

Successes of the League of Nations:

- Helped stabilize and revive European economies: Austria and Hungary faced bankruptcy following World War I due to war reparations. The League helped to coordinate loans for the nations ensuring that both would recover economically.
- Successful humanitarian work with refugees and prisoners of war: In the 1920s, the League successfully:
 - Brought a half million prisoners of war home
 - Provided aid to Turkish refugees
 - Attacked illicit imports including slave and drug trades
 - Freed 200,000 enslaved people
 - Coordinated international agreement between 26 nations to combat the drug trade
 - Helped support efforts to eradicate leprosy and malaria
- Settled border disputes: The League was able to successfully settle some border disputes including:
 - Dispute between Sweden and Finland regarding the Aaland Islands
 - The islands lie between Sweden and Finland. While those living on the islands were exclusively Swedish speaking and most residents wished to become a part of Sweden, Finland had sovereignty and did not wish to cede the land. When the dispute was brought before the League, it was determined that the islands would remain a territory of Finland but would be governed autonomously. This decision prevented further conflict which could have escalated to war.
 - Conflict between Greece and Bulgaria
 - Following a dispute between soldiers at the border, Greek troops invaded Bulgaria. In response to the invasion, Bulgaria only acted to resistance Greek advancements. Bulgaria put trust in the League to condemn the invasion. When the League followed through with condemnation, the Greek withdrew and compensated Bulgaria.

Adapted from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zbq4t39/revision/8> and https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/League_of_Nations#Successes

Failures of the League of Nations:

- The Manchurian Affair: While Japan was originally a part of the League, once opposition was voiced in regard to the Japanese invasion of Manchuria, they quickly withdrew. Japan captured Manchuria and renamed the region. However, only Italy and Germany recognized the region as Japanese territory.
- The Italian invasion of Abyssinia: Italy, under command of Benito Mussolini, invaded Abyssinia (now known as Ethiopia) following a secret agreement with France and Great Britain. The Italian army was easily victorious with the use of chemical warfare and flame throwers against comparatively primitive weaponry. While the League condemned the aggression and imposed sanctions, their actions were largely ineffective.
- Disarmament: The League ultimately failed at convincing all nations to reduce their armaments. This led to particularly aggressive nations such as Germany increasing their military spending while other nations were reducing their military size and cutting back on their artillery. This later benefitted the Axis powers as they were more easily able to overpower their neighbors.

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