League of Nations

- **USA**
  - Why didn't join?
    - League aim uphold ToV; many Americans had German roots
    - Sanctions would affect American trade and business
    - Sending US troops; memory of WWI
    - Dominated by Britain or France - empires; ex-colony
  - Congress voted against in 1919 → League opened January 1920 → March 1920 Wilson proposed again → Defeated 49 to 35
  - 1920 elections → Wilson too ill to run for president → Democratic campaign LoN → Republican Warren Harding won - isolationist, "return to normalcy"
- **Aims**
  - Covenant
    - Discourage aggression
    - To encourage countries to co-operate; trade
    - Encourage disarmament
    - Improve living and working conditions
  - Article 10 - collective security
- **Organisation**
  - **Assembly**
    - Parliament
      - Every country sent representatives
      - Recommend action to council
    - Once a year
    - Unanimous voting system
  - **Council**
    - 5 times a year or more
    - Permanent members + temporary (elected 3 year periods)
    - Veto
    - Powers
      - Moral condemnation
      - Economic and financial sanctions
      - Military force
  - **Secretariat**
    - Civil service - records, reports, bring experts, organise
  - **ILO**
    - Aim to improve working conditions
      - By persuasion, recommendations
    - Tripartate - employers, governments and workers representatives
  - **PCIJ**
    - Judges from member countries
      - Based in Netherlands Hague
      - Settle disputes peacefully
        - eg border dispute
    - No way of enforcing rulings
  - **Agencies and Commissions**
    - Mandates Commissions
      - Fomer colonies
    - Refugees Comittee
      - WWI
    - Slavery Commission
    - Health Committee
      - Disease prevention programmes, experts, data
- **Membership**
  - Jan 1920 - 42 joined → 1930s - 59 members
  - Permanent members
    - Britain, France, Italy, Japan
      - Issues
        - France
          - Main concern still Germany; worried about League not having an army
        - Britain
          - More interested in rebuilding trade and empire than international disputes
  - Other
    - Germany joined 1926 → Left 1933
    - USSR prevented until 1934 → Left 1939
    - Japan left 1933
    - Italy left 1937

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