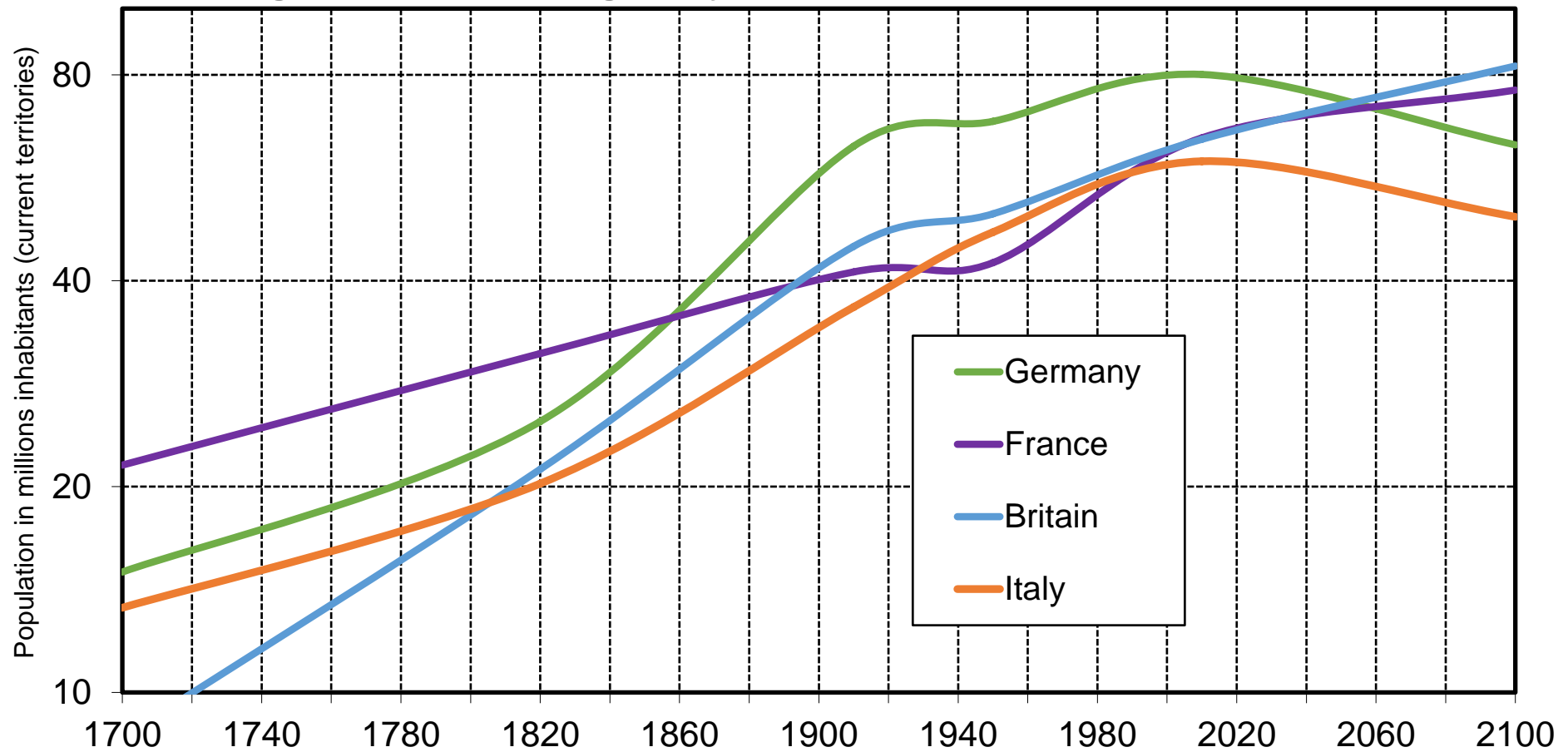


**Figure 10.16. Demography and the balance of power in Europe**



**Interpretation.** Germany, Britain, Italy and France have had for centuries populations of comparable size: the four countries all had about 20-30 millions inhabitants in 1820, and they all have around 60-80 millions inhabitants in 2020. There have been frequent changes in relative position, however. E.g. in 1800 France was half more numerous than Germany (31 millions vs 22 millions); in 1910, Germany was half more numerous than France (63 millions vs 41 millions). According to UN projections, Britain and France will be the most numerous by 2100. Sources and series: see [piketty.pse.ens.fr/ideology](http://piketty.pse.ens.fr/ideology).