

# 5. Post|Colonial Transitions

## Episode 1: (Post)Colonialism: Historical & Present

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Fachbereich 10: Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaften

Postcolonial Literary and Cultural Studies, Universität Bremen

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- Travel and migration of people and ensuing diversity was and is most often caused by colonial histories and present neocolonial conditions or relations
- Many conflicts today have their roots in colonialism and former colonial practices or events

# Learning objectives

1. Create awareness of the colonial character of world history that shapes our present reality;
2. Forge an understanding about colonial politics of European nations and the resultant impact on colonized societies;
3. Bring forth the relations between coloniality and modernity;
4. Impart an in-depth understanding of how colonialism and neocolonialism continues to influence the different aspects of former colonies through overt and covert control on economy, politics, education, social and legal system.

## Types of colonialism

(Osterhammel 2005, 10-12)

Terminology	Definition	Examples
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<b>Exploitation colonies</b> [ <i>Beherrschungskolonien</i> , lit. 'command/domination colonies']	Conquered territory; tribute extracted from conquered population; resources extracted but no agricultural settlement; rule by class of administrators	<b>British India,</b> <b>Indochina, Egypt,</b> <b>Philippines</b>

# Modern British Empire (1490s-1960s)



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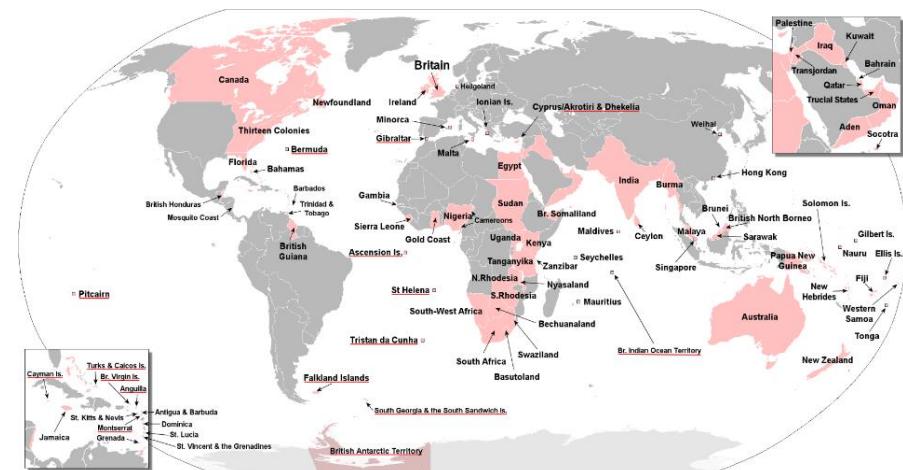


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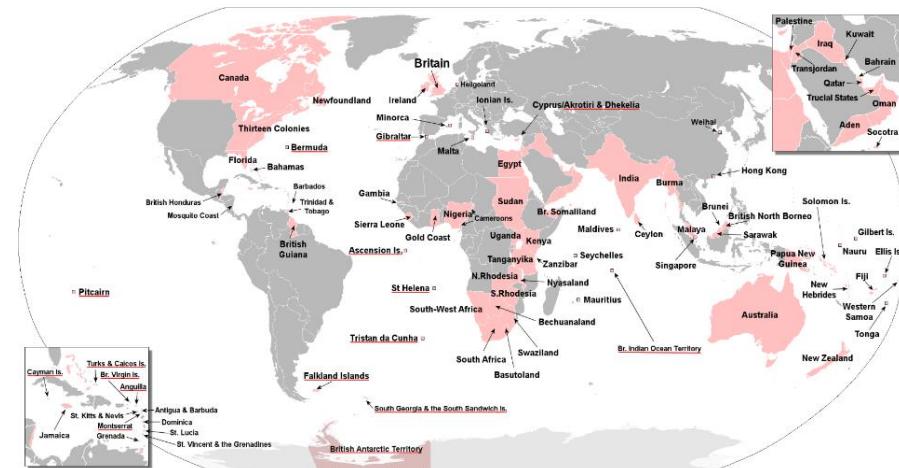


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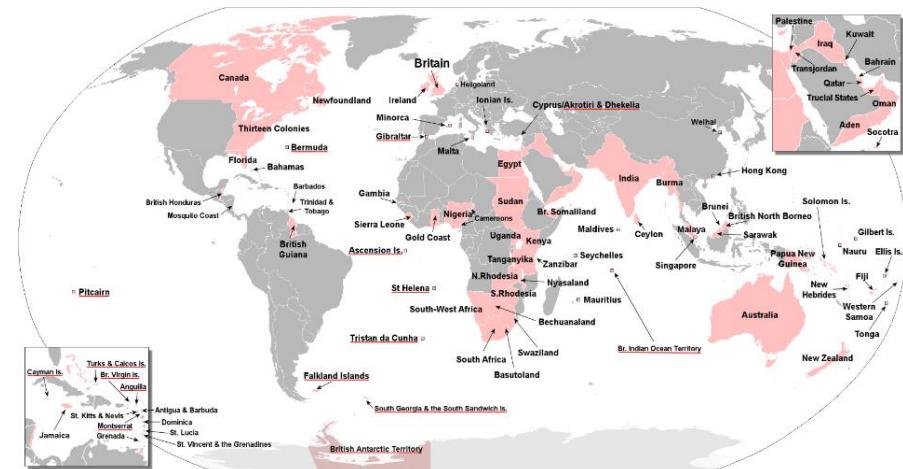


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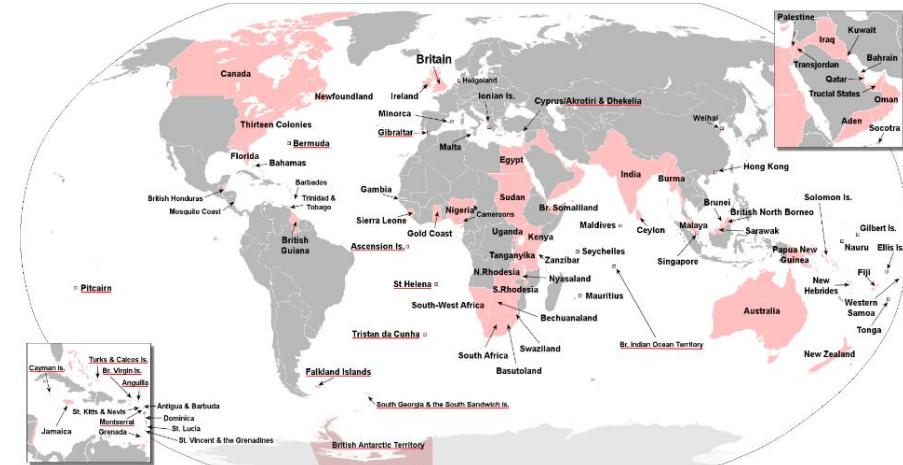


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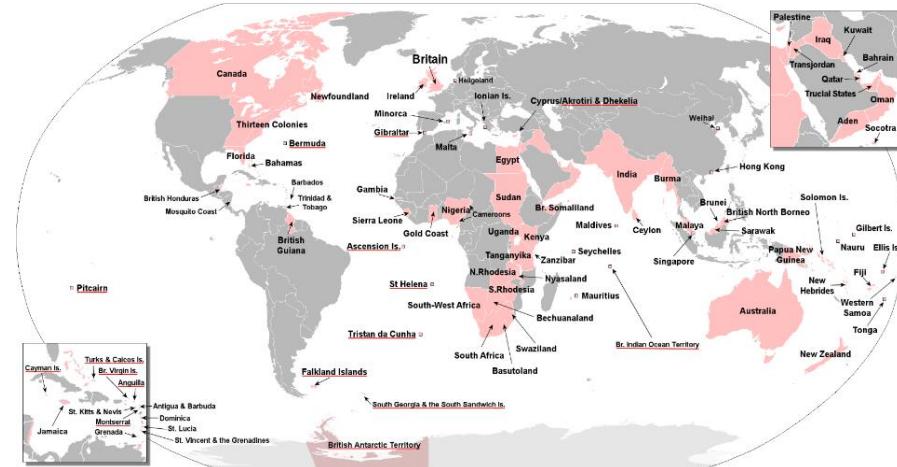


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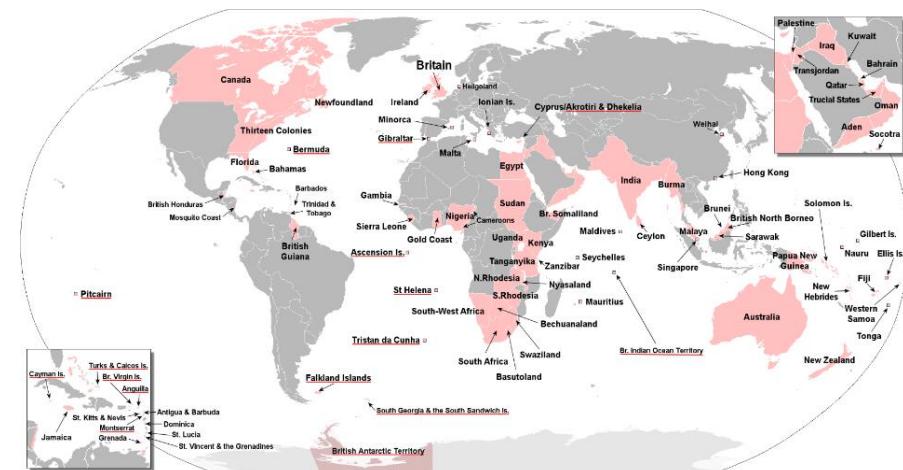


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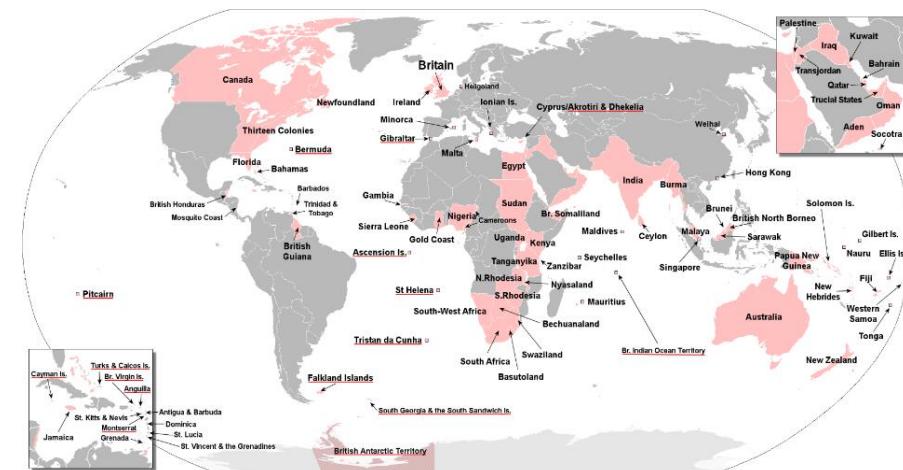


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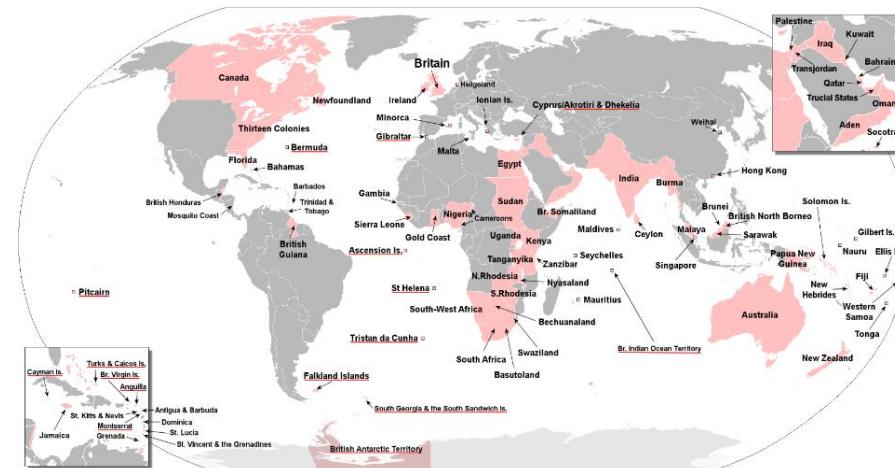


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- British Empire continues to exercise global influence
- Predominance of English as lingua franca, official or administrative language in the former colonies

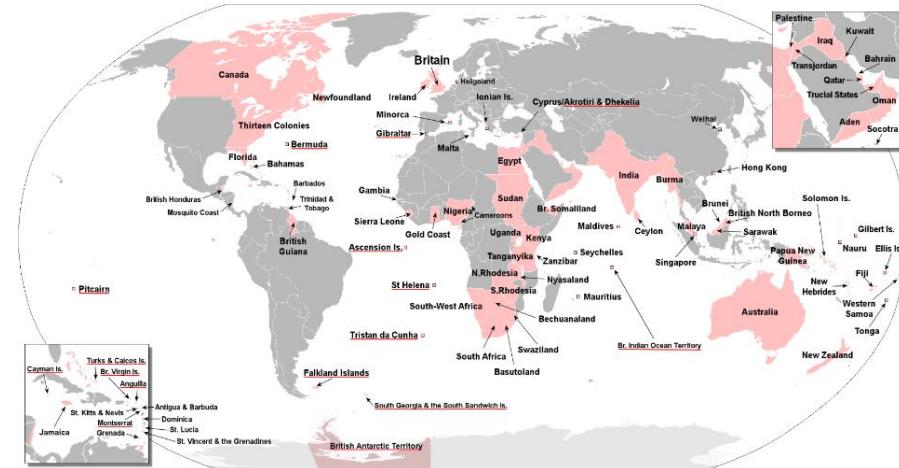


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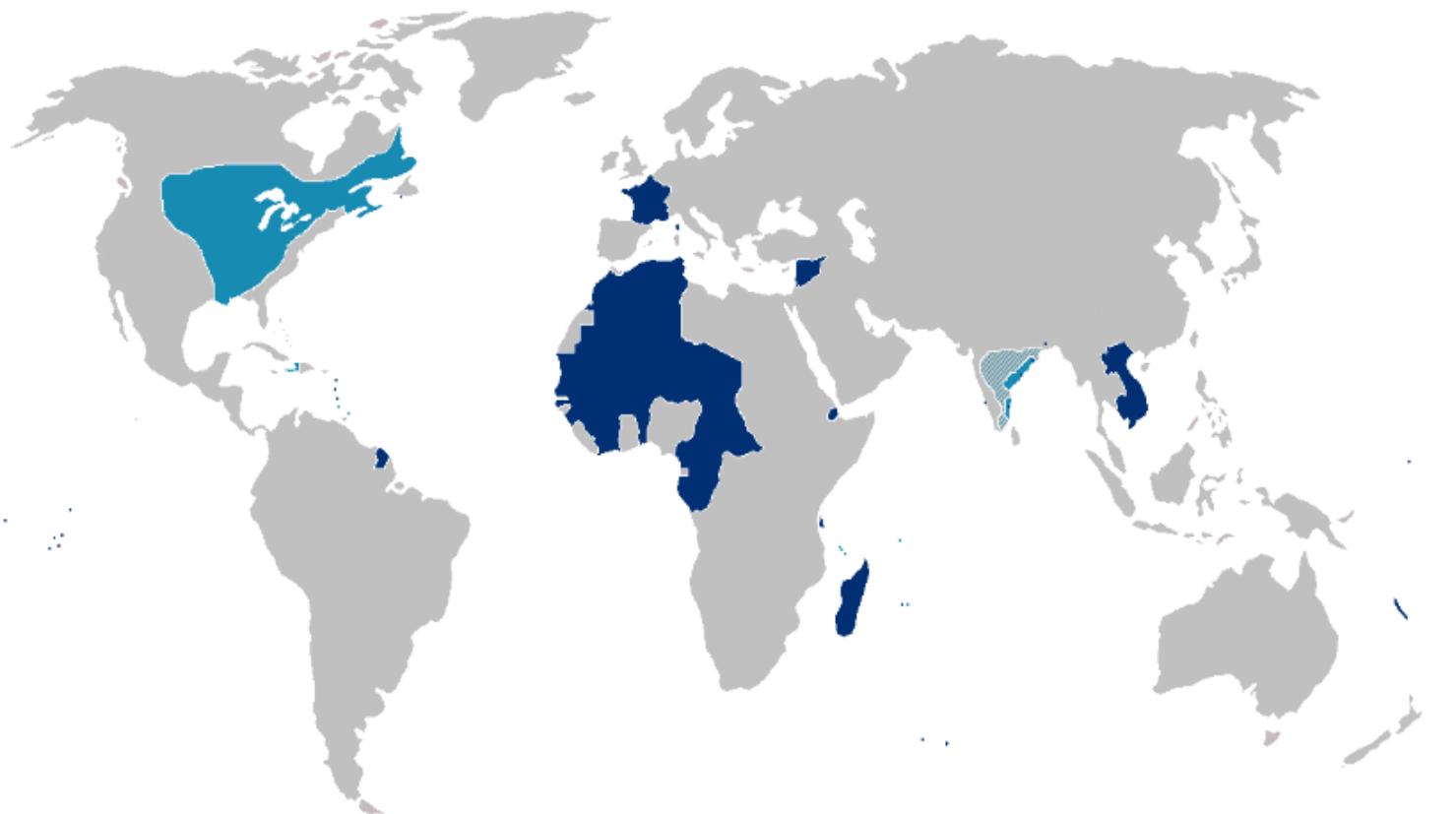


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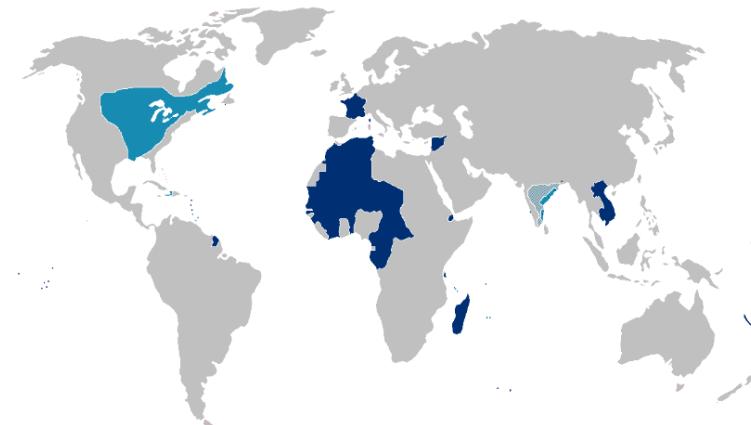


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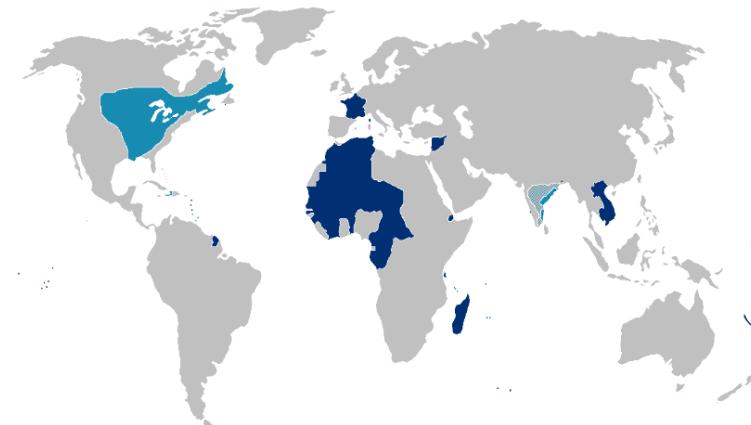


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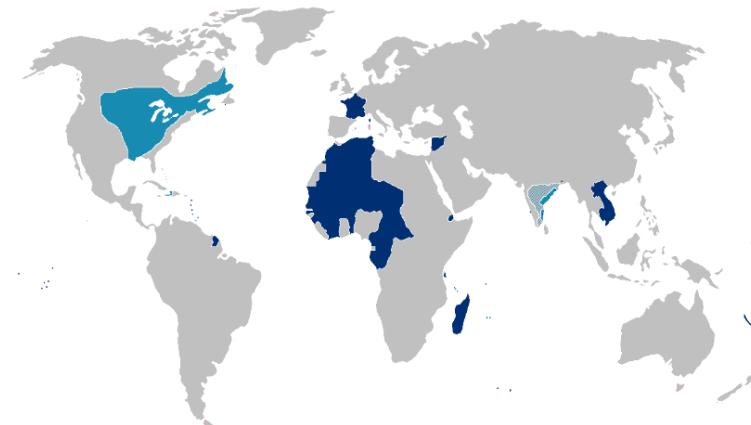


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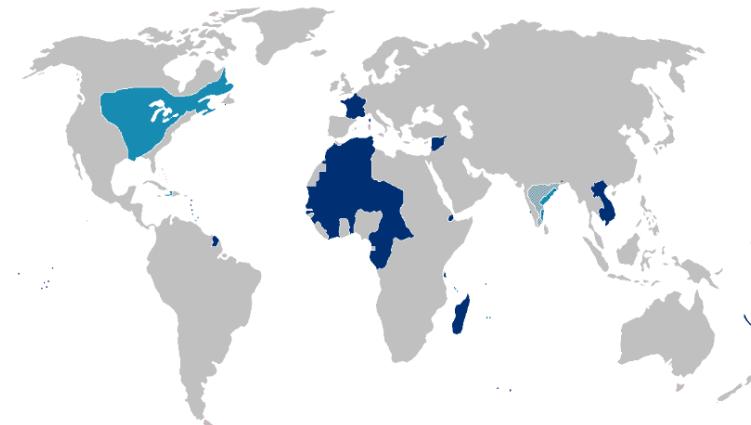


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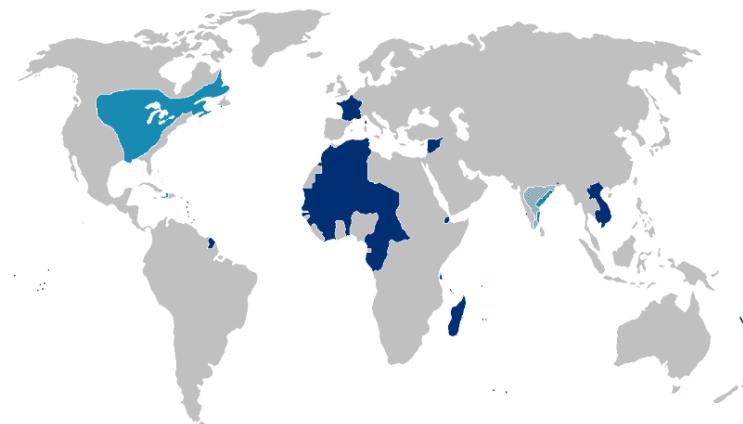


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- 1790s: First successful revolt of enslaved people, 1804: Independence of Haiti, 1803: Louisiana Purchase of French territories by USA

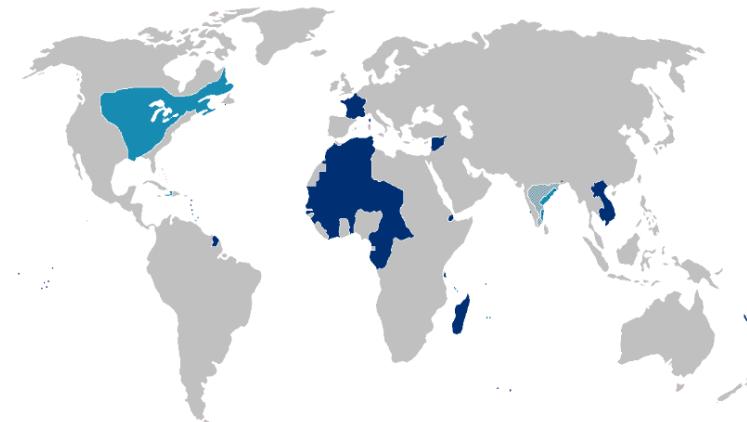


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- French control in former colonies in terms of military intervention (e.g. Mali, Rwanda), language and education (e.g. Haiti), economic relations (e.g. loans and markets, free trade agreements)

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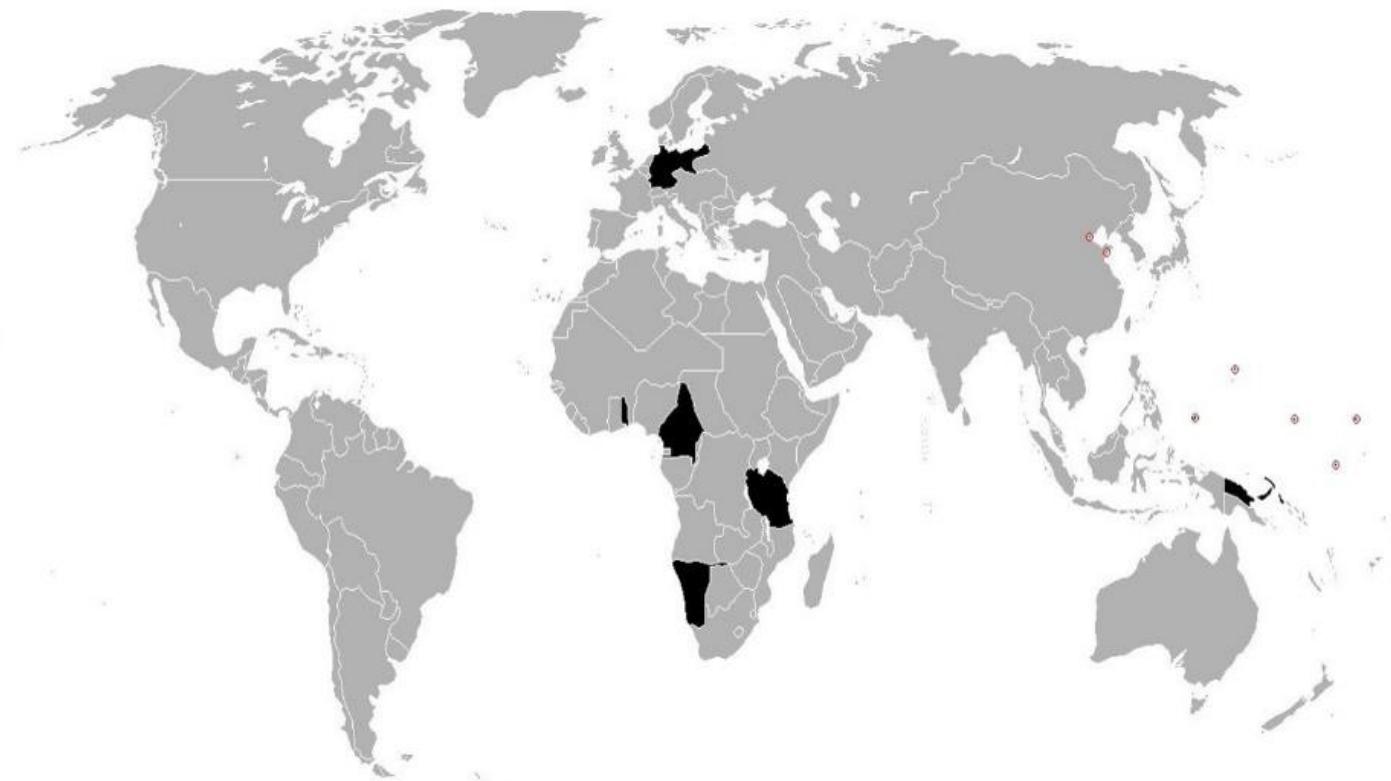


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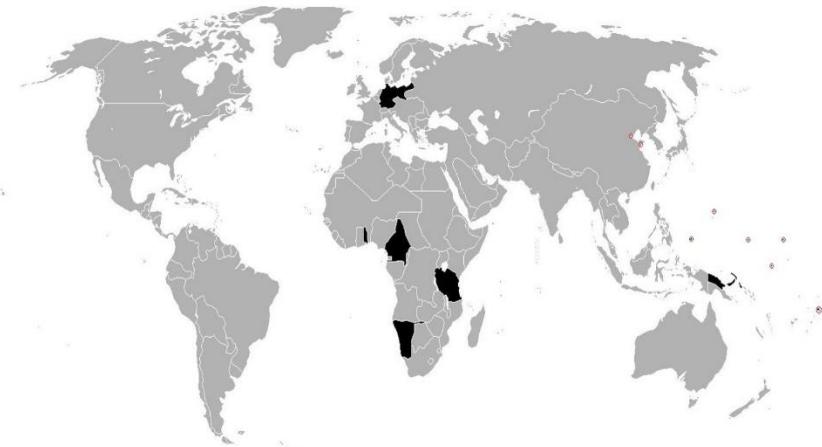


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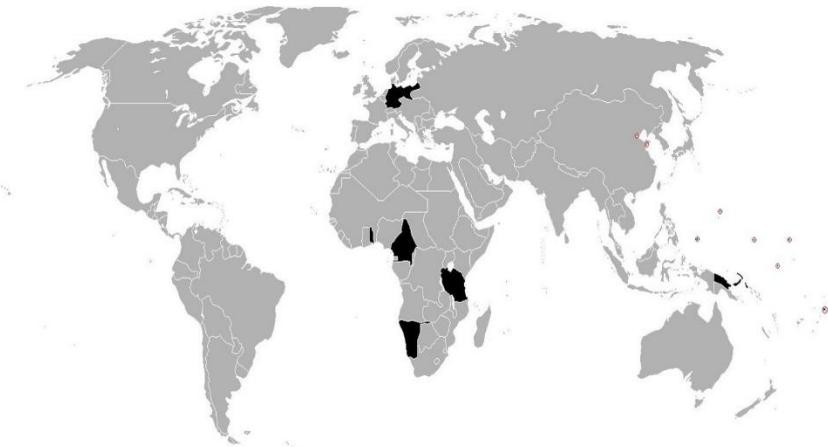


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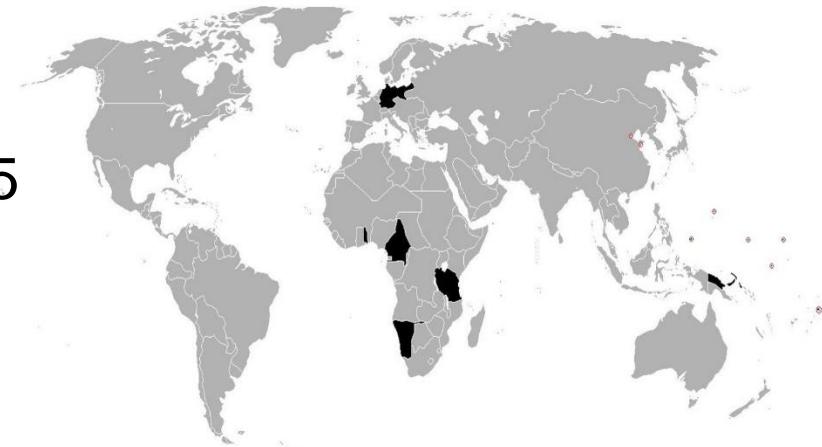


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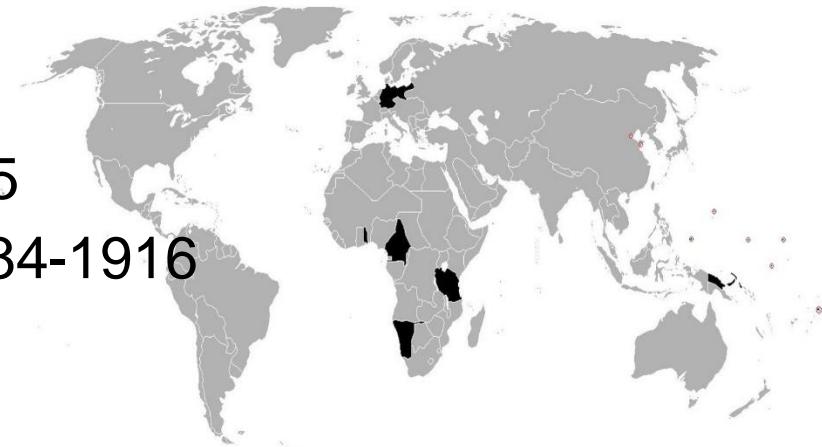


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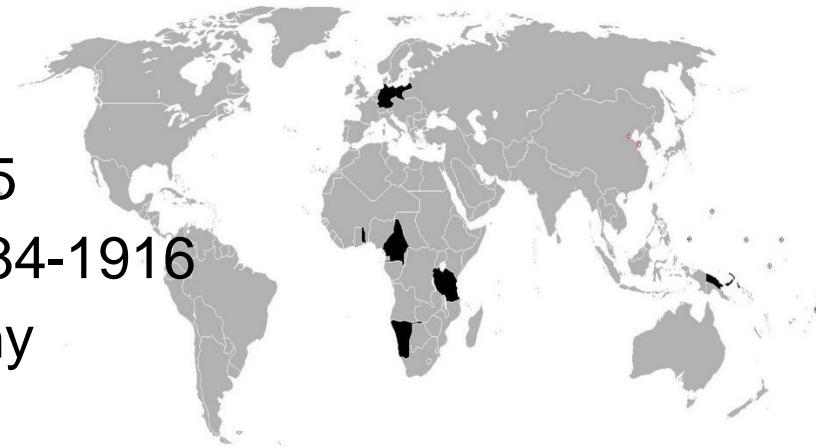


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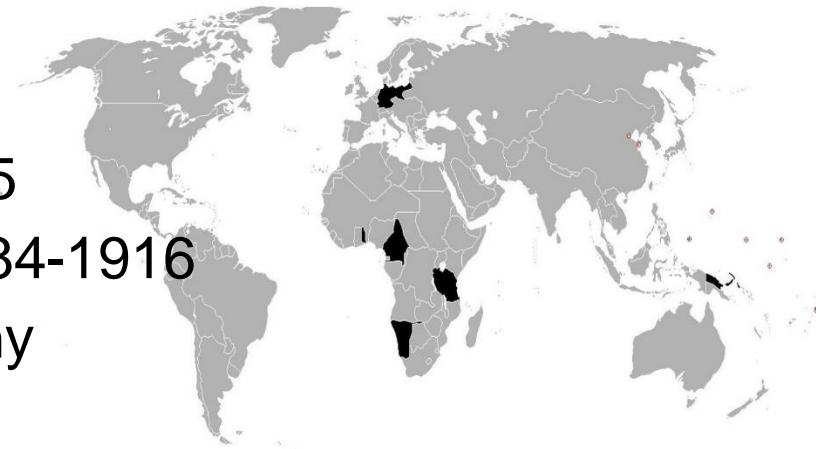


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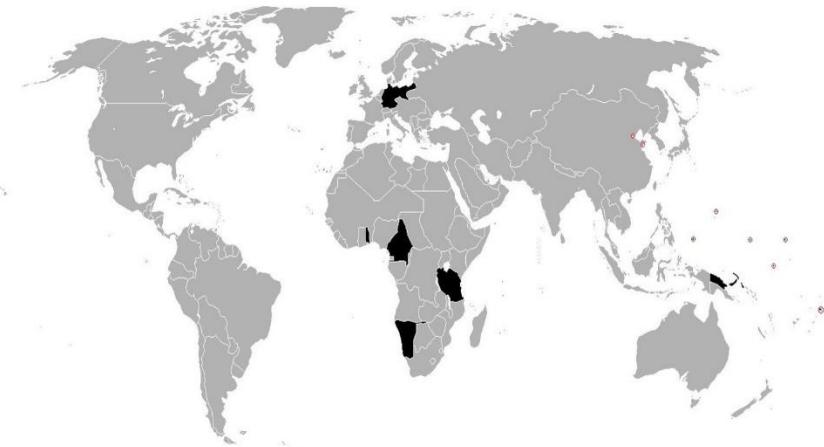


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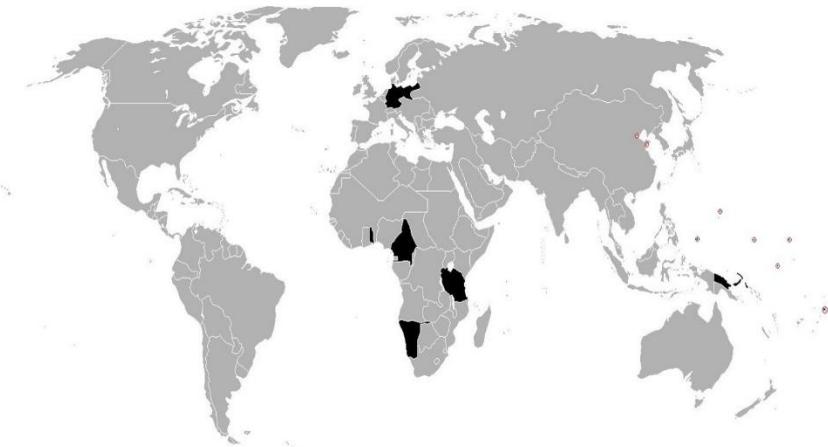


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(Attribution: [Andrew0921](#) at the [English Wikipedia](#))

# German colonialism (1884-1919)

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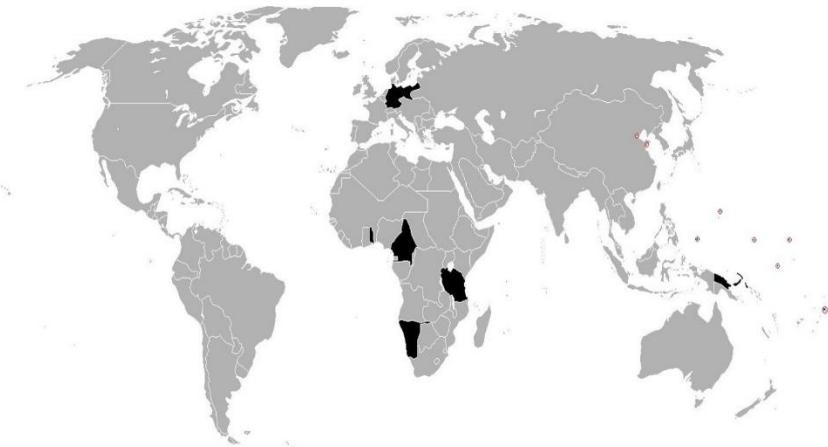


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# German colonialism (1884-1919)

- **German West Africa:** large-scale German settlement (farms, cattle herds); minerals and metals (copper, diamonds); gradual dispossession of land and bloody oppression of Herero and Nama people, German settlement of Namibia; Herero and Nama resistance 1904/05; lost the Schlacht am Waterberg; General von Trotha's Schießbefehl; **genocide** on Herero and Nama people; first concentration camps in Namibia
- **Cameroon:** coastal Duala people were gradually dispossessed; largest plantation colony in Western Africa: cocoa, rubber and palm oil from Northern hinterland
- **Togo:** mainly trade colony; few German settlers along coast; production of palm oil
- **German East Africa:** Deutsch-Ostafrikanische Handelsgesellschaft gained land and trading rights, increasing dispossession of people and plantations (cotton, sisal), brutal submission of **Maji-Maji rebellion** 1905-08, following hunger epidemic and 300.000 dead among the local population
- **PNG:** few German settlers; continuous risk of malaria; plantations (rubber, copra) often brutally exploited local and hijacked workers, strict colonial administration and "Strafexpeditionen" of Schutztruppe
- **Samoa:** "Perle der Südsee", only prestige object; little colonial intervention with local beliefs, culture, language
- **Kiautschou:** Exploitation of coal reserves; strategic trade base; 1900 "Boxeraufstand", brutal suppression by Germans

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# Spanish colonialism (1492-1832)

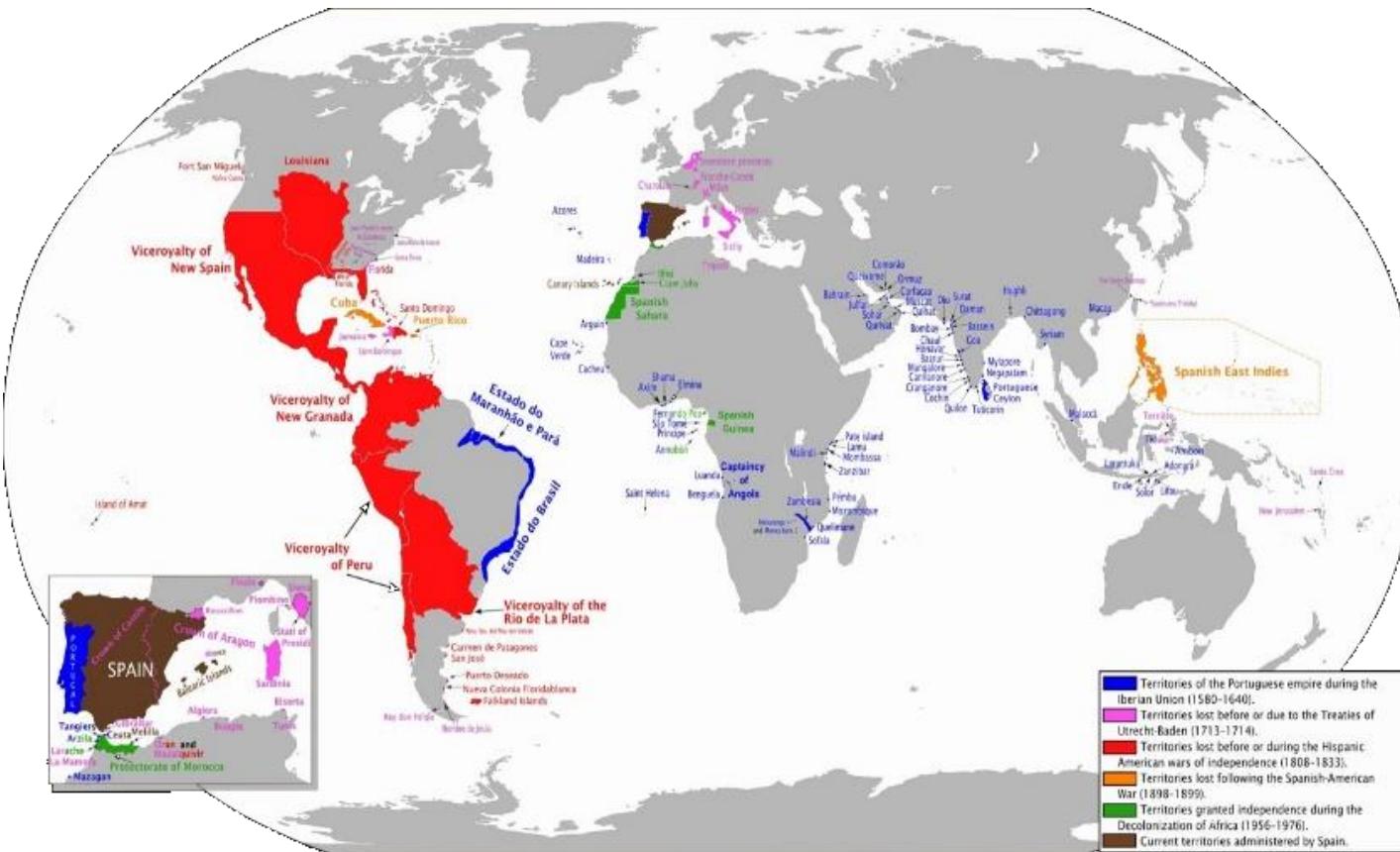


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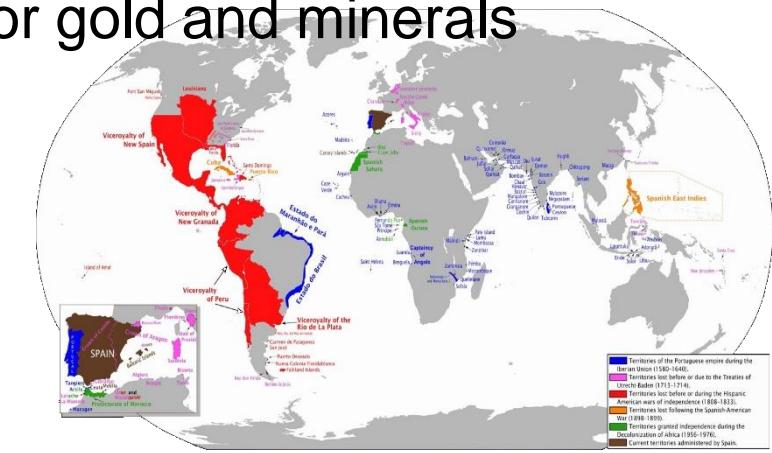


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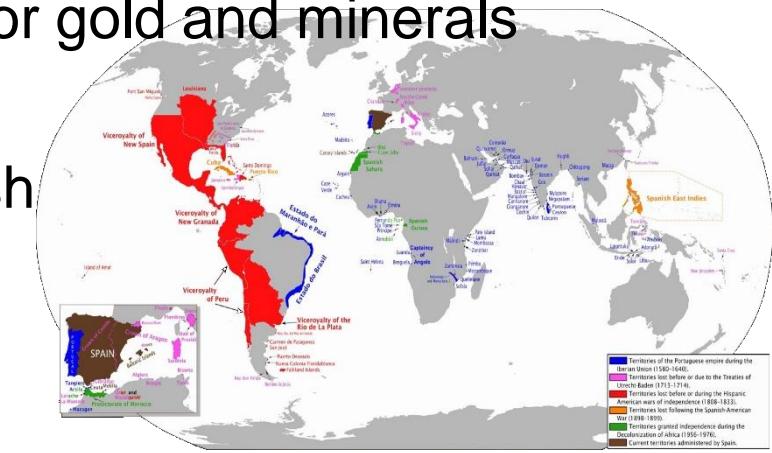
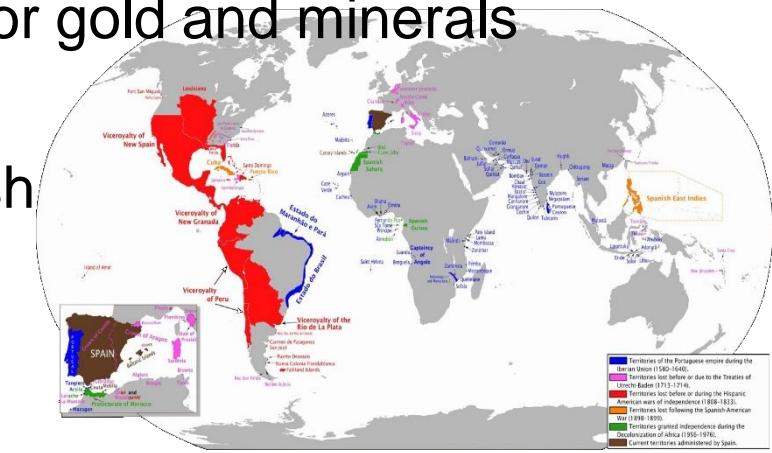


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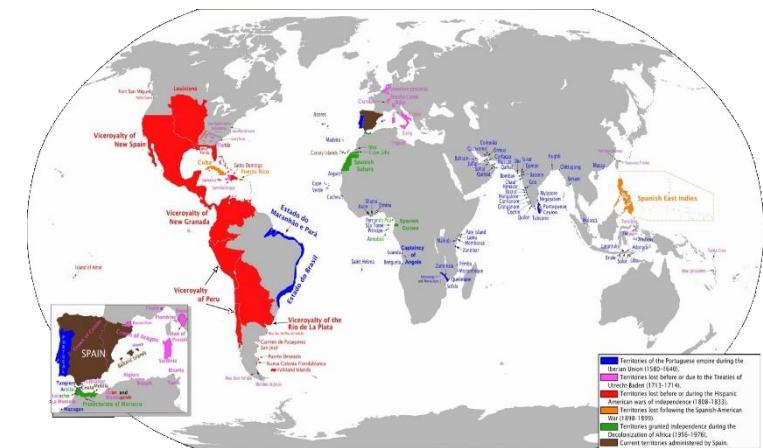


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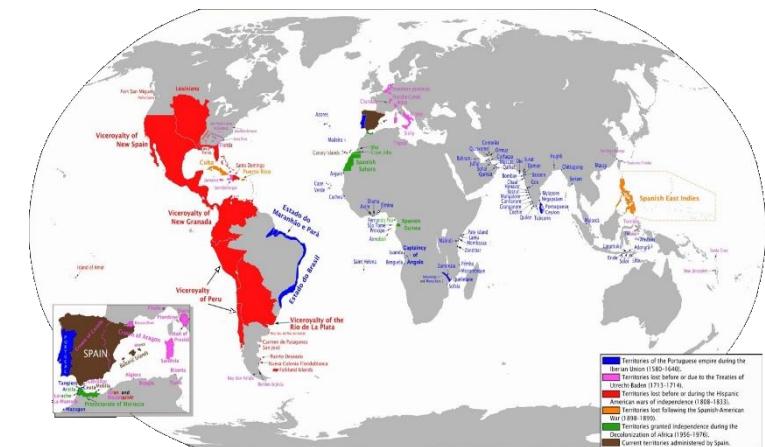


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1565 -1901 Spanish rule in Philippines, Marianas, Carolines, Palaos and Guam

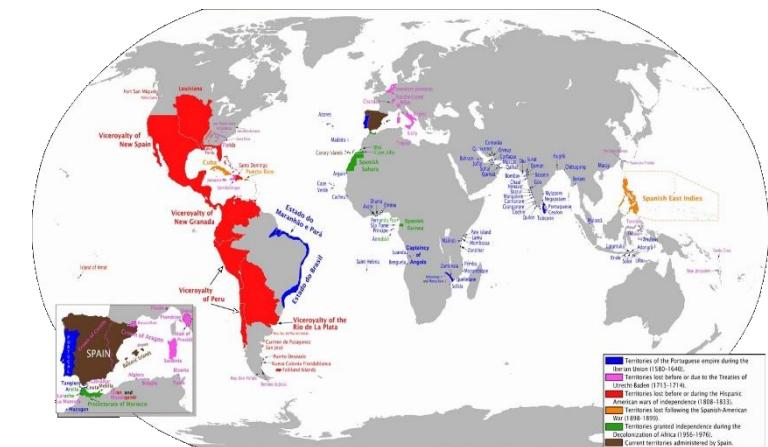
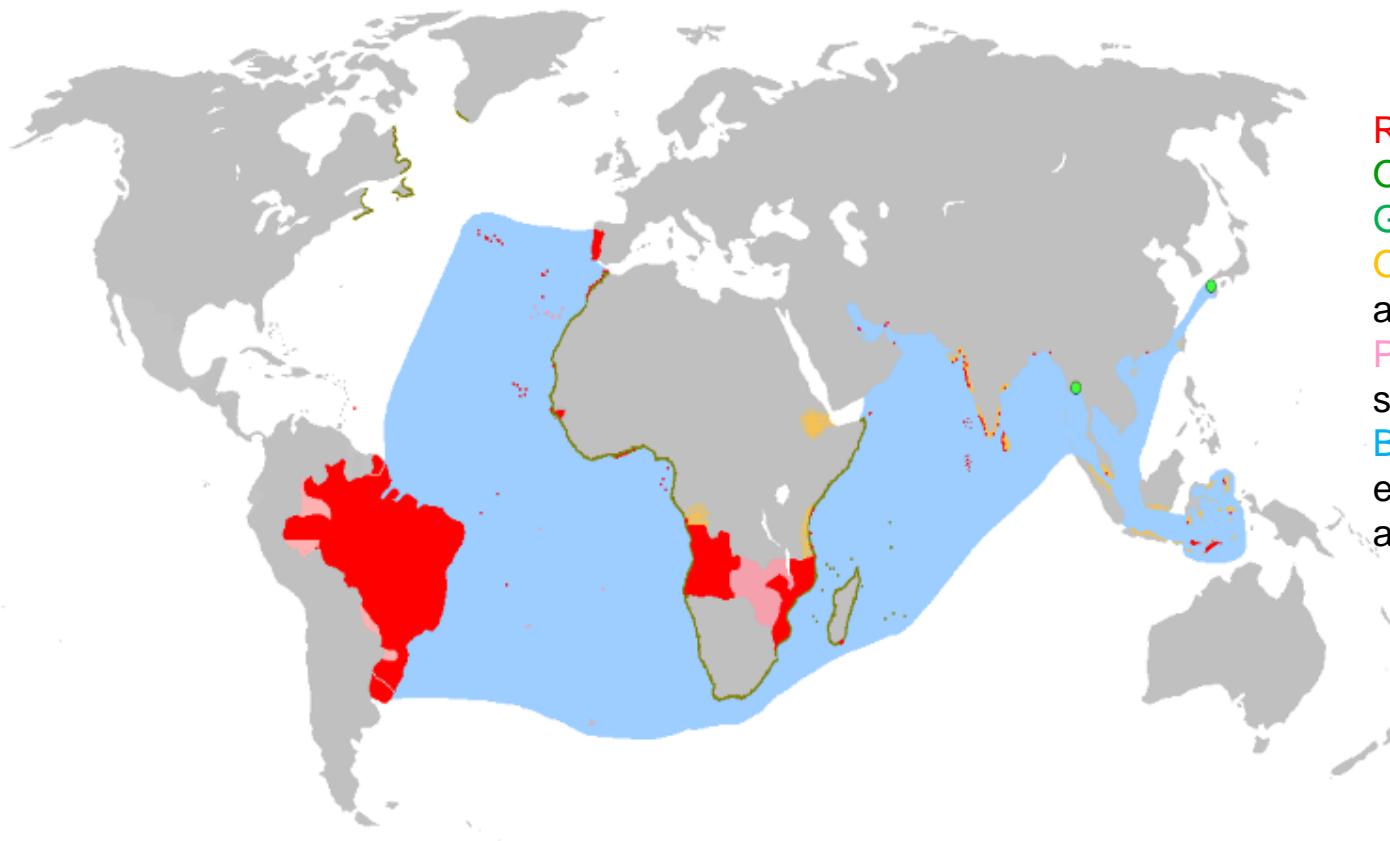


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Image source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File>All\\_areas\\_of\\_the\\_world\\_that\\_were\\_once\\_part\\_of\\_the\\_Portuguese\\_Empire.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File>All_areas_of_the_world_that_were_once_part_of_the_Portuguese_Empire.png)

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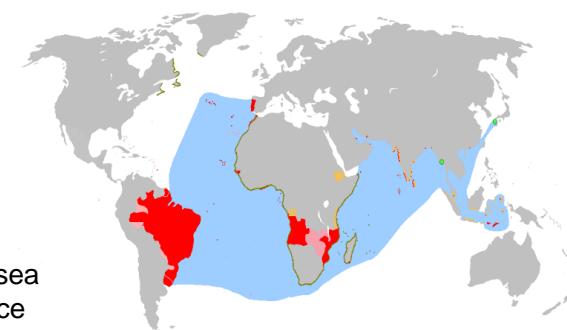


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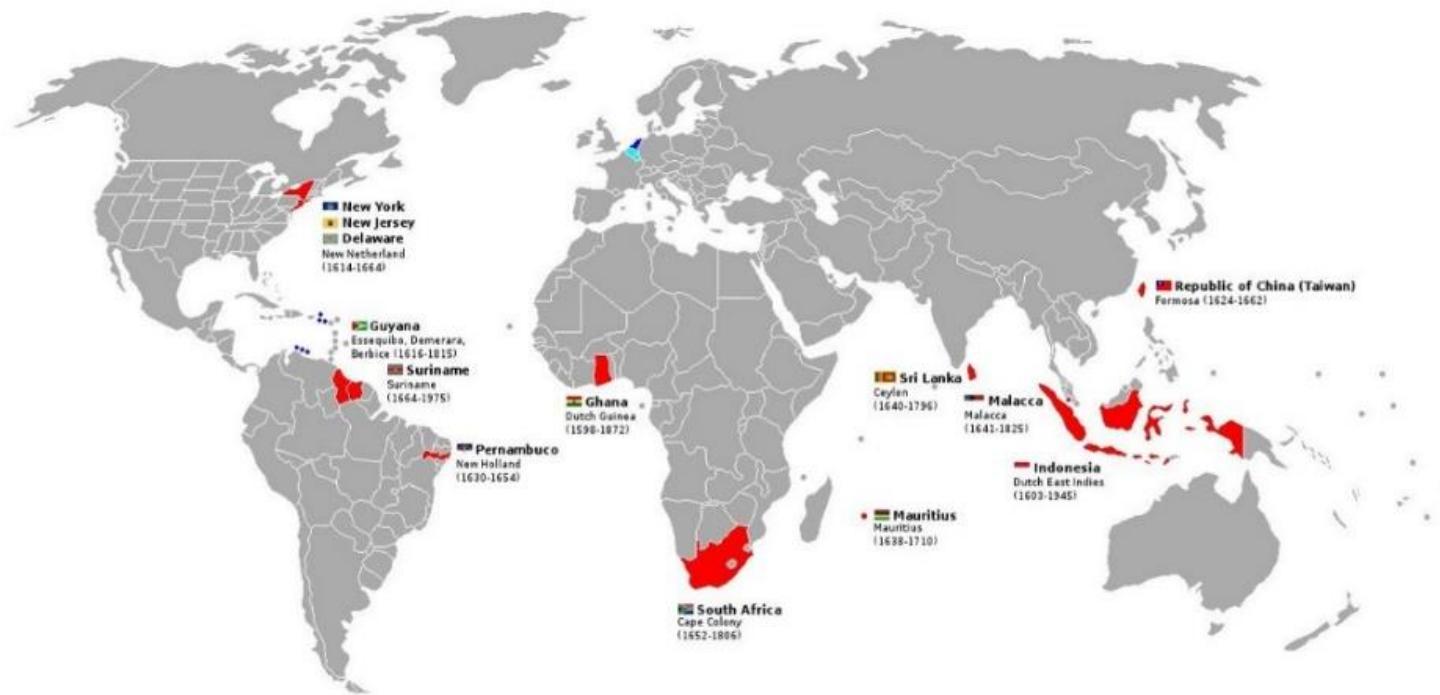


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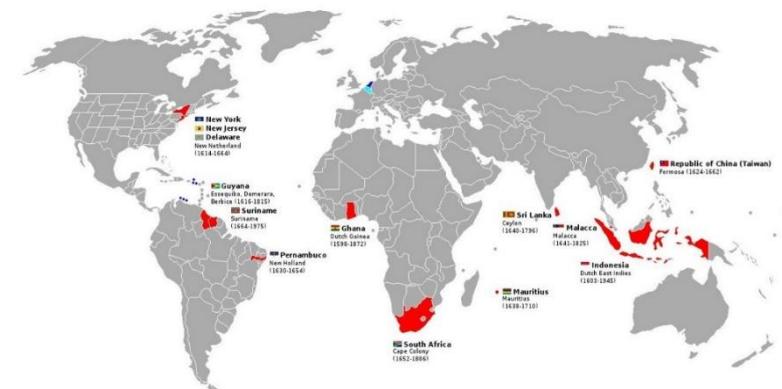


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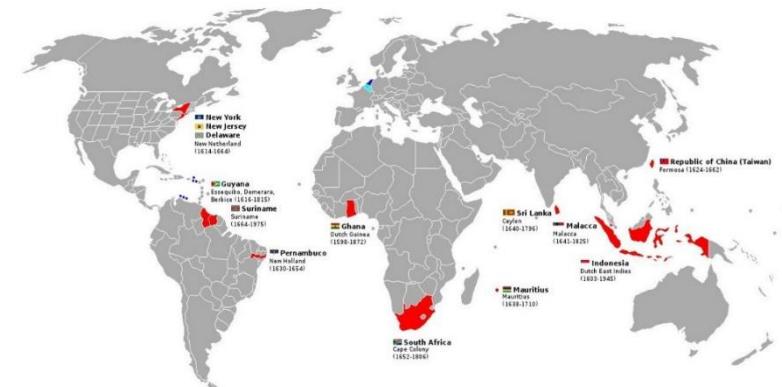


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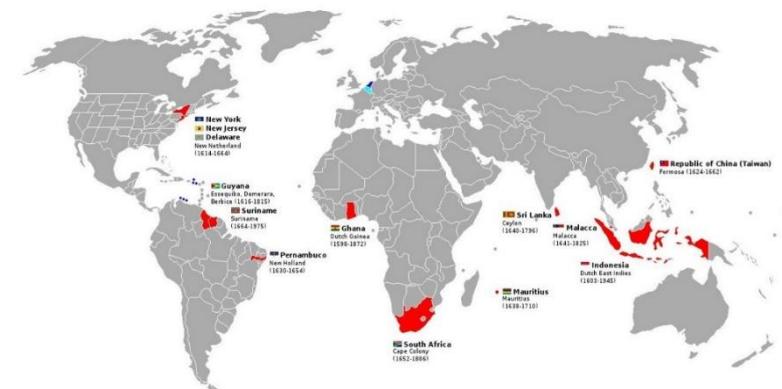


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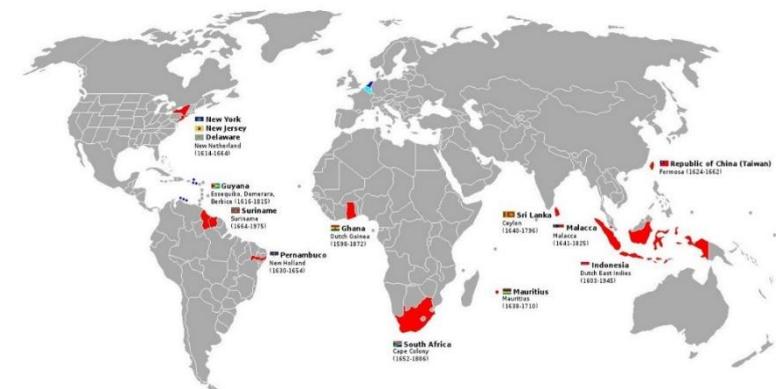


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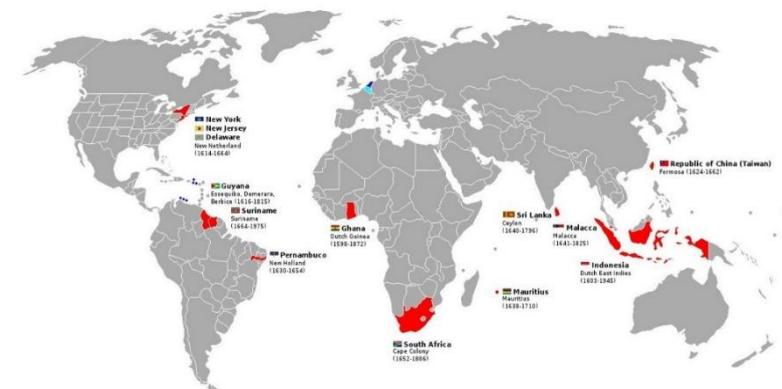


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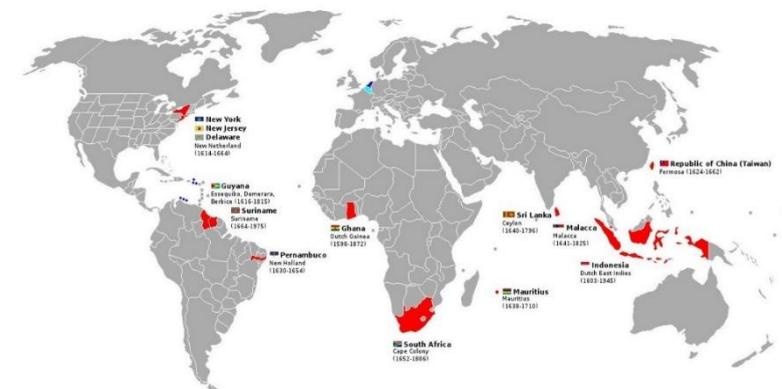


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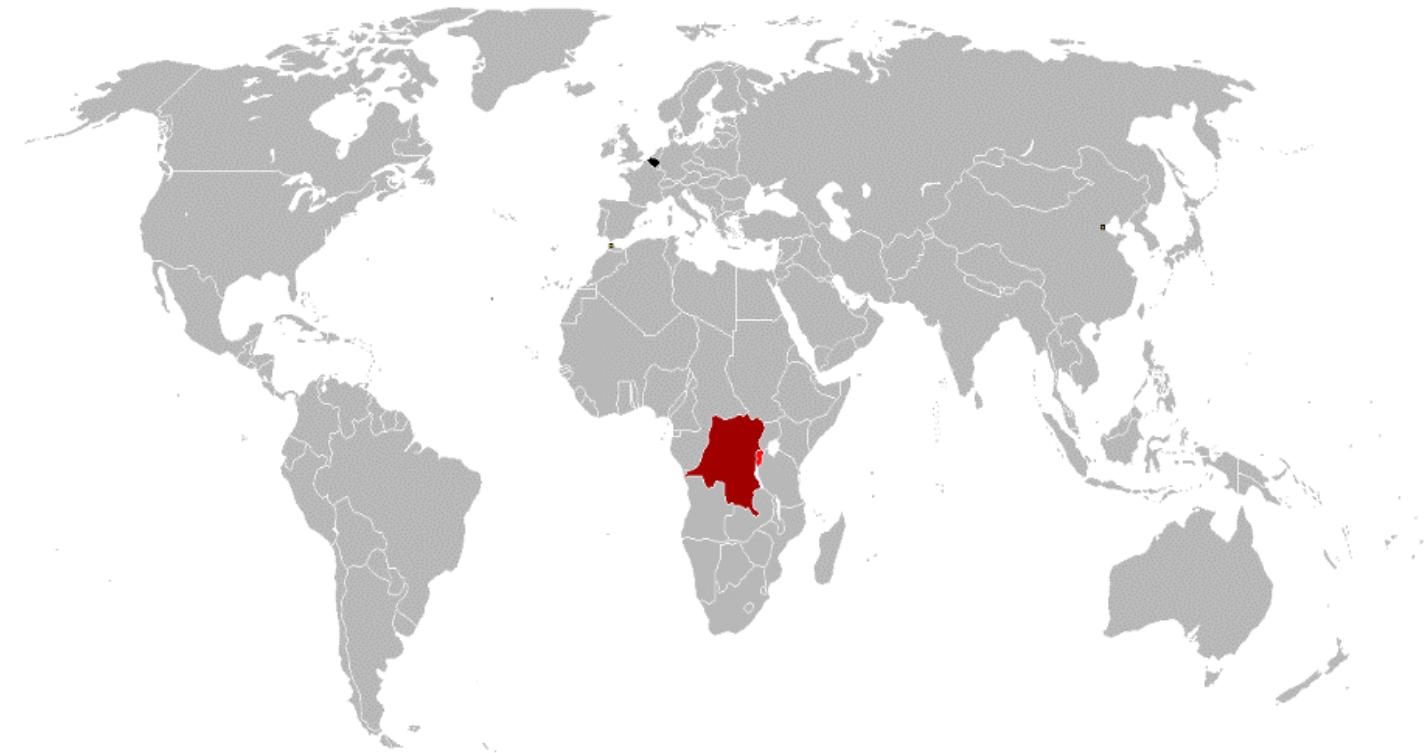


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- However: 1. exploitation of the country's resources continued, 2. racial segregation and discrimination were official colonial policies, 3. heavy missionizing



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- Conflicts about resources resulted in several civil wars
- Strong economical influence through Belgian companies



Image source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Belgian\\_colonial\\_empire.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Belgian_colonial_empire.png)

# Further reading

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