

Italy profile – Timeline, 5 May 2015

A chronology of key events:

1915 - Italy enters World War I on side of Allies.

1919 - Gains Trentino, South Tyrol, and Trieste under peace treaties.

1922 - Fascist leader Mussolini forms government after three years of political and economic unrest.

1926 - Suppression of opposition parties.

1929 - Lateran Treaty creates state of Vatican City.

1935 - Italy invades Ethiopia.

1936 - Mussolini forms axis with Nazi Germany.

1939 - Albania annexed.

1940 - Italy enters World War II on German side. Italian forces occupy British Somaliland in East Africa.

1941 - Italy declares war on USSR.

1943 - Sicily invaded by Allies. King Victor Emmanuel III imprisons Mussolini. Armistice signed with Allies. Italy declares war on Germany.

1944 - Allied armies liberate Rome.

1945 - Mussolini, who had been rescued from prison by Germans, is captured and executed by Italian partisans.

Italy - Towards European integration

1946 - Referendum votes for republic to replace monarchy.

1947 - Italy cedes land and territories under peace treaty.

1948 - New constitution. Christian Democrats win elections.

1951 - Italy joins European Coal and Steel Community.

1955 - Italy joins United Nations.

1957 - Founder member of European Economic Community.

1963 - Italian Socialist Party joins Christian Democrat-led coalition under Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

1972 - Giulio Andreotti becomes prime minister - a post he will hold seven times in 20 years.

1976-78 - Communist election gains lead to voice in policy making.

1978 - Former Prime Minister Aldo Moro kidnapped and murdered by left-wing armed group, the Red Brigades. Abortion legalised.

1980 - Bombing of Bologna station kills 84, linked to right-wing extremists.

1983 - Bettino Craxi becomes Italy's first Socialist prime minister since war

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17435616>

Early modern Germany

1871 - Otto von Bismarck achieves unification of Germany under leadership of Prussia; new German Empire's authoritarian constitution creates elected national parliament (Reichstag) but gives Kaiser (emperor) extensive powers.

1888 - Start of William II's reign; start of trend towards colonial expansion and build-up of German navy to compete with Britain's; rapid growth of Germany's economic power.

1890 - Growing workers' movement culminates in founding of Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD).

1914-1918 - World War I

1918 - Germany defeated, signs armistice. Emperor William II abdicates and goes into exile.

1919 - Treaty of Versailles: Germany loses colonies and land to neighbours, pays large-scale reparations.

Beginning of the Weimar Republic, based on a new constitution. Its early years are marked by high unemployment and rampant inflation.

1923 - Adolf Hitler, head of the National Socialist German Workers' (Nazi) Party, leads an abortive coup in a Munich beer hall.

France, Belgium occupy the Ruhr over failed reparation payments. Hyperinflation leads to economic collapse.

1924 - Hitler writes Mein Kampf - "My Struggle" - in prison.

1929 - Global depression, mass unemployment.

Third Reich

1933 - Hitler becomes chancellor. Weimar Republic gives way to a one-party state. Systematic persecution of Germany's Jews escalates. Hitler proclaims the Third Reich in 1934.

1935 - Germany begins to re-arm. Nuremberg Laws deprive German Jews of citizenship.

1936 - Berlin Olympics.

1938 - Annexation of Austria and Sudetenland.

Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) sees orchestrated attacks on Jews and their property as well as synagogues.

1939-1945 - Invasion of Poland triggers World War II.

Millions of people of all ages, mostly Jews but also large numbers of Gypsies, Slavs and other races, the disabled and homosexuals, die in the Holocaust as the Nazis implement an extermination policy in the death camps of eastern Europe.

1945 - German army defeated. Allies divide Germany into occupation zones.

1945-1946 - Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Country splits

1949 - Germany is divided. The US, French and British zones in the west become the Federal Republic of Germany; the Soviet zone in the east becomes the communist German Democratic Republic.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17301646>

Other Fascism

In the Americas, the [Brazilian Integralists](#) led by [Plínio Salgado](#), claimed as many as 200,000 members although following coup attempts it faced a crackdown from the [Estado Novo](#) of [Getúlio Vargas](#) in 1937.^[140] In the 1930s, the [National Socialist Movement of Chile](#) gained seats in [Chile's](#) parliament and attempted a coup d'état that resulted in the [Seguro Obrero massacre](#) of 1938.^[141]

[Francisco Franco's Falangist](#) one-party state in Spain was officially neutral during World War II and survived the collapse of the Axis Powers. Franco's rise to power had been directly assisted by the militaries of Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany during the [Spanish Civil War](#), and Franco had sent volunteers to fight on the side of Nazi Germany against the Soviet Union during World War II. After World War II and a period of international isolation, Franco's regime normalized relations with Western powers in the [Cold War](#), until Franco's death in 1975 and the transformation of Spain into a liberal democracy.

Roughly during the same period, neighbouring country [Portugal](#) was under control of the [Estado Novo](#), a dictatorship led by [António de Oliveira Salazar](#) that was in many aspects inspired by [Mussolini's](#) fascism. The [Estado Novo](#) also maintained an officially neutral position during [World War II](#) and lasted from 1932 to 1974.

[Peronism](#), associated with the regime of [Juan Perón](#) in [Argentina](#) from 1946 to 1955 and 1973 to 1974, was strongly influenced by fascism.^[152] Between 1939 and 1941, prior to rising to power, Perón had developed a deep admiration of Italian Fascism and modelled his economic policies on Italian Fascist policies.^[152]

The term *neo-fascism* refers to fascist movements after World War II. In Italy, the [Italian Social Movement](#), led by [Giorgio Almirante](#), was a major neo-fascist movement that transformed into a self-described "post-fascist" movement called the [National Alliance](#) (AN), which has been an ally of [Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia](#) for a decade. In 2008, AN joined Forza Italia in Berlusconi's new party [The People of Freedom](#). In 2012 a group of politicians split from The People of Freedom, refounding the party with the name [Brothers of Italy](#). In Germany, various neo-Nazi movements have been formed and banned under Germany's constitutional law that forbids Nazism. The [National Democratic Party of Germany](#) (NPD) is widely considered a neo-Nazi party, although the party does not publicly self-identify as such.

After the onset of the [Great Recession](#) and economic crisis in Greece, a movement known as the [Golden Dawn](#), widely considered a neo-Nazi party, soared in support out of obscurity and won seats in Greece's parliament, espousing a staunch hostility to minorities, illegal immigrants, and refugees. In 2013, after the murder of an anti-fascist musician by a person with links to Golden Dawn, the Greek government ordered the arrest of the Golden Dawn's leader [Nikolaos Michaloliakos](#) and other Golden Dawn members on charges related to being associated with a criminal organization.

In Israel, the Im Tirtzu movement has been termed a Fascist organization, and a judge ruled that it had "fascist attributes". [\[153\]](#)

Fascism, Wikipedia