

Britain and the Intellectual Origins of the League of Nations, 1914–1919

In this innovative account of the origins of the idea of the League of Nations, Sakiko Kaiga casts new light on the pro-League of Nations movement in Britain in the era of the First World War, revealing its unexpected consequences for the development of the first international organisation for peace. Combining international, social and intellectual history and international relations, she challenges two misunderstandings about the role of the movement: that their ideas about a league were utopian and that its peaceful ideal appealed to the war-weary public. Kaiga demonstrates how the original post-war plan consisted of both realistic and idealistic views of international relations and shows how it evolved and changed in tandem with the war. She provides a comprehensive analysis of the unknown origins of the League of Nations and highlights the transformation of international society and of ideas about war prevention from the twentieth century to the present.

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Abbreviations

ALLPP	Abbott Lawrence Lowell Peace Papers (Harvard University, Houghton Library)
BL	British Library, London
BLEPS	British Library of Economic and Political Science
CKC	Cambridge, King's College Archives
CNC	Cambridge, Newnham College Archives
HUHL	Harvard University, Houghton Library
LEPR	League to Enforce Peace Records (Harvard University, Houghton Library)
LPL	Lambeth Palace Library
NAS	The National Archives of Scotland
NLW	The National Library of Wales
OBL	Oxford, Bodleian Library
PA	Parliamentary Archives
TNA	The National Archives