

CENTRAL EUROPE DURING THE  
NAPOLEONIC WARS  
THE RISE OF NATIONAL  
MOVEMENTS  
REVOLUTIONS 1848/49

Jana Hrabcova

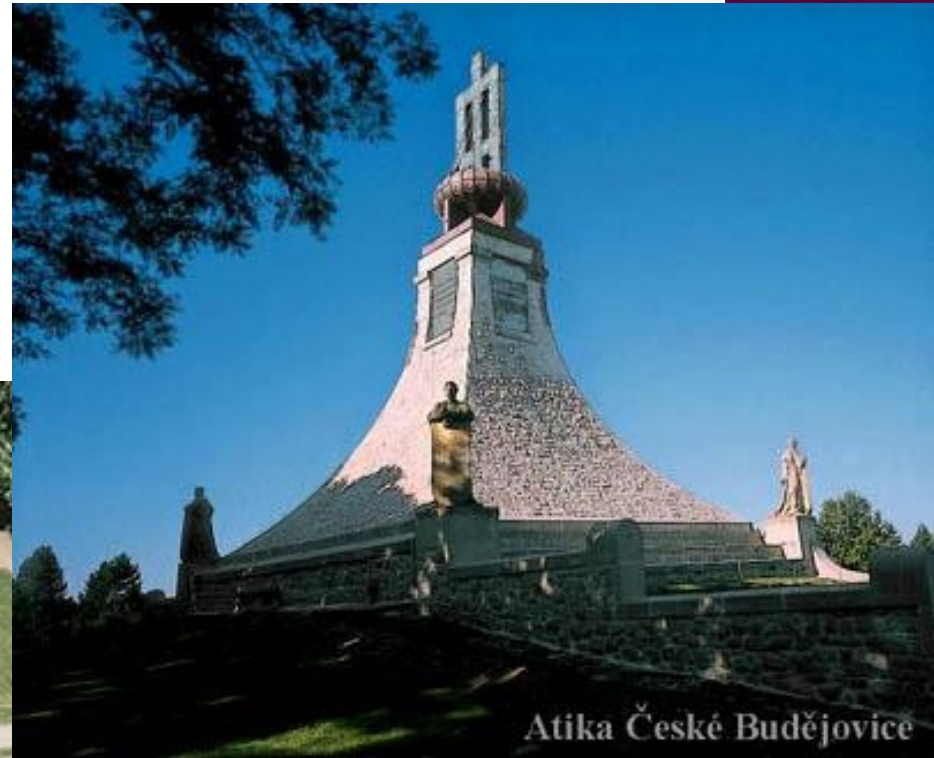
# CENTRAL EUROPE DURING THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

- ◉ 1789 - the French Revolution broke out
  - ◉ 1792-1815 - anti-French wars (firstly against the French Revolution, then against **Napoleon Bonaparte**)
  - ◉ Several coalitions against France (Austria + Prussia + Great Britain + Russia + several smaller German states against France), several military campaigns
  - ◉ December 2, 1805 - **the Battle of Three Emperors** near the Moravian town of Slavkov (Austerlitz) - a great victory of Napoleon - he defeated Austrian Emperor Francis I and Russian Tzar Alexandr I
- <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ivysilani/10099029347/>
  - <http://www.austerlitz.org/>
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdd1a90CFio>
  - <http://www.zamek-slavkov.cz/en/>

# AUSTERLITZ



Chateau Austerlitz



Cairn of Peace

# CENTRAL EUROPE DURING THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

- ◉ October 14, 1806 - Napoleon defeated Prussia at Jena and Auerstad
- ◉ 1807 - the Treaty of Tilsit with Russians - The Grand Duchy of Warsaw was established in Poland
- ◉ 1809 - Napoleon entered Vienna
- ◉ 1812 - Napoleon launched an invasion of Russia - unsuccessful
- ◉ 1813 - **the Battle of Leipzig** - the Battle of the Nations - Austria, Prussia, Russia, Sweden against France - Napoleon defeated and forced to abdicate
- ◉ 1814-1815 - the Peace Congress in Vienna
- ◉ interrupted by Napoleon - June 1815 - **the Battle of Waterloo** - Napoleon finally defeated





# CENTRAL EUROPE DURING THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

Napoleon by Jacques-  
Louis David

# CENTRAL EUROPE DURING THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

- ◉ *Readings:*

- ◉ *Lefebvre, Georges (1971). The French Revolution: From Its Origins to 1793. Columbia University Press.*
- ◉ *Furet, Francois (1995). Revolutionary France, 1770-1880. Blackwell Publishing.*
- ◉ *Englund, Steven (2004): Napoleon: A political Life.*

# HABSBURG MONARCHY

- ◉ **Francis II (1792 - 1836)**, since 1804 ruled as the Austrian Emperor **Francis I**
- ◉ the era of absolutism
- ◉ the first minister - Prince **Klemens Wenzel von Metternich** - convinced conservative monarchist - The Metternich absolutism
- ◉ 1811 - General Civil Code (ABGB)- compromise between old and new ideologies
- ◉ 1811 - devastating collapse of the state finances in February (paper currency was devalued to one fifth of its original value)



# FRANCIS II



Emperor Francis and his Family, a portrait by Jozef Kreutzinger



# EUROPE AFTER THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA

## Congress of Vienna

- ◉ a conference of ambassadors of European states chaired by **Klemens Wenzel von Metternich**, and held in Vienna from September, 1814 to June, 1815
- ◉ the aim - finishing the wars with France and restoration of old principles - the situation before the revolution
- ◉ 4 Great Powers: Russia (Tzar Alexandr, Foreign Minister Carl Nesselrode), Prussia (King Frederick William III, Chancellor Karl August von Hardenberg) , Austria (Emperor Francis I., the Foreign Minister Prince Metternich) and Great Britain (Foreign Secretary Viscount Castlereagh)
- ◉ surprisingly important role of defeated France - thanks to Ministre of Foreign Affairs Maurice de Talleyrand - a very good diplomat

## PRINCE OF METTERNICH

Clement Wenceslas  
Nepomuk Lothar von  
Metternich-  
Winneburg-Beilstein  
(1773 - 1859)



# EUROPE AFTER THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA

- ◉ *The Final Act* - June 1815:
- ◉ **Russia** was given most of the Duchy of Warsaw (Poland) and was allowed to keep Finland
- ◉ **Prussia** was given two fifths of Saxony, parts of the Duchy of Warsaw, Danzig, and the Rhineland/Westphalia.
- ◉ A **German Confederation** of 38 states was created from the previous 360 of the Holy Roman Empire, under the presidency of the Austrian Emperor
- ◉ **the United Kingdom of the Netherlands** was established
- ◉ The neutrality of **Switzerland** was guaranteed.
- ◉ The Bourbon Ferdinand IV, King of Sicily was restored to control of **the Kingdom of Naples**
- ◉ The slave trade was condemned

# THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULTS:

- ◉ so called **The Concert of Europe**, also known as the Congress System or Vienna System - it was the network of treaties, institutions and practices that should ensure the balance of power that existed in Europe from the end of the Napoleonic Wars (1815) to the outbreak of World War I (1914)
- ◉ 1815 - the **Quadruple Alliance** was established - the winners over Napoleon (United Kingdom, Austria, Prussia, Russia)
- ◉ 1815 - the **Holy Alliance** was signed by Russian Tzar, Austrian Emperor and Prussian King - the aim of this document was to implement the Christian values and principles into the political life, the moral principles were emphasized, the main goal was again the cooperation against revolutionary, liberal and democratic movements
- ◉ later it was signed by almost all European rulers, except those from Skandinavia, Osman Sultan and the Pope, the Great Britain left the system of the Holy Alliance in 1822
- ◉ 1818 - the occupation of France was finished - France acceded the Quadruple Alliance → the **Quintuple Alliance** was established
- ◉ the meetings of the Great Powers during this period: Aachen (1818), Carlsbad (1819), Verona (1822), London (1832), Berlin (1878)

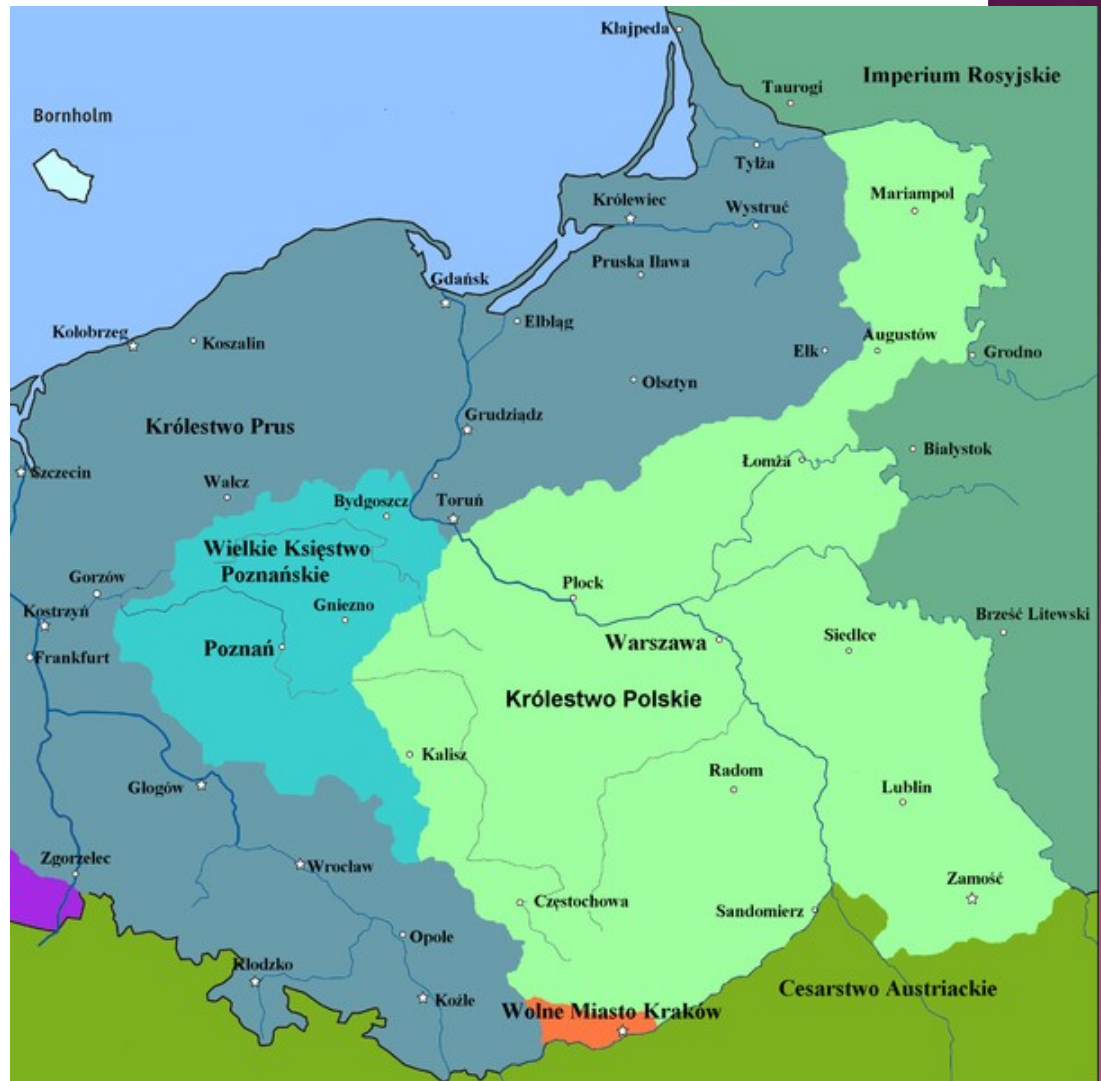


# THE RISE OF NATIONAL MOVEMENTS

- ◉ ***The first wave of the national movements - 1820s:***
  - German states
  - Italian states
  
- ◉ ***The second wave of national movements in 1830s:***
  - almost in the whole Europe
  - started in France (against extremely conservative king Charles X) , then spread to Belgium, to Italy and to other states

# POLAND - NOVEMBER UPRISING 1830

- after Napoleonic wars and the Congress of Vienna there were three states in Poland:
  - the semi-autonomous so-called Congress Kingdom controlled by Russia - it was united with Russia through a personal union
  - the semi-autonomous Grand Duchy of Poznań controlled by Prussia
  - the semi-autonomous Kingdom of Galicia and Sandomer controlled by Austria



# POLAND - NOVEMBER UPRISING 1830

- ◉ the outbreak of the uprising - November 29, 1830 in Warsaw
- ◉ On 25 January 1831, the Sejm passed the Act of Dethronization of Tsar Nicolas I and ended the personal union with Russia
- ◉ on 29 January 1831 Prince Adam Czartoryzski became President of the new Polish National Government
- ◉ the Russians formed very strong army and defeated Polish army at **the Battle of Ostrolenka** in May 1831
- ◉ the Polish Uprising was suppressed
- ◉ cruel persecution succeeded, the leaders of the uprising were sentenced to death so they emigrated
- ◉ the consequence of the wave of national movements during the 1830s - the collapse of the Holy Alliance

# THE THIRD WAVE OF NATIONAL MOVEMENTS IN 1840S

- ◉ general economical crisis spread from England to the rest of Europe in mid-1840s
- ◉ bad harvest, potato blight and drought in 1846 → famine
- ◉ strong influence of industrial revolution on politics
- ◉ bourgeoisie (owners of factories, businessmen) had money but only small political influence
- ◉ bad living conditions of working classes
  
- ◉ the revolution started in January 1848 in Italy (Sicily) - against the Bourbons
- ◉ February 1848 - revolution in France - ended constitutional monarchy of **Louis Phillipe of Orleans**



# GERMAN STATES

- ◉ the March Revolution, southern and western parts
- ◉ it was led by well educated students and intellectuals, but there were also many mass demonstrations
- ◉ there were 39 states - demand of German **national unity**
- ◉ wanted *civil rights*
- ◉ two conceptions:
  - "greater German solution" (including German-speaking areas of Austria)
  - "smaller German solution"
- ◉ March 1849 - the new German constitution was proclaimed
- ◉ they decided to proclaim constitutional monarchy - the crown was offered to Prussian king Frederick William IV - refused to accept the crown from the hands of revolutionary parliament
- ◉ the new constitution was refused by most of the German rulers
- ◉ the revolution was unsuccessful

# HABSBURG MONARCHY

## Ferdinand I (1836-1848)

- ◉ weak ruler, mentally challenged, the real ruler of the monarchy was the conservative Chief Minister Klemens Wenzel von Metternich
- ◉ so called pre-March period - restricted freedom of the press, of the speech, of association
- ◉ limited many university activities, strong censorship, police control
- ◉ the empire, ruled from Vienna, included Austrian Germans, Hungarians, Slovenes, Poles, Czechs, Croats, Slovaks, Ukrainians, Romanians, Serbs and Italians,
- ◉ all of them wanted to either achieve autonomy, independence, or even hegemony over other nationalities

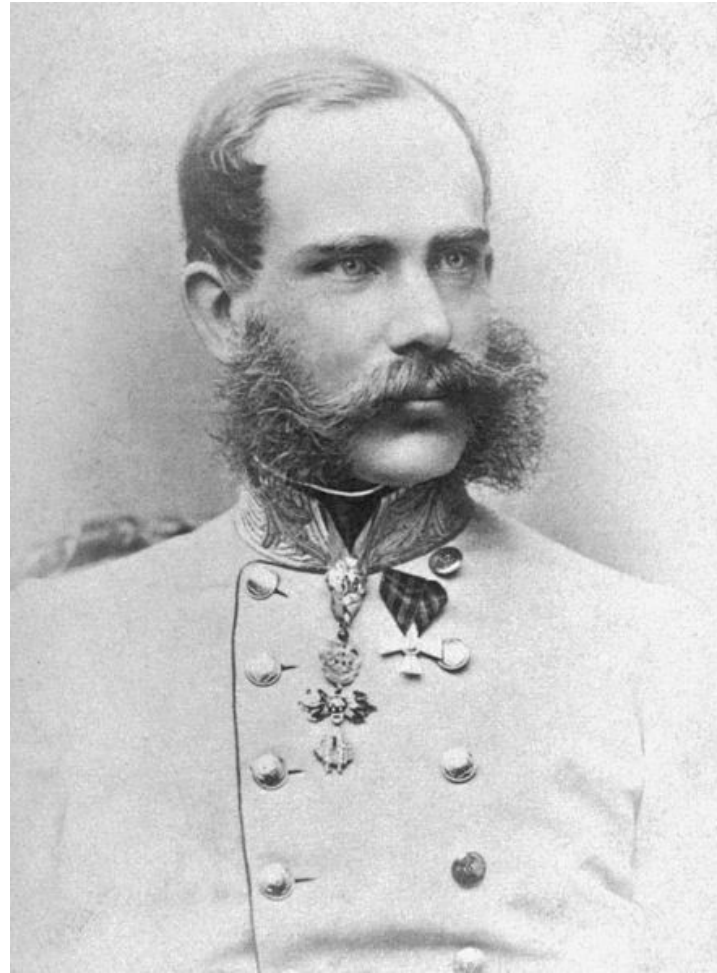
# 1848 IN HABSBURG MONARCHY

- ◉ the first unrests in Prague in March 1848
- ◉ the conception of *austroslavism*
- ◉ June 1848 - the Pan-Slav Congress was held in Prague
- ◉ uprising in June - suppressed by an Austrian army led by Alfred I, Prince of Windisch-Grätz
- ◉ March 1848 - revolution in Vienna
- ◉ Metternich was removed from the office and escaped from Vienna
- ◉ in September 1848 - the Emperor's decree - the serfdom was completely cancelled (citizens got civil rights but the suffrage was not general)
- ◉ October - new uprising in Vienna - suppressed
- ◉ December 1848 - Ferdinand I resigned, lived in Prague till 1875

# HABSBURG MONARCHY

## Franz Joseph I of Austria (1848-1916)

- ◉ absolutism again
- ◉ so called Stadion's constitution - was not accepted by an assembly





# 1848 IN HABSBURG MONARCHY

- ◉ March 1848 - revolution also in Hungary
- ◉ 12 Demands - among others: autonomy, control over its foreign policy, budget and army, general taxes
- ◉ Hungary was multinational (Slovaks, Croats, Rumanians, Ruthenians, Serbs, Germans etc.) but no politic nor national rights - their demands were refused so they fought against Hungarians
- ◉ April 1849 - proclaimed independent Hungarian state
- ◉ Franz Joseph asked Russian Tzar for a help
- ◉ 13 August 1849 - the Battle of Villágos - Hungarians defeated
- ◉ Repressions

# REVOLUTIONS 1848

## *Readings:*

- ◉ *Evans, R. J. W. (ed.) (2000): The Revolutions in Europe 1848-1849. From Reform to Reaction. Oxford.*