TREATY OF RAPALLO

1922
Signed on 16 April 1922

Between Germany and Russia

They both agreed to normalise their diplomatic relations.

Agreed to cooperate in meeting the economic needs of both countries.
Background

Germany
• Lost the war.
• Forced to sign the Treaty of Versailles. (Led to disarmament and the cession of their territories.)
• Left diplomatically isolated.

Soviet Union
• Left the war in 1917.
• Ceded many of its territories to Germany (in the treaty of Brest-Litovsk)
• Left diplomatically isolated (Because of their transition to communist rule)
Germany...

- from the Treaty of Versailles.
- Did not have much impact.
- Led to economic blockade of Poland.
- Alliance with The Soviet Union.

Hoped to pursue peace changes

Failed, but not that bad.

Look for alternatives

failed
Soviet Union

- But left without effective means.
- From Britain and France.
- Border revision largely unfulfilled
- Soviet victories, but successful Polish counter attacks.

Hoped to make territorial gains.

Polish-Soviet war

Compromise reached.

Further isolation
Common isolation and interest in Poland led to a natural sympathy between both of them.

The joint German-soviet concerns led to the signings.

The agreement paved the way for future cooperation.
How it started?

Genoa Conference—included Germany and Soviet Union.

Broken down when France demanded that the Soviets assume the prewar debt incurred by the tsarist regime and Immediate reparations by the Germans to the USSR.

German and Russian delegates quietly slipped away and met at Rapallo.
Negotiated by Georgi Chicherin and Walther Rathenau.

Ratifications were exchanged.

Registered in League of Nations treaty series.
Text of Agreements

Article 1
-both agreed to waive their claims for compensation.
-Legal relations in public and private matters shall be settled on a basis of reciprocity.

Article 2
-Germany waives all claims against Russia which may have arisen through the application, of the laws of the Russian Socialist federal soviet republic to German nationals.
Article 3
-Diplomatic and consular relations between each other shall be resumed immediately.

Article 4
-The establishment of the legal status of those of the one party shall be effected on the principle of the most favored nation.
Article 5
-The two governments shall co-operate in a spirit of mutual goodwill in meeting the economic needs of both countries.

Article 6
-Articles 1b and 4 of this agreement shall come into force on the day of ratification.