infamous **Saverne Affair** put a severe strain on the relationship between the imperial state of Alsace-Lorraine and the remainder of the German Empire.



Shading shows *départements* before 1870; black lines after 1871. Only the département of **Meurthe** changed name and became **Meurthe-et-Moselle** after the border changes. Border between 1871-1918 in yellow.



The loss of Alsace and Lorraine personified. Statue in **Nancy**, then in the French part of Lorraine.



In France, children were taught in school to not forget the lost provinces, which were coloured in black on maps.

Under the **German Empire** of 1871-1918, the territory constituted the *Reichsland* or Imperial Province of *Elsass-Lothringen*. The area was administered directly by the imperial government in Berlin and was granted some measure of autonomy in 1911. This included its constitution and state assembly, its own flag, and the *Elsässisches Fahnenlied* as its anthem.

Reichstag election results 1874-1912 [edit]

	1874	1877	1878	1881	1884	1887	1890	1893	1898	1903	1907	1912
Inhabitants (in 1,000)	1550	1532		1567		1564		1604	1641	1719	1815	1874
Eligible voters (in %)	20.6	21.6	21.0	19.9	19.5	20.1	20.3	20.3	21.0	21.7	21.9	22.3
Turnout (in %)	76.5	64.2	64.1	54.2	54.7	83.3	60.4	76.4	67.8	77.3	87.3	84.9
Conservatives (K)		0.0	0.2	2.8	0.0		12.5	14.7	10.0	4.8		
Deutsche Reichspartei (R)		0.2	12.0	0.8	1.5	6.6	7.6	6.1	4.1	3.5	2.7	2.1
National Liberal Party (N)	2.1	0.0		1.9		0.7	11.5	8.5	3.6	10.3		
Liberals				0.2								
Freeminded Union (FVg)					0.0				0.1	6.2	6.4	
Progressive People's Party		1.4			0.0			1.8		0.5		14.0
Centre Party (Zentrum) (Z)								0.0	0.6	7.1	31.1	5.4
Social Democratic Party of Germany (S)	0.3		0.1	0.4	1.8	0.3	10.7	19.3	22.7	24.2	23.7	31.8
Regional Parties (Autonomists) (Aut)	96.9	97.8	87.5	93.3	95.9	92.2	56.6	47.7	46.9	36.1	30.2	46.5
Others	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.2	1.1	1.9	12.0	7.0	5.9	0.2
	1874	1877	1878	1881	1884	1887	1890	1893	1898	1903	1907	1912
Mandates	Aut 15	K 1 Aut 10	K 3 Aut 8	K 1 Aut 10	K 1 Aut 9	R 1 Z 5	FVg 1 S 5					
							R 1 N 2 S 1	R 1 S 2 FVg 1	R 2 S 1 FVg 1	R 1 N 1 S 2 Vp 1 U 1		

FVp: **Progressive People's Party**, formed in 1910 as a merger of all leftist liberal parties.

During World War I [edit]

Further information: World War I

Alsace-Lorraine, during this time, was a geo-political prize contested between the French and German powers. The increased militarization of Europe, coupled with the lack of negotiation between major powers, led to harsh and rash actions taken by both parties in respect to Alsace-Lorraine.

As soon as war was declared, both the French and Germans used the inhabitants of Alsace-Lorraine as pawns in the growing conflict between France and Germany.

Alsations living in France were arrested and placed into camps by the French authorities. Upon entering certain villages, veterans of the 1870 conflict were sought out and arrested.^[5]

The Germans responded with similar atrocities:^[6] the *Saverne Affair* had convinced the high command that the whole population was intensely hostile to the German Reich and that it should be terrorized into submission.

Due to the proximity of the front, German troops confiscated homes. The German military were highly suspicious of French patriots.

Whereas German authorities usually had been relatively tolerant with the use of French, they started to develop policies aimed at reducing the influence of French. French street names in Metz, which were displayed before in both languages, were suppressed on January 14, 1915. Six months later, on July 15, 1915, German became the only official language in the region,^[7] leading to the Germanification of the towns' names by an order of September 2, 1915.

Prohibiting the speaking of French in public further increased the exasperation of the natives, who were long accustomed to mixing their conversation with French language (see *code-switching*); however, the use even of one word, as innocent as "*bonjour*", could incur a fine.^[8]

The non-native Germans believed to show patriotism while taking part in the hunting: they had fine hearing to denounce to the police all that they heard in the cursed language. Thus, the population was divided between an all-powerful minority and a majority which could only keep its fist in its pocket and wait for the hour of revenge.^[9]

German authorities became increasingly worried about this renewed French patriotism, as Reichslands governor stated in February 1918: "*Sympathies towards France and repulsion for Germans have penetrated to a scary depth the petty bourgeoisie and the peasantry*".^[10]

In order to spare them possible confrontations with relatives in France, the soldiers from Alsace-Lorraine were mainly sent to the Eastern front, or the *Kaiserliche Marine*.

In October 1918, the German Imperial Navy, which had spent most of the war since the *Battle of Jutland* in ports, was ordered to fight, in order to weaken the British Royal Navy for the time after the war. However, the sailors refused to obey. At that time, about 15,000 Alsations and Lorrainers had been incorporated into the *Kaiserliche Marine*. Some of them joined the insurrection and the *German Revolution*, and decided to rouse their homeland to revolt against the monarchy of the Emperor.

Annexation to the French Republic [edit]

Main article: November 1918 in Alsace

In the *general revolutionary atmosphere* of the expiring *German Empire*, *Marxist* councils of workers



Translation: Here at Gertwiller on 22 August 1914 three Alsatian farmers were shot, against all justice. (...) innocent victims of German barbarity. Alsations! Remember!

and soldiers (*Soldaten und Arbeiterräte*) formed in Mulhouse, in Colmar and Strasbourg in November 1918, in parallel to other such bodies set up in Germany, in imitation of the Russian equivalent *soviets*.



In this chaotic situation, Alsace-Lorraine's *Landtag* proclaimed itself the supreme authority of the land with the name of *Nationalrat*, the Soviet of Strasbourg claimed the foundation of a *Republic of Alsace-Lorraine*, while SPD Reichstag representative for Colmar, *Jacques Peirates*, announced the establishment of the French rule, urging Paris to send troops quickly.^[11]

While the soviet councils disbanded themselves with the departure of the German troops between November 11 and 17,^[12] the arrival of the *French Army* stabilized the situation: French troops put the region under *occupatio bellica* and entered Strasbourg on November 21. The Nationalrat proclaimed the annexation of Alsace to France on December 5, even though this process did not gain international recognition until the signature of the *Treaty of Versailles* in 1919.



Alsace-Lorraine was divided into the *départements* of *Haut-Rhin*, *Bas-Rhin* and *Moselle* (the same political structure as before the annexation and as created by the French Revolution, with slightly different limits). Today, these territories enjoy laws that are significantly different from the rest of France - these specific provisions are known as the *local law*.

The département *Meurthe-et-Moselle* was maintained even after France recovered Alsace-Lorraine in 1919. The area of Belfort became a special status area and was not reintegrated into *Haut-Rhin* in 1919 but instead was made a full-status département in 1922 under the name *Territoire-de-Belfort*.^[13]

The French Government immediately started a *Francization* campaign that included the forced deportation of all Germans who had settled in the area after 1870. For that purpose, the population was divided in four categories, A to D.^[14] German-language Alsatian newspapers were also suppressed.

Aftermath [edit]

After France was *defeated* in the spring of 1940, Alsace and Moselle were not officially annexed by Germany. However they were administered from Berlin until German defeat in 1945, when they were returned to France. During the occupation, Moselle was integrated into a *Reichsgau* named *Westmark* and Alsace was amalgamated with *Baden*. About 130,000 young men from Alsace-Lorraine were also drafted or volunteered to serve in the German *Wehrmacht* or the *Waffen-SS* during the Second World War, mostly on the eastern front (40,000 of them were killed or missing in action). When Alsace-Lorraine was returned to France after the Second World War, the fact that many young men from the area had served (*mostly by force*) in the *German Army*, and even the *Waffen-SS*, resulted in tensions between Alsace-Lorraine and other parts of France.^[15]

Demographics [edit]

First language (1900) [edit]

- German: 1,492,347 (86.8%)^[16]
- Other Languages: 219,638 (12.8%)^[16]
 - French: 198,318 (11.5%)
 - Italian: 18,750 (1.1%)
 - Polish: 1,410 (0.1%)
 - German and a second language : 7,485 (0.4%)

Religion (1910) [edit]

Population 1,874,014 :^[16]

- Protestant: 21.78%
- Catholic: 76.22%
- Other Christian: 0.21%
- Jewish: 1.63%
- Atheist: 0.12%

Statistics (1866–2008) [edit]

Year	Population	Cause of change
1866	1,596,198	-
1875	1,531,804	After incorporation into the <i>German Empire</i> , 100,000 to 130,000 people left for France and French Algeria
1910	1,874,014	0.58% population growth per year during 1875-1910
1921	1,709,749	Death of young men in the German army, Deportation of German newcomers to Germany by the French authorities
1936	1,915,627	0.76% population growth per year during 1921-1936
1946	1,767,131	Death of young men in the French army in 1939-45, Death of young men in the German army in 1942-45, Death of civilians and many people still refugees in the rest of France

1999	2,756,931	0.84% population growth per year during 1946-1999
2008	2,877,000	0.48% population growth per year during 1999-2008

Languages [edit]

Both **Germanic** and **Romance** dialects were traditionally spoken in Alsace-Lorraine before the 20th century.

Germanic dialects:

- **Central German** dialects:
 - **Luxembourgish Franconian** in the north-west of **Moselle** (*Lothringen*) around **Thionville** (*Diddenuewen* in the local Luxembourgish dialect) and **Sierck-les-Bains** (*Siirk* in the local Luxembourgish dialect)
 - **Moselle Franconian** in the central northern part of Moselle around **Boulay-Moselle** (*Bolchin* in the local Moselle Franconian dialect) and **Bouzonville** (*Busendroff* in the local Moselle Franconian dialect)
 - **Rhine Franconian** in the north-east of Moselle around **Forbach** (*Fuerboch* in the local Rhine Franconian dialect), **Bitche** (*Bitsch* in the local Rhine Franconian dialect), and **Sarrebourg** (*Saarbuerg* in the local Rhine Franconian dialect), as well as in the north-west of **Alsace** around **Sarre-Union**
- Transitional between Central German and Upper German:
 - **South Franconian** in the northernmost part of Alsace around **Wissembourg** (*Waisseburch* in the local South Franconian dialect)
- **Upper German** dialects:
 - **Alsatian** in the largest part of Alsace and in a few villages in the extreme east of Moselle. Alsatian was the most spoken dialect in Alsace-Lorraine.
 - **High Alemannic** in the southernmost part of Alsace, around **Saint-Louis** and **Ferrette** (*Pfirt* in the local High Alemannic dialect)

Romance dialects (belonging to the *langues d'oïl* like French):

- **Lorrain** in roughly the southern half of Moselle, including its capital **Metz**, as well as in some valleys of the **Vosges Mountains** in the west of Alsace around **Schirmeck** and **Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines**
- **Franc-Comtois** in 12 villages in the extreme south-west of Alsace

See also [edit]

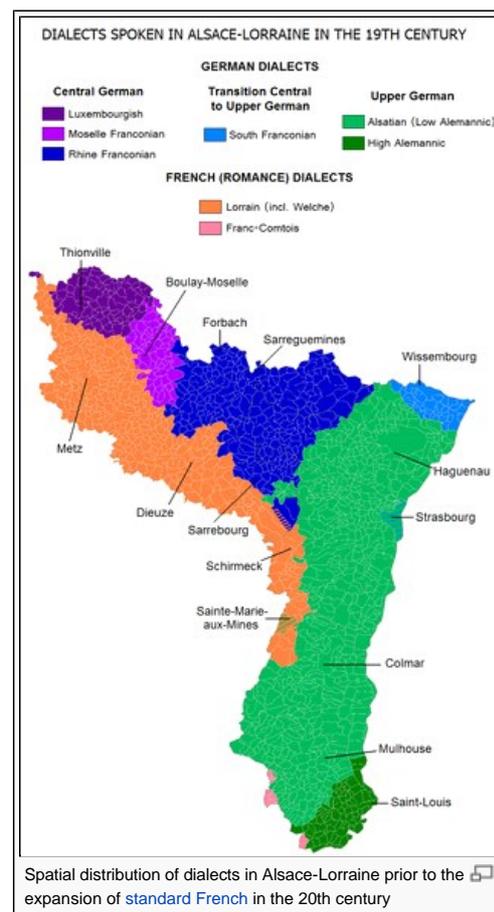
- **French–German enmity**
- **Unification of Germany**
- **Irredentism**
- **November 1918 in Alsace-Lorraine**

Further reading [edit]

- Höpel, Thomas: *The French-German Borderlands: Borderlands and Nation-Building in the 19th and 20th Centuries* [fr], *European History Online*, Mainz: *Institute of European History*, 2010, retrieved: December 17, 2012.
- Putnam, Ruth. *Alsace and Lorraine from Cæsar to Kaiser, 58 B.C.-1871 A.D.* New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1915.
- Roth, François. *Alsace-Lorraine, De 1870 À Nos Jours: Histoire d'un "pays perdu"*. Nancy: Place Stanislas, 2010. *ISBN 978-2-35578-050-9*

Notes [edit]

- ↑ An instruction dated 8.14.1920 from the assistant Secretary of State of the Presidency of the Council to the General Commissioner of the Republic in Strasbourg reminds that the term *Alsace-Lorraine* is prohibited and must be replaced by the sentence "the **département** of **Haut-Rhin**, the département of **Bas-Rhin** and the département of **Moselle**". While this sentence was considered as too long, some used the term *Alsace-Moselle* to point to the three concerned départements. But, this instruction has no legal status because it is not based on any territorial authority.
- ↑ In fact, the linguistic border ran on the north of the new one, including in the "Alemannic" territories **Thionville** (also named *Diedenhofen* under the German Reich), **Metz**, **Château-Salins**, **Vic-sur-Seille** and **Dieuze**, which were fully French-speaking. The valleys of **Orbey** and **Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines** were in the same case. Similarly, the town of Dannemarie (and adjoining areas) were also left in **Alsace** when language alone could have made them part of **Territoire de Belfort**.
- ↑ http://www.mtholyoke.edu/~jihazel/pol116/annexation.html [fr]
- ↑ Les députés "protostataires" d'Alsace-Lorraine [fr] (French)
- ↑ In 1914, **Albert Schweitzer** was put under supervision in **Lambaréné** (then in **French Equatorial Africa**); in 1917, he was taken to France and incarcerated until July 1918.
- ↑ Charles Spindler, *L'Alsace pendant la Guerre*, 6 septembre 1914 and 11 septembre 1915.
- ↑ Grandhomme, Jean-Noël (2008) *Boches ou tricolores*. Strasbourg: La nuée bleue.
- ↑ As of on October 26, 1914, we can read in Spindler's journal: "Then he recommends to me not to speak French. The streets are infested with informers, men and women, who touch rewards and make arrest the passers by for a simple « merci » said in French. It goes without saying that these measures excite the joker spirit of the people. A woman at the market, who probably was unaware that "*bonchour*" and "*merci*" was French, is taken with part by a German woman because she answered her "*Guten Tag*" by a "*bonchour*". Then, the good woman, the fists on the hips, challenges her client: "Now I'm fed up with your silly stories! Do you know what? [here something like "*kiss my ...*"]! Is that endly also French? » (als: *Jetz grad genua mit dene dauwe Plän! Wisse Sie was? Leeke Sie mich ...! Esch des am End au franzêsch?*)"
- ↑ We can read in *L'Alsace pendant la guerre* how the exasperation of the population gradually increased but Spindler hears, as of on September 29, 1914, a characteristic sentence: « ... the interior decorator H., who repairs the mattresses of the Ott house, said to me this morning: "If only it was the will of God that we became again French and that these damned "*Schwowebittel*" were thrown out of the country! And then, you know, there are chances that it happens." It is the first time since the war I hear a simple man expressing frankly this wish. »
- ↑ Grandhomme, Jean-Noël. op.cit.
- ↑ Jacques Fortier, « La chute de l'Empire », *Dernières Nouvelles d'Alsace*, 16 november 2008 [fr].



12. ^ Jean-Noël Grandhomme, « Le retour de l'Alsace-Lorraine », *L'Histoire*, number 336, november 2008 (Fr.)
13. ^ However on the Colmar prefecture building, the name of Belfort can be seen as a sous-prefecture.
14. ^ "Tabellarische Geschichte Elsaß-Lothringens / Französische Besatzung (1918-1940)". Archived from the original on 2009-10-25.
15. ^ *L'incorporation de force en Alsace, le drame des « Malgré-Nous » 1942-1945*
16. ^ ^a ^b ^c Statistics on verwaltungsgeschichte.de

External links [[edit](#)]

- <http://www.geocities.com/bfel/geschichte5b.html> (Archived 2009-10-25) (German)
- <http://www.elsass-lothringen.de/> (German)
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- France, Germany and the Struggle for the War-making Natural Resources of the Rhineland
- Elsass-Lothringen video
- Annuary of Cultur and Artists from Elsass-Lothringen (French) (German)

VTE	States of the German Empire	
Kingdoms	Bavaria Prussia Saxony Württemberg	
Grand Duchies	Baden Hesse Mecklenburg-Schwerin Mecklenburg-Strelitz Oldenburg Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach	
Duchies	Anhalt Brunswick Saxe-Altenburg Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Saxe-Lauenburg (until 1876) Saxe-Meiningen	
Principalities	Lippe Reuss-Gera (Junior Line) Reuss-Greiz (Senior Line) Schaumburg-Lippe Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt Schwarzburg-Sondershausen Waldeck-Pyrmont	
City-States	Bremen Hamburg Lübeck	
Other territories	Alsace-Lorraine Colonies	



VTE	German people		
Historical	<i>Bundesdeutsche Reichsdeutsche Volksdeutsche</i>		
Diaspora	Europe	Central and Eastern	Romania Transylvanian Saxons / Landler Danube / Banat / Satu Mare Swabians Dobruja Zipser Regat Bessarabia
			Elsewhere Czech Republic (German Bohemians) Hungary Moldova Poland (Walddeutsche) Russia (Volga Russian Mennonite) Slovakia Slovenia (Gottschee) Ukraine (Black Sea Bukovina Crimea)
		Balkans and Southeastern	Bulgaria Caucasus Croatia Serbia Yugoslavia Turkey (Bosporus)
		Elsewhere	Baltic states Belgium Denmark France Italy Switzerland United Kingdom
	Americas	Argentina Bolivia Brazil Canada (Hutterites) Chile Colombia Cuba Jamaica Mexico Nicaragua Paraguay Peru Texas Palatines Puerto Rico Costa Rica Uruguay Venezuela	
	Africa	Namibia South Africa (Afrikaners)	
Asia	India Kazakhstan Korea Kyrgyzstan Pakistan Philippines United Arab Emirates		
Oceania	Australia		
See also	<i>Ostsiedlung</i>		

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