

*** Austria-Hungary - Motives for World War I ***

1. Desire to Maintain Power:

Austria-Hungary sought to preserve its influence in the Balkans, where nationalism was rising.

2. Support for Serbia's Suppression:

Following the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Serbian nationalist, Austria-Hungary sought to suppress Serbian influence.

3. Fear of Nationalism:

Austria-Hungary feared the growing nationalism within its empire, particularly among Slavic peoples.

4. Alliance with Germany:

Austria-Hungary relied on its alliance with Germany to strengthen its position against Russia and France.

5. Revenge for Assassination:

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand was seen as a personal and political insult, leading to a desire for revenge.

6. Desire to Expand Influence in the Balkans:

Austria-Hungary aimed to expand its dominance over the Balkans and prevent Serbian expansion.

7. Preventing Russian Influence:

Austria-Hungary wanted to prevent Russian influence over Slavic nations in Eastern Europe.

8. Preserving the Empire:

Austria-Hungary believed that military action against Serbia would strengthen the empire and deter other challenges.