

HIS114: World Civilization II  
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The process of unification of Italy in the 19th century, also known as Risorgimento, was a political and cultural movement that aimed to unify the various Italian states into a single nation. The unification process began with the revolt of 1820, led by Italian liberal and patriotic intellectuals, against foreign rule and absolutist regimes in several Italian states. Although the uprising was suppressed by the European powers, it served as a symbol for future unification movements.

In 1859, France, under the leadership of Napoleon III, declared war on Austria, which was the dominant power in the region. The Italian states, led by Piedmont, joined France in the war, which resulted in important victories for the Italian unification movement. In 1860, the Piedmontese leader Camillo di Cavour managed to annex Tuscany, Parma, Modena and other Italian regions to the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia. Political and military leader Giuseppe Garibaldi, who had led popular revolutions in Latin America, began a campaign to unify southern Italy with a volunteer army of "Red Shirts". He conquered the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies in 1860 and handed over the territory to the King of Piedmont-Sardinia.

In 1861, King Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed King of Italy, and the unification process was completed. However, some regions, such as Veneto and Rome, remained under foreign rule and were only incorporated into Italy in 1866 and 1870, respectively.

The unification process was marked by conflicts, tensions and strategic alliances, both inside and outside Italy. But ultimately, it enabled the creation of a unified Italian nation, with a common language and culture, and a stronger position on the international stage.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSjDe9\\_jZk8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSjDe9_jZk8)

<https://history.state.gov/countries/issues/italian-unification>