ENLIGHTENMENT AND REFORMS. CENTRAL EUROPE DURING 18TH CENTURY. NAPOLEONIC WARS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 19TH CENTURY

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EUROPE AROUND 1700



HABSBURG MONARCHY IN 18TH CENTURY

Charles VI (1711–1740)

- a dynastic crisis no living male heirs
- 1713 Pragmatic Sanction
- a law which ensured the succession by female family members if there were no male heirs
- ensuring the *indivisibility* of the Habsburg Empire (Austrian Lands, the Lands of Bohemian Crown and Hungary) - the Habsburg ruler ruled as a hereditary sovereign
- Recognized by most European governments as an iternationally valid document
- the re-Catholization pressure increased
- 1737–1739 war with Ottoman Empire



MARIA THERESA (1740 - 1780)

- born in 1717
- Her husband was Francis Stephen of Lorraine (Holy Roman Emperor since 1745)
- They had 16 children, 13 of them survived
- her right to rule was based on the Pragmatic Sanction from 1713, but after Charles' death some rulers challenged its validity and presented their claims to Habsburg lands
- the War of Austrian Succession in 1740– 1748
- she managed to defend almost entire her heritage but it was clear that it is necessary to put a big effort into perfecting the army and reforms of the state
- Seven Years' War (1756–1763) Frederick II invaded Bohemia but in the end the Prussians were pushed from Bohemia



ENLIGHTENED REFORMS

- since the mid-1760s Maria Theresa could finally focus on the consolidation and modernization of her lands – *enlightened reforms*
- formation of new administration and the new institutions and beraucratic machinery
- she decided to transform the complex multinational dominion into a compact state which was to be a state unified on legal, ideological and later also linguistic levels (germanisation)
- it was to be politically and economically strong state, managed centrally and efficiently by qualified people (important – education, experiences and personal abilities, not the social status)
- the administration was centralised (this concerned only Austria and Bohemia, not Hungary, which obtained many privileges for its help in the War od Austrian Succession, this ensured different development)

- * Hygiene and medical services reforms:
- better health care
- hospitals
- vaccination but distrust
- urban sanitation measures→ population increase
- Education system reforms:
- obligatory school attendance for children from 6 to 12 years old
- schools under the state control, unified curriculum
- universities also under the state control, new study programmes – economics, technical sciences



Legal reforms:

- equality before the law was declared,
- humanization of punishments torture dissapeared from court procedures, capital punishment was temporarily abolished in 1780s
- 1769 Maria Theresa's Penal Code
- 1786 General Civil Code
- 1787 Joseph II's Penal Code

* Tax reforms:

- land register and tax and urbarial reforms, universal land tax, which was to be paid by all the population (earlier the aristocracy and the church had been exempted from the taxes)
- uniformed units of size and weight, unification of currency, extensive road network, abolished customs barriers between the provincies – the trade became much easier

ENLIGHTENMENT

- in the Czech lands since mid- 18th century, the peak during Joseph II's reign, sometimes also called *josephinism*
- centres of enligtened life noble salons and Masonic lodges – enlightened state clerks and army officers focused on charity
- 1784 the Bohemian Society of Sciences focused on natural and historical sciences
- the Bohemian enlightment and science was linguistically mostly German

JOSEPH II (1780-1790)

- The eldest son of Maria Theresa and Francis Stephen of Lorraine, born in 1741
- Well educated, diligent
- popular ruler
- often traveled incognito (Duke of Falkenstein) tried to meet people and listen to their opinions
- Patron of the arts
- Holy Roman Emperor since 1764
- 1760 married Princess Isabella of Parma (died in 1762), second wife – Maria Josepha of Bavaria
- None of his children survived

JOSEPH II'S REFORMS

- censorhip was loosened, not completely freedom of speech, but citizens could comment on domestic political matters
- he tried to **reform** highly conservative **Catholic church**
- the church was put under state control, its property was taxed
- education of the priests was controlled by the state
- the priest were in charge of educational and administrative activities administered population registres, executed medical supervision etc.
- Joseph II dissolved those monasteries which were not engaged in activities beneficial to either state or citizens – education, healthcare or charity (so those which were begging were cancelled)
- 1781 Joseph II's Toleration Patent granted freedom of religion to non-Catholic denominations: Orthodox, Calvinist and Lutheran
- the era of state promoted re-Catholization was definitely over
- later in 1780s the rights were also applied to the Jews, who also became the equal citizens

- 1781 Serfdom Patent (abolished restrictions and granted the serfs personal freedom, they became equal citizens)
- 1785–1789 Josephine land register was elaborated
- the taxation was based on real economic conditions quality of the soil, types of plantation, other necessary expenses
- the Enlightened state reforms, particularly the changes intorduced by Emperor Joseph II, did not meet with a universaly possitive response
- especially the nobility refused to accept the loss of its political possition, privileges and power over the peasants, but many people had problem with state control of the church and of the life in general, they did not like interventions into folk customs and religious traditions
- Some of his reforms were cancelled after his death his brother Leopold II (1790–1792) who succeeded him was under the heavy pressure of the nobility and the church







Political situation in 1702:

1. Ottoman territories:

- O Eyalet of Temeşvar (existed with these borders from 1699 to 1707)
- Sanjak of Semendire (existed with these borders from 1699 to 1707), part of Eyalet of Rumelia
 Habsburg territories:
- Military Frontier (existed with these borders from 1702 to 1743)
- Kingdom of Slavonia (existed with these borders from 1699 to 1718)
- Kingdom of Hungary (existed with these borders from 1699 to 1732)

HUNGARY

- in the second half of the 17th century Hungary was an unstable region with several anti-Habsburg rebellions taking place
- A multi-national feudal state
- 1699 Peace Treaty of Karlowitz (Sremski Karlovci) with Otoman Empire – most of Hungarian areas liberated from Ottomans
- Personal union with Austria
- Many nationalities Magyars only 40 % of inhabitants but they rose to a dominant position early in the 18th century (Slovaks, Croats, Serbs, Romanians, Jews etc.)
- Strong magyarization pressure in Hungary since the of 18th century (Hungarian the only official language in administrative, at schools etc.)

SLOVAKIA

- Slovakia was a part of Hungary from 10th century till 1918
- After the battle of Mohács (1526) Hungary split into three parts
- Slovakia remained under under Habsburg control and became the centre of the political, cultural and economic life of the Kingdom of Hungary – Bratislava (Pressburg) was made the capital of Hungary
- 16th century the Lutheran religious reformation spread into Slovakia
- Strong position of catholic Church persecutions of the Protestants (Lutherans, Hussites etc.)
- Many religious uprisings and conspiracies in Slovakia during the second half of 16th century
- Slovak population was very poor

THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

- after Thirty Years' War the European power structure was rearranged
- The Holy Roman Empire was fragmented into many territories (360 states) - de facto they were sovereign and had their own rulers - this limited the power of the Holy Roman Emperor
- the power of the Emperor was very weak
- the Empire Diet did not work in fact
- the Holy Roman Empire had no army, no central autority



PRUSSIA

 after the Thirty Years' War the Kingdom of Prussia in the North- Eastern part of the Holy Roman Empire started to grow and politically strenghten, the rulers were coming from the House of Hohenzollern

Prince Elector Frederick William (1640–1688) –

- ecomonical reforms, strong power of the ruler
- his son Frederick III (1688–1713) he was crowned the King as Frederick I
- the capical city was Berlin rebuilt, administrative and cultural centre of the state
- Frederick William I (1713–1740) called the Soldier King, thrifty, practical, good ruler
- creator of the Prussian bureaucracy and the professionalized standing army, which he developed into the best army in Europe

PRUSSIA

Frederick II (1740 – 1786) – the Great, the King of Prussia

- he was succesful reformer
- practised enlightened absolutism
- he introduced a general civil code, abolished torture
- he also promoted an advanced secondary educati
- supported science and arts according to the French example he built the Chateau Sanssouci
- he used the power of his army to conquer Silesia which was the richest province of Habsburg Monarchy
- In 1740, Prussian troops crossed over the undefended border of Silesia and the so called Silesian Wars began (1740–1763)
- these wars have been groped with the War of Austrian Succession (1740–1748)



PARTITIONS OF POLAND

- the third largest state in Europe till 1770s, Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth – it was very difficult to govern such a large country
- many nations and many confessions living in Poland
- a great influence of Russia in 18th century the Russian tsars installed Polish kings in fact – firstly the Saxony dynasty and later the Russian Empress Catherine the Great installed the last Commonwealth King Stanisław August Poniatowski (1764–1795)
- the general decline of Poland was used by its neighbouring states Prussia, Russia and Habsburg Monarchy and resulted in the Partition of Poland in the second half of the 18th century

1st partition – 1772

- Poland lost 1/3 of land and 1/3 of inhabitants
- the reform magnates wanted to save Poland by introducing some reforms and the constitution
- the Polish Constitution was the first written constitution in Europe but the pro-Russian conservative Polish magnates, the Confederation of Targowica, fought against Polish forces supporting the constitution which were defeated

* 2nd partition of Poland – 1793

- Prussia named its newly gained province South Prussia
- the last attempt to save at least the rest of Poland was the Kościuszko
 Uprising in 1794 the leader Tadeusz Kościuszko
- the uprising was organized by nobility and burghers, the peasants did not allied
- the Russians allied with Prussia and the uprising was totaly defeated
- * 3rd partition 1795 the rest of Poland divided between Russia and Prussia

Results of the Partition of Poland:

- To Russia: Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, great part of the Ukraine
- *To Habsburg Monarchy:* Lesser Poland, the Kingdom of Galicia, city of Cracow, City of Lwow
- To Prussia: Greater Poland with the City of Poznan, Mazuria with Warsaw

Poland dissapeared from the map of Europe till 1918.

PARTITIONS OF POLAND



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