The Holocaust refers to the mass genocide of European Jews during World War II. Nazi Germany attempted to wipe out the entire Jewish population of Europe. Germany was not the only country involved with the Holocaust, many other countries like Romania, Italy, and Czechoslovakia were allies with Nazi Germany and participated in the discrimination and murder of Jewish people. The Jewish people of these countries suffered through discrimination and suffering due to the antisemitic views that were being spread during this time.

Romania was an ally of Nazi Germany until 1945 with intense antisemitic views, despite having a population of 757,000 Jewish resident prior to WWII. After the invasion of the USSR by Germany, the Romanian army killed between 100,000 and 120,000 Jewish people. The massacre was an order by the dictator of Romania, Marshal Ion Antonescu. The survivors of the massacres in Bessarabia and Bukovina were deported to the concentration camps of Transnistria in western Ukraine. As a result of Romania's participation with Nazi Germany, the area between the Dniester and Bug river were given back to Romania. At the time of liberation in March of 1944, 120,000 of the Jewish people deported to Transnistria were dead. Under the dictatorship of Antonescu, almost 400,000 Jewish people were murdered in Romanian controlled areas (Murder). The World Jewish Congress estimates between 9,300 and 17,000 Jewish people currently live in Romania with the 2011 census reporting that 3,721 people declare themselves to be Jewish. The Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania established the Caritatea Foundation, which prepares and sends claims to the National Authority for Property Restitution to reclaim Jewish property. During the Holocaust the Nazi regime seized schools, hospitals, religious property, farmland, food plants, mills, and homes. In 2016 legislation was passed to return property and provide compensation for the seizures of communal property to Jewish communities (Romania).

The Jewish community in Italy is one of the oldest in Europe, numbering 50,000 in 1933. Jewish people had lived in Italy for over 2,000 years and were a integral part of Italian culture. There was very little antisemitism in Italy until Nazi Germany and the Fascist regime in Italy passed antisemitic laws in 1938. Jews were removed from government jobs, banned from marrying non-Jewish peoples, dismissed from the army and foreign Jews were incarcerated as a response from the pressure from Nazi Germany. At first the new laws were not firmly enforced, even in internment camps, Jews were able to stay with their families, provided with schooling and social events. However, as the quality of life deteriorated for the Jewish population, thousands immigrated primarily to America between 1938 and 1942. After entering WWII, the Fascist regime, led by Benito Mussolini, wanted to establish a New Roman Empire. After Germany conquered Greece and Yugoslavia in 1941, Italy received the Adriatic

coastlines, Greece and parts of Yugoslavia for it's continued alliance with Germany. Despite this alliance, Italian military authorities refused to permit mass deportations of Jewish residents from Italy or Italian occupied territory or participate in the mass murder of Jews. Between 1941 and 1943, Italian occupied areas were generally safer for the Jews, with thousands escaping from Nazi Germany and German occupied areas to Italian occupied France, Greece and Yugoslavia. Italian authorities helped send approximately 4,000 Jewish refugees to the Italian mainland to be incarcerated in southern Italy. These refugees survived the war (United States).

In October 1938, Sudetenland, a region of of northern Czechoslovakia was taken over by the German Reich under the Munich Pact. Less than a year later, Hitler broke the terms of the agreement and created a new state, the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. This state would be under German rule. Slovakia became independent from Czechoslovakia and joined forces with Nazi Germany. At the time, more than 350,000 Jewish people resided in Czechoslovakia, with more than 100,000 living in Bohemia and Moravia alone. The Jewish residents were subject to discrimination in society and their everyday actions, such as where they could work, were limited. Jews in Czechoslovakia were transported to the Theresienstadt Ghetto after its creation in 1941. Almost 88,000 Jewish people were transported to Auschwitz with more than 33,000 people dying before deportation from starvation and unsanitary circumstances in Theresienstadt. At the end of WWII only 14,000 Jews remained in Czechoslovakia. The Jewish population in Czechoslovakia never fully recovered (Czechoslovakia). In 1946, citizens of Czechoslovakia who we subject to racial, religious, or political persecution were given monthly stipends in addition to their income. In 2009, the Prime Minister discussed delegation in regards to seized property from WWII and the government has put in place laws that allow for property restitution. Various other laws adopted after the fall of the Communist regime provided restitution of Jewish communal property including the Jewish Museum to the Federation of Jewish Communities from a state-owned institution (Czech Republic).

The Holocaust was devastating not only for the Jewish people in Germany, but in countries of Europe as well. The massacre of millions of Jewish people during WWII still has an affect on not only the number of Jewish people who side in those countries but on the whole world. The suffering that these people went through serves as a lesson on what could happen if we as a society give leaders absolute power.

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