

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-54387

Date: 20-10-2025

Title: How significant was Prussian victory in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 in influencing the terms of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919?

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Khursheed Sultan

Reviewer's Comment for Publication

This paper presents a well-structured and comprehensive historical analysis of how the Prussian victory in the Franco-Prussian War shaped the geopolitical and psychological foundations that ultimately influenced the punitive terms of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

The author effectively connects the unification of Germany, the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine, and the subsequent French revanchism to the motivations behind the harsh post-World War I settlement. The use of both primary and secondary sources (e.g., *Britannica*, *Oxford Bibliographies*, *EBSCO*, *War History Online*) adds academic reliability and demonstrates solid research effort.

Strengths

1. **Depth of Historical Context:** The discussion of the Ems Telegram, the Franco-Prussian War strategies, and post-war political consequences is detailed and insightful.
2. **Analytical Connection:** The link between German unification (1871) and French revanchist sentiment leading up to Versailles (1919) is clearly articulated.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

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3. **Use of Sources:** A strong variety of credible references have been cited, showing well-rounded research and balanced historical interpretation.

Areas for Minor Revision

1. **Language and Grammar:**

- Some sentences are lengthy and could be divided for clarity.
- Minor grammatical and punctuation inconsistencies should be corrected (e.g., misplaced commas and capitalizations).

2. **Formatting:**

- Maintain consistent citation numbering and format (e.g., superscript or bracketed references).
- Ensure all headings (Abstract, Introduction, etc.) follow a uniform style.

3. **Analytical Emphasis:**

- The conclusion could more strongly summarize *how* Prussian victory created the ideological precedent for Versailles, emphasizing the continuity between 1871 humiliation and 1919 retribution.

4. **Flow:**

- Consider smoother transitions between the Franco-Prussian War section and World War I discussion for better narrative coherence.

Overall Evaluation

This is a **thoughtful, well-researched, and contextually rich paper** that demonstrates sound historical reasoning and good analytical linkage between 19th and 20th century European politics. With minor editorial adjustments and refinement of structure, it is suitable for publication.