PERIODS & DATES IN EUROPEAN HISTORY

**References:**

**Bold Terms = Significant Time Periods**

**\*Asterisk = Time Period / Event that crosses as AP Time Period (1, 2, 3, or 4)**

### Pre-AP Euro Historical Context

**Late Middle Ages**: 1300-1450

Hundred Years’ War (1337-1453)

The Bubonic Plague (1348-1352)

Fall of the Byzantine Empire (1453)

### Period 1: (1450-1648)

Early Modern Period - 1453-1789\*

**\*Renaissance**: 1350-1600 (first in Italy, then into Northern Europe)

**New Monarchies** - rise of modern states: c.1450-c.1550

**Age of Exploration (or Discovery)** 1450-c.1650

Conquest of the Americas (“Old Imperialism”): c.1500-c.1700

**Protestant and Catholic Reformations**: 16th Century

Martin Luther posts 95 Theses: 1517

**Catholic / Counter Reformation**: Council of Trent: 1545-1563

**Religious Wars**: 1520s-1640

Peasants’ Revolts: 1524-1525

Schmalkaldic Wars: 1546-1555 - Peace of Augsburg 1555

Dutch Revolts: 1566-1568

French Wars of Religion: 1562-1594

30 Years’ War: 1618-1648; Treaty of Westphalia: 1648

Height of Habsburg power: mid-16th century under Charles V

**Age of Crisis**: 1550-1650

**Witchcraft Scare:** 1580-1680

**Commercial Revolution**: 16th & 17th Centuries

**Price Revolution** - 16th Century

**Golden Age of Spain**: c.1550-c.1650

**Elizabethan Era** or **Age of Elizabeth I** (1588-1603)

Spanish Armada, 1588

**Dutch Golden Age**: 1550-1650

**\*Scientific Revolution**: 1543 - 1687 (Copernicus to Newton)

**\*Baroque Art:** 1600-1750

### Period 2 (1648-1815)

**\*Constitutionalism in England:** 1603-1689

English Civil War 1642-49

Glorious Revolution, 1688

Act of Union, 1707: Great Britain created

**Commercial Wars**: 1650-1763

Anglo-Dutch Wars: 1672-78 ---> decline of Dutch Netherlands

War of the League of Augsburg: 1689-1697

War of Spanish Succession: 1702-1713, Treaty of Utrecht

War of Austrian Succession: 1740-1748, Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle

Seven Years’ War: 1756-1763, Treaty of Paris

**Age of Absolutism**: c.1650-1750

**\*Age of Louis XIV**: 1643-1715

Peter the Great: 1682-1725

Frederick William “Great Elector”: 1640-1688; Frederick William I: 1713-1740

**Rise of Prussia and Austria**: 1650-c.1760

Decline of Poland, Ottoman Empire, and Holy Roman Empire: 1650 - Onward

**Rise of Russia**: 1689-1815

**Age of Enlightenment** or **Reason**: 18th century

**Rococo Art Movement**: 1720-1760

**Rise of the Middle Class**: 18th Century

**Agricultural Revolution**: c.1750-18th Century --->population explosion

**Enlightened Despotism**: c.1750-c.1800 (early 19th century for Napoleon)

Frederick the Great: 1740-1786

Catherine the Great: 1762-1796

Joseph II: 1780-90

**\*Age of Revolutions**: 1775-1848

**American Revolution**: 1775-1783

**French Revolution** & **Napoleonic Wars**: 1792-1815; Congress of Vienna 1815

French Revolution: 1789-1799

“Age of Montesquieu”: National Assembly (1789-1791); Legislative Assembly (1791-92)

“Age of Rousseau”: National Convention (1792-1795); Directory (1795-1799)

**Napoleonic Era** (“Age of Voltaire”): 1799-1815 (First Consul: 1799-1804; Empire: 1804-1815)

### Period 3 (1815-1914)

**\*The Long Nineteenth Century** (1789-1914)

**Congress of Vienna**, 1815

**\*Romanticism**: 1780s-1850

**\*Rise of Nationalism:**  1790s-1914

**\*Industrial Revolution**: c.1750- c.1850 (Beginning in Great Britain)

**Concert of Europe: 1815-1848;** “**Age of Metternich**”

**Feminism: 1790s-1980s**

**Rise of Liberalism:** 1830s-1870s

Revolutions of 1848

**Unification and Nation Building:** 1950-1875

**“Age of Bismarck”** or **Age of Realpolitik**: 1848-1871

Unification of Italy and Germany, 1871

**Materialism:** 1832-1914

**Realism**: 1848-late 19th century

**Second Industrial Revolution**: late 19th century – steel, oil, electricity, chemicals

**Modern Ideas and Science:** 1850s-1920s

**Rise of Mass Society or Modern Society:** 1850s - 1945

**Mass Politics**: 1871-1914 and beyond

**Age of Imperialism** (“New Imperialism”) or **Age of Colonialism**: 1880s-1914

### Period 4 (1914-Present)

**\*Modern Art:** 1870-1920

**The Short 20th Century**: 1914-1991

**First and Second World Wars** (1914-1945)

**World War I**: 1914-1918

Interwar Period (“**Age of Anxiety**”): 1919-1939

Rise of fascism & the Great Depression 1929-1939

**World War II**: 1939-1945

**Totalitarianism:** 1920s-1945

**Russian Revolution**: 1917

Lenin-1917-1924

Stalin—1927-1953

**Cold War**: 1946-1991

**de-Stalinization** under Khrushchev (1955-1964)

conservatism and re-Stalinization under Brezhnev (1964-1982)

*détente* – 1972-1979

Gorbachev: *glasnost* and *perestroika*: 1985-1991

**Revolutions of 1989** and **fall of Soviet Union 1991**

**Decolonization**: 1945-1970s; India, China, Egypt, Vietnam, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia

1960s: Counterculture and student protests

1970s: economic stagnation

1980s: Resurgence of conservatism and the Atlantic Alliance: Thatcher, Kohl, Reagan

1990s: Breakup of Yugoslavia, European Union

**European Unity:** 1945-Present

**European Union/Treaty of Maastricht**, 1991

**Post-Cold War / Postmodern Era (Postmodernity)**: 1991-Present

**War on Terror:** 2001-Present

Source Credit: Mercado & Freiler