

The factors of imperialism

Economic and demographic factors

Industrialisation

Migration

Religious factors

Religious conversion

Political factors

Strategic goals

Competition

Prestige

Ideological factors

Racism

Scientific factors

Exploration

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European countries used colonies to **invest capital** for a greater profit, to obtain **cheap raw materials** and to sell their **industrial products**.

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Population grew during the Industrial Revolution, but there was not enough work for everyone. Many Europeans went to live in the colonies. The transport revolution made migration easier because transport became faster, more efficient and cheaper.

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Converting the indigenous people of the colonies to Christianity was used to justify imperialism. Hundreds of Catholic and Protestant **missions** were founded.

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European countries tried to rule areas along the main sea routes.

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The great powers did not want another empire to dominate a region or gain all the profits from colonies.

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The great powers believed that the colonisation of new territories could compensate for a humiliating defeat or help to increase nationalist sentiment at home.

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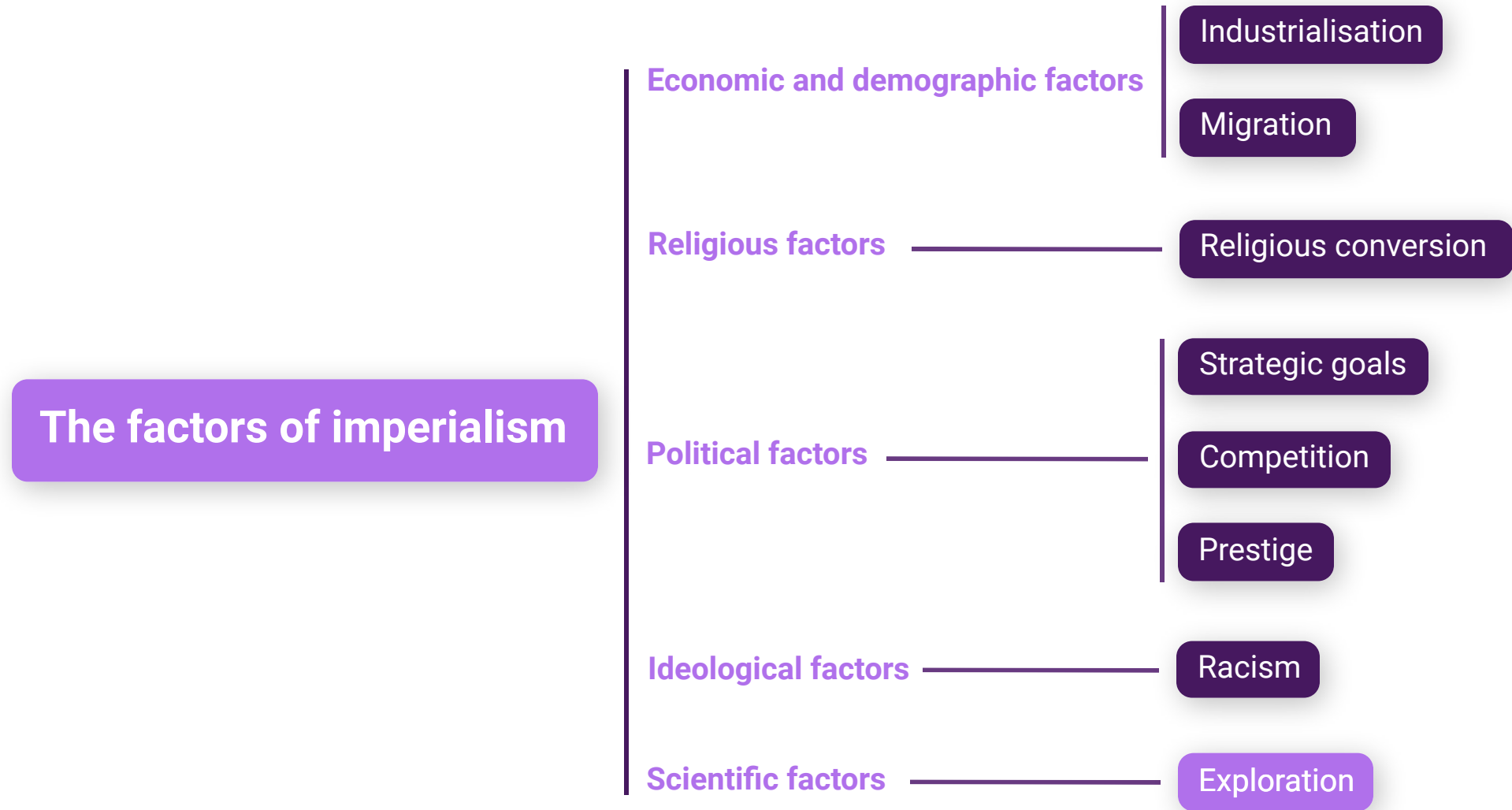
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This was deep-rooted in the western world in the 19th century. Westerners believed the White race was superior, and that this gave them the right to rule over other peoples. Westerners considered it their mission to '**civilise**' the other peoples of the world.



Scientific curiosity also contributed to imperialism.

Geographic societies went on scientific expeditions all over the world. Once a territory had been found and explored, the country that organised the expedition claimed the right to conquer and exploit it.