

**Chapter 1 : Other C19 : The Struggle For Supremacy In Germany**

*Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy, from to the Present [Brendan Simms] on racedaydvl.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. If there is a fundamental truth of geopolitics, it is this: whoever controls the core of Europe controls the entire continent.*

Simms has the breadth of knowledge and clarity of vision to make his case compelling. His book is also immensely entertaining as well as instructive. There are few pages not enlivened by sharp insight, telling vignette or memorable turn of phrase. In short, this is a great book and everyone interested in European history will want to read it. Richardson Dilworth Professor of History, Yale University, and author of *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* "Europe is a superb, sure-footed analysis of how this center of world civilization, technology, and warfare evolved since the fall of Constantinople in It is unabashedly political history, and the better for being so. This book will be appreciated both by the general reader and by history teachers everywhere. An excellent read and its insights into the grand themes of European history are penetrating and lucidly argued. His new book is nothing less than a history of Europe over the past years Writing such a book is a colossally demanding task - the sort of challenge most sane historians would balk at, unless they had a very clear idea of what they wanted to say. For this book is driven by two great master-ideas, and there is hardly a page in it where their presence is not felt. So, no matter how dense the details may be of kings, wars, treaties and governments, the reader always has the exhilarating sense of moving swiftly onwards Like all truly powerful and original works, this is a book worth disagreeing with. But above all it is a book worth reading. Simms knows what he is talking about. This is the powerful case made by this gifted historian of Europe, whose expansive erudition revives the proud tradition of the history of geopolitics, and whose immanent moral sensibility reminds us that human choices made in Berlin and London today about the future of Europe might be decisive for the future of the world. His emphasis on the centrality of Germany offsets more western-orientated accounts while also giving due prominence to Eastern Europe. From the Holy Roman Empire to the Euro, Brendan Simms shows that one of the constant preoccupations of Europeans has always been the geography, the power and the needs of Germany. Europe is a work of extraordinary scholarship delivered with the lightest of touches. It will be essential, absorbing reading for anyone trying to understand both the past and the present of one of the most productive and most dangerous continents on earth. Simms chronicles this kaleidoscope of conflicts and coalitions with a graceful briskness that teases larger themes out of the welter of detail He has, in effect, dropped a big stone into the European pond and stood back to watch the ripples spread It is a compelling and provocative thesis This is sweeping history, told with verve and panache, and it is all the more refreshing for that. Timothy Snyder, author of *Bloodlands* "World history is German history, and German history is world history. If postmodern scholarship has Ranke spinning in his grave, Mr. Such a summary may sound arid, but Europe is anything but. In fact, it draws the reader forward with its grand epic of shifting alliances, clashing armies and ambitious statecraft. Simms is a skilled writer with a rare gift for compressed analysis. His focus on the military and diplomatic arc of European history lends his book a strong narrative line and thematic coherence. Patterns emerge that might have remained buried in a more various survey. Writing such a book is a colossally demanding task -- the sort of challenge most sane historians would balk at, unless they had a very clear idea of what they wanted to say.

## Chapter 2 : The Long Struggle for Supremacy in the Muslim World

*The present book combines the efforts of fifteen researchers whose areas of expertise bring forth various aspects of the history of the Order of St John and the times during which the Hospitallers were prominently active.*

Apr 16, Stuart Kinross rated it really liked it In this impressive survey of European power politics since the fall of Constantinople, Brendan Simms builds on a theme familiar from his earlier works on Prussia: However, the main thread running through the book is the thesis that the German-speaking lands of central Europe are the key to the balance of power on the continent and in the wider world. At the outset, Simms puts forward the argument that the Holy Roman Empire and its successor st In this impressive survey of European power politics since the fall of Constantinople, Brendan Simms builds on a theme familiar from his earlier works on Prussia: Consequently, his interpretation of every major conflict in European history over the last years is made through a German prism. The French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars were driven as much by the pursuit of a geopolitical agenda centred on Germany as they were by ideology. When Napoleon lost at Leipzig in , his consequent ejection from Germany meant that the game was up even though the campaigns of and were yet to come. His account of the growing sense of German nationalism which culminated in the Wars of Unification between and concludes with the observation that with the mastery of Germany assured, a new phase in the struggle for European supremacy was about to begin. This brings us on to the Hohenzollern and National Socialist attempts to achieve German hegemony in Europe. Simms places all of this in a wider context. With the fall of France in , the United States was aware that this had led to a fundamental change in the European and, hence, global balance of power. By the end of the following year, Hitler had contrived to ensure that the most powerful coalition of powers imaginable now opposed Germany making his downfall inevitable. Although Germany was partitioned in , it remained the fulcrum of European power politics during the Cold War. They were also determined to prevent the re-emergence of German power. This would appear unlikely because British Euroscepticism is well entrenched while opposition to the European project is becoming more popular in Germany. What is it good for? The problem comes at the end, when these learned historians of completely different styles and levels of seriousness attempt to apply their knowledge to the present day and just miss the point entirely. Before my massi A lot of learning can be a dangerous thing. Before my massive problem, one small quibble. The book is billed as telling the story from to the present. In fact, the first four and a half centuries are done with by the halfway point. I would have enjoyed more coverage of those earlier years, that birthed the nation-state system, and so much of what we consider modern Europe. The narrative throughout was readable, detailed and enjoyable. There is of course vastly more information of contemporary relevance the closer you get to the present day, but I felt a bit cheated. Like I said a quibble, and it only slightly detracted from my enjoyment of the book. When the book makes it to the 20th century grand strategy and wars that I sense Simms actually wanted to write about, the treatment is excellent. He effortlessly dips back and forth between domestic politics and the international struggle of what feels like dozens of countries. He expertly manages to incorporate the planet-wide conflicts that mattered, while sticking to his focus on the struggle for the European continent. The more I think about the feat, the more impressed I am. One is the way that foreign policy drove all manner of domestic changes, from administrative reform to social legislation, and the Second is the centrality of the struggle to control Germany, the European heartland, over the entire period discussed. These are perhaps not the most ambitious of points, but they are proven well. His narrative of the World Wars and the Cold War is just fantastic. The problems come after the Cold War ends. The timbre of the narrative changes dramatically. Every minor reversal and savage little cold war hangover is described as a "colossal" and or "massive" crisis. The continued "failure" of the European public to take an interest in military aggrandizement and defense spending is lamented in frankly ludicrous terms. Here let me quote a bit: I made a video on it once: The fact that most of the European public now cares more about quality of life than the petty grandeur of killing the folks the next country over is something to be celebrated. He acknowledges it with one sentence. Objective history is impossible, but this degree of partisanship is just too much. To be sure there was all manner of manipulation by elites, but much of the

continent really believed that the war was right and good, and their side, their national blood and steel, would prevail. This is how Simms closes the book, referring to the present day: The German Question, eclipsed for more than a decade after unification, was back. Angst over a financial management is not the urge to march off and blow somebody up.

**Chapter 3 : Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy, from to the Present :: Center for Islamic Pluralism**

*Turks and Saudis have been enemies for centuries. Now the Khashoggi investigation has rekindled their fierce rivalry and may upend the politics of the Middle East.*

In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: *The Struggle for Supremacy, from to the Present*. This is very much a book in the style that is characteristic of Simms. It is bold, articulate, well written, and interesting, but also problematic and lacking in the caveats and qualifications that might be expected from a major academic such as Simms, a Cambridge professor of international relations. He argues for an essential consistency, and thus coherence, in these in his period. According to Simms, he demonstrates that the principal security issues faced by Europeans have remained remarkably constant over the centuries: The German question is repeatedly presented by Simms as crucial, indeed central, to the fundamental issue of whether Europe would be united or dominated by a single force. Germany is also depicted as the cockpit of the European ideological struggle. In methodological terms, it relies, like many books, on assertion, rather than demonstration. The assertions are interesting and ably presented, but that is what they are. Linked to this, many of the assertions can be questioned, as I will try to show with a few examples. As far as specific facts are concerned, there is also the problem of episodic error common to most books covering any range. For example, Maastricht fell to the French in 1992, not 1991. No, unless it suggests issues with fact checking by the author or the lack of a proper scrutiny on the part of the publishers, the latter a factor that is all too common with trade books. In geographical terms, an issue for world historians, the focus on Europe is one on Germany. This leads to a serious underplaying of other approaches to European and world history, notably a focus on the Mediterranean or on the Atlantic. In particular, questions of cultural interaction are [End Page ] far more to the fore if the emphasis is on the Mediterranean. Simms never really addresses adequately the question of differing perspectives. He simply relies on assertion. For example, Germany is presented as the most important front in the struggle between Christendom and Islam. This is a view that would have surprised Iberian, French, or Italian commentators, for all of whom the Mediterranean was the key focus in a conflict that in the sixteenth century raged from Morocco to Cyprus. To them, Vienna was distinctly peripheral. More conventionally, Simms sees a struggle for control of Germany as at the heart of the rivalry between the Soviet Union and the West. Moreover, a struggle for control of Germany was not at the heart of the Cold War rivalry in the 1940s: Again, these arguments can be contested: Assertion, whether by reviewer or author, is worrying, but at least this reviewer is willing to accept different points of view. Let us take an example from a page selected at random. You are not currently authenticated. View freely available titles:

Chapter 4 : Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy by Brendan Simms – review | Books | The Guardian

*The gladiator's edge In the struggle for AI supremacy, China will prevail. Or so reckons Kai-Fu Lee, a tech insider, in "AI Superpowers".*

Nor that without the Balance of Europe kept up. Germany was therefore the recurring battleground during the Renaissance as well as the "revolutionary age" that began in the 17th century for, successively, the Habsburgs, England as a partner for the Habsburgs, the French, and Russia. Simms argues that the foreign strategies of the powers were inextricable from their domestic policies. Linkages between peace or war and liberty extend, in his view, through every armed conflict and political upheaval since the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople. He affirms that it "has been seen by generations of international lawyers and international relations theorists as the breakthrough for the modern concepts of sovereignty and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other states. Issues joined far from Central Europe were, for Simms, extensions or reflections of the challenges in the middle of the continent. To cite one instance, he explains that a Russian war against the Ottomans in "was intended in large part to create an alternative imperial legitimacy to that conferred by the Holy Roman Empire. Prussia seized Habsburg territory in Silesia today mainly in southern Poland, but the Habsburg Empress Maria Theresa summoned a defensive force, and her dominion survived, although she lost most of Silesia. Four main European states which remain such to the present had by then assumed supremacy: German echoes were present in every succeeding world crisis. Once America achieved independence, European problems occupied the American Founders, and Simms presents the constitutional debates in *The Federalist* as deeply marked by the bad example of decentralized authority in the German states. In France, hatred of the royal consort Marie Antoinette, born a Habsburg princess, and rejection of a French alliance with Habsburg Austria contributed to the disintegration of the Bourbon monarchy. The French revolutionary regime turned against Austria and invaded the Holy Roman Empire; Napoleon, taking leadership of the French, fought against Austria, Prussia, and their protectors, Russia and Britain. Napoleon overcame Prussia and demanded that the Habsburgs surrender their claim over the Germans. He compelled the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire, after nearly eight centuries, while Germany was reorganized and the process of its unification begun. Ultimately, Napoleon was defeated in 1815, but, as Simms attests, a new European order had come into existence. The end of the Holy Roman Empire was a "third revolution," after those of America and France, in which the Central European equilibrium was overthrown. The remainder of this encyclopedic account depicts the convoluted consequences of the long and innumerable battles for the European heartland. In 1806, Prussia expelled the Habsburgs from the confederated German territories, and the ground was laid for a single Germany although by then America and czarist Russia had become the arbiters of world politics. In 1871, Prussian-led Germany administered a disastrous military defeat to France and proclaimed a German Empire. Germany had grown to be the de facto leading Western European power, acquiring colonies in Africa, the Pacific, and China. Germany built a navy intended to rival the Royal Navy, which had long "ruled the waves. This outcome yielded the rise of Bolshevism and, subsequently, National Socialism. As Simms comments, "The war against Germany was over; the struggle over Germany now began. In the second round, Germany was again vanquished, along with its new allies, Italy and Japan; but the rest of the world had relearned that the stabilization of Germany was necessary, even absolutely necessary, for the peace of Europe. The United Nations, crucial to the process of German rehabilitation, was founded as an official international institution and, as Simms remarks, was "at its creation. The fetishization of state sovereignty for which it later became known was a subsequent re-invention by Third Worldist dictators and unworldly international lawyers. Still, in 1945, East Germany collapsed, soon followed by the rest of the Communist states in Europe. Germany was reunified, and its currency was eventually assimilated into the euro. As Simms recalls, "The German mark was to be sacrificed as the price for ending the partition of Germany. Today, Germany dominates EU fiscal policy amid the greatest economic crisis since the 1930s. As described by Simms, Germans are disillusioned with the common currency, and many favor an exit from the eurozone. Elsewhere in Europe, this has "provoked a popular anti-Germanism unknown since the late 19th century.

The German Question, eclipsed for more than a decade after unification, was back. The shrine has since been rebuilt.

*After Tamerlane, the Oxford historian John Darwin's history of global empires from to the present, is a masterpiece of scholarship, stunning in its breadth, originality and vision.*

Now the Khashoggi investigation has rekindled their fierce rivalry and may upend the politics of the Middle East. Two centuries ago, in the fall of 1818, the Saudi monarch was brought to Istanbul in chains. He was displayed in a cage to the cheering crowds outside the Hagia Sophia mosque, and then, amid celebratory fireworks, his head was chopped off. In the wake of Mr. For now, Tehran is happy to watch from the sidelines as its two main regional rivals undermine each other and leave Western powers with few good options for how to react. He imposed an embargo that unsuccessfully sought regime change in Qatar. Saudi Arabia and its allies also have relentlessly pursued the Muslim Brotherhood, an Islamist political movement hostile to U.S. Though professing a commitment to democracy under Islamic law, the Brotherhood has turned autocratic when in power in Egypt and Sudan. Erdogan has supported the group across the Arab world since the revolutions of the Arab Spring, and Mr. Khashoggi was sympathetic to some of its aims. He sent Turkish troops to protect Qatar, ousted Saudi allies from Somalia and announced a deal to lease an island across the Red Sea from Saudi Arabia in Sudan, possibly for a military base. He has also become a vociferous champion of traditional Muslim causes, such as Palestine, and of new ones, such as the suffering of the Rohingya in Myanmar. Istanbul has turned into a favorite hub for Islamist dissidents from across the Arab world. For four centuries, the sultan in Istanbul was also the religious leader, or caliph, of the entire Muslim world. His spiritual authority was recognized well beyond the borders of the Ottoman Empire, which at its peak included parts of central and eastern Europe, north Africa and the Arabian peninsula. The caliphate was abolished only in 1924, six years after the Ottomans lost control over Mecca and Medina to a British-sponsored Arab revolt during World War I. The modern, secular Turkish Republic, which rose from the remnants of the Ottoman Empire after its defeat by the Allied powers, banished the last sultan, Mehmed VI, to Europe in 1922. With the Ottomans gone, the House of Saud quickly expanded from its desert strongholds to much of the Arabian peninsula, first capturing Mecca and then establishing a powerful new state in Saudi Arabia. Khashoggi, as it happens, hailed from a Turkish family that settled in Arabia in the Ottoman age, which is why Turkish newspapers usually spell his surname the Turkish way as Kasikci, which means a spoon maker, to signal his kinship with the country. Turkey is the main reason that the previous two Saudi states ceased to exist. The first disappeared when an Ottoman expeditionary corps comprised mostly of Turkish and Albanian soldiers seized the Saudi capital of Diriyah, on the outskirts of Riyadh, in 1818. The city was razed. According to a Russian diplomatic dispatch, the Turkish sultan then had the captured Saudi ruler, Abdullah bin Saud, escorted to Istanbul, alongside the chief Wahhabi cleric. After the deposed Saudi monarch was beheaded outside the Hagia Sophia, his body was propped up in public for three days with his severed head under his arm. In Ottoman eyes, the Saudis were bloodthirsty murderers who had plundered the holy city of Karbala in Ottoman Iraq, slaughtering 4,000 civilian inhabitants, most of them Shiite, and later destroyed many shrines in Mecca and Medina. To celebrate the demise of the Saudi state and the liberation of the two holy mosques, the Ottoman sultan even released debtors from jail across his realm. In the following decades, a different branch of the House of Saud rebuilt Diriyah and reconquered much of the Arabian peninsula, prompting another Ottoman military invasion in 1813. Over the next few years, a rival Arabian tribe loyal to Turkey finished off what remained of the second Saudi realm. All of this is not quite ancient history. In 2015, they razed the historic Ajyad fortress in Mecca, one of many ancient Ottoman buildings that have gone under Saudi bulldozers. Erdogan has seized his chance. Erdogan last December overtook the Turkish record in Saudi Arabia, after the Emirati foreign minister retweeted a post accusing Fakhreddin Pasha, the last Ottoman governor of Medina, of looting. It was also a result of Mr. Now, with the Khashoggi affair igniting global outrage, Mr. Brunson has allowed a thaw in relations with Washington. A series of leaks by Turkish officials, meanwhile, has forced Saudi Arabia, which initially insisted that Mr. Khashoggi had walked out of the consulate alive, to make an embarrassing about-face, admitting that the journalist was indeed killed by a specially dispatched team on its own diplomatic premises.

Erdogan wants the Saudi suspects to stand trial in Turkey and has pointed his finger at the highest levels of the Saudi state. Erdogan on Wednesday, insisted in his first public appearance since Mr. Prince Mohammed added that as long as he, King Salman and Mr. Erdogan remain in power, nobody would be able to drive a wedge between the two brotherly Muslim nations. In Ankara, however, memories are still fresh of how Prince Mohammed just a few months ago, on a visit to Egypt, bluntly described Mr. Erdogan has imprisoned more journalists than any other state, press-freedom groups say. Thanks to the Khashoggi affair, however, Mr.

#### Chapter 6 : The Struggle for Supremacy in Germany | Board Game | BoardGameGeek

*Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy, from to the Present by Brendan Simms If there is a fundamental truth of geopolitics, it is this: whoever controls the core of Europe controls the entire continent, and whoever controls all of Europe can dominate the world.*

#### Chapter 7 : The Struggle for Supremacy in Germany - Available games

*Even on Simms's own account, there have been long periods when the "struggle for supremacy" gave way to various kinds of international co-operation, whether it was between European powers rallying.*

#### Chapter 8 : The struggle for supremacy - Telegraph

*Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy from to the Present by. Brendan Simms. Â· Rating details Â· Ratings Â· 50 Reviews If there is a fundamental truth of.*

#### Chapter 9 : Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy, to the Present - Brendan Simms - Google Books

*The same applied to overseas, for the discovery of America - Simms argues - was the result of Europe's struggle with Islam and the American Civil War was caused by the same issue that had created the United States in the first place - territorial expansion.*