

* History of Central Europe

Jana Musilová, PhD

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*Lecture 1

- Organization of the course
- Definition of the concept of Central Europe and the Introduction to the History of Central Europe in the Middle Ages

* Organization

- Introduction
- Jana Musilová 87562@mail.muni.cz
- Attendance – allowed one unexcused lecture
- Midterm test (**16. 11. 2017**) and final test (**21. 12. 2017**) 50 – 46 A; 45 – 41 B; 40 – 36 C; 35 – 31 – D; 30 – 25 - E
- Reading

*Materials



MASARYK UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM

Study materials posted under the course CST:CZS51

Česky | in English

Mgr. Jana Musilová, Ph.D., učo 87562

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Other courses offered in Spring 2017: [CZS51](#); Autumn 2017: [CZS51](#)

HIGHLIGHT

IS.MUNI.CZ CST:CZS51 History of the Central Europe (Autumn 2017)

MY MAIL In another term: [Autumn 2017](#), [Spring 2017](#), [Autumn 2015](#), [Autumn 2014](#), [Spring 2014](#), [Autumn 2013](#), [Spring 2013](#), [Autumn 2012](#), [Spring 2012](#), [Autumn 2011](#), [Spring 2011](#), [Autumn 2010](#)

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OTHER REFERENCES

Teacher's Notebook

FAVOURITE BOOKMARKS

Edit favourite bookmarks

* Central Europe

- What is the definition of “CENTRAL EUROPE“?

Or

- Where is “CENTRAL EUROPE“?

EUROPE



* Central Europe

- ◉ Demarcation of CE:
 - Geographical
 - Historical and political development, CE as a cultural unit
 - Religion
 - Political and economical development
- ◉ A Yearbook of Central European Culture characterizes Central Europe "as an abandoned West or a place where East and West collide"
- ◉ Germany's Constant Committee for Geographical Names defines Central Europe both as a distinct cultural area and a political region. George Schöpflin and others argue that Central Europe is defined by being "a part of Western Christianity", while Samuel P. Huntington places the region firmly within Western culture

* Geographical demarcation of CE

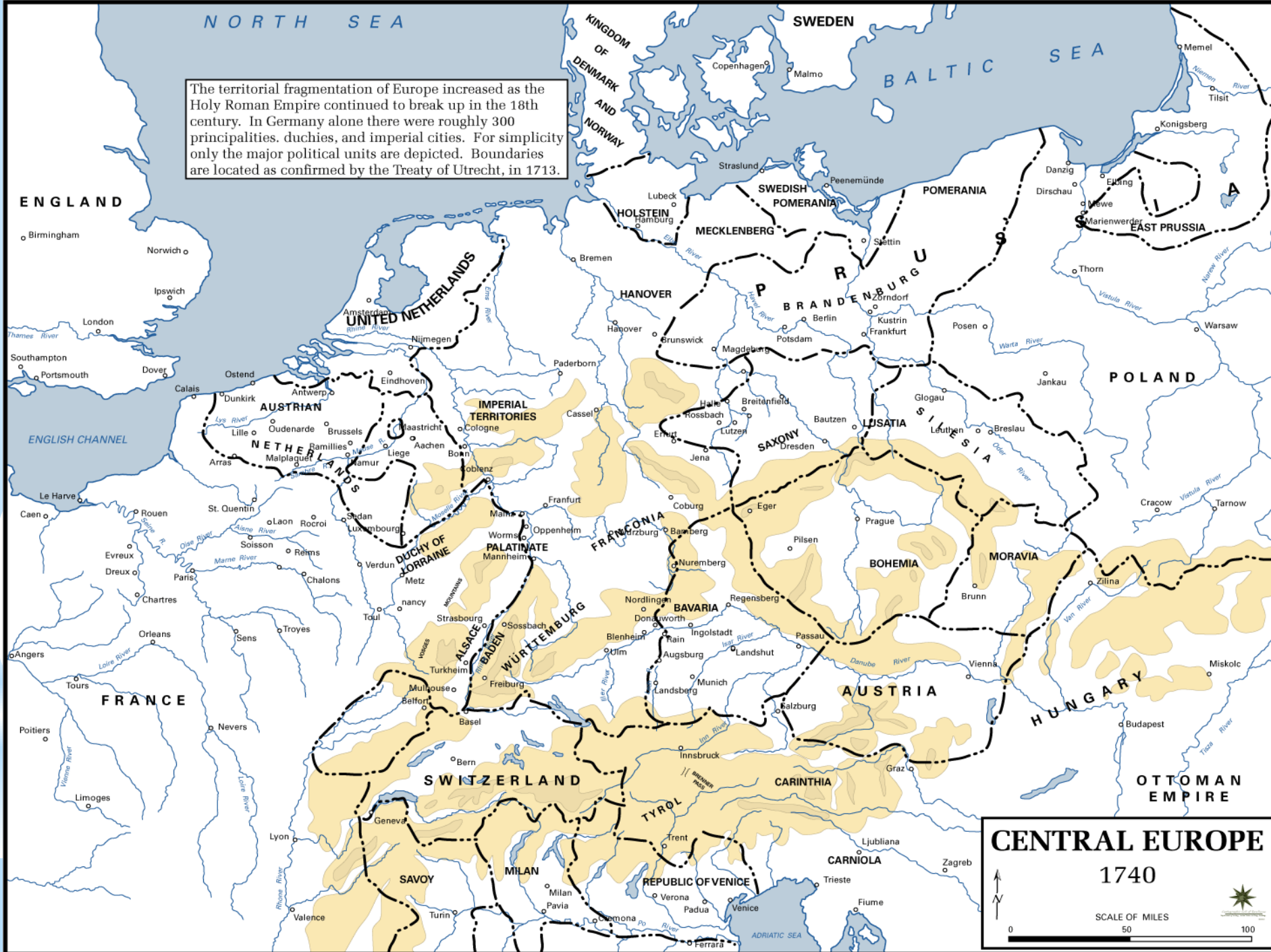
- Germany, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein (last 3 – Alpine countries)
- Earlier publication – CE includes also Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemburg and Romania (1935)
- X
- Slovenia, Croatia (new concept)
- climate, water – shed, mountains



Historical development of CE

- CE – direct influence of „Germany“ (Holy Roman Empire, The Habsburg Monarchy)
- Division of CE – capitalistic bloc x Soviet Bloc

The territorial fragmentation of Europe increased as the Holy Roman Empire continued to break up in the 18th century. In Germany alone there were roughly 300 principalities, duchies, and imperial cities. For simplicity only the major political units are depicted. Boundaries are located as confirmed by the Treaty of Utrecht, in 1713.



CENTRAL EUROPE
 1740

SCALE OF MILES
 0 50 100

▲
 ↑
 ↓
 ↙
 ↘



Divided Europe During the cold war, Europe was divided into opposing military alliances, the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact (Communist bloc).

*CE as a cultural unit?

- Cultural concept of CE – till 1795 (disintegration of Poland) – The Habsburg Monarchy, Poland, Lithuania, part of Bavaria (this region had many common interests: politics, literature, architecture, fear of Russian Empire, Osman Empire, Swedes and Prussians)
- 1867 – emergence of Austria - Hungary and CE as a cultural unit: Czech part, Austria, Slovakia, part of Poland part of Ukraine, Hungary, Transylvania, western Romania, Vojvodina, Croatia, Slovenia, South Tyrol and Bavaria

* CE - Mitteleuropa

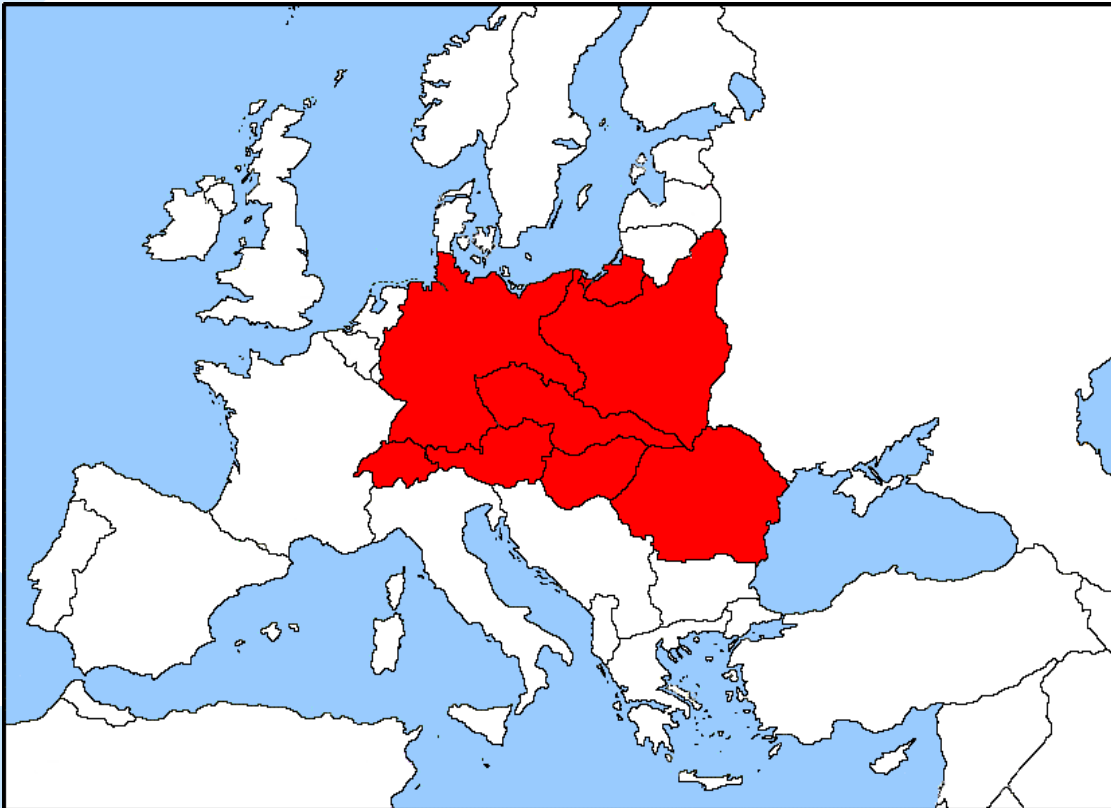
- Mitteleuropa meaning Middle Europe, is one of the German terms for CE. The term has acquired diverse cultural, political and historical connotation.
- The Prussian vision of *Mitteleuropa* was a pan-Germanist state-centric imperium, an idea that was later adopted in a modified form by National Socialist geopoliticians.
- Friedrich Naumann's *Mitteleuropa* (1915) was a liberal voice in the largely illiberal German discussion on the future of East Central and South East Europe. His reasoning, based on principles of free trade and voluntary cooperation, did not dominate this debate, which, in consequence, centered upon German territorial annexations.
- Plus other visions of CE eg. Jörg Brechtefeld "...*The term Mitteleuropa never has been merely a geographical term; it is also a political one, much as Europe, East and West, are terms that political scientists employ as synonyms for political ideas or concepts. Traditionally, Mitteleuropa has been that part of Europa between East and West. As profane as this may sound, this is probably the most precise definition of Mitteleuropa available...*"

*CE

- 1904 in Berlin Central European Economic Association (economic integration of Germany and Austria–Hungary with eventual extension to Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands)
- T. G. Masaryk – CE space between Germany and Russia

* CE: Interwar period

* Emmanuel de Martonne (Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania)



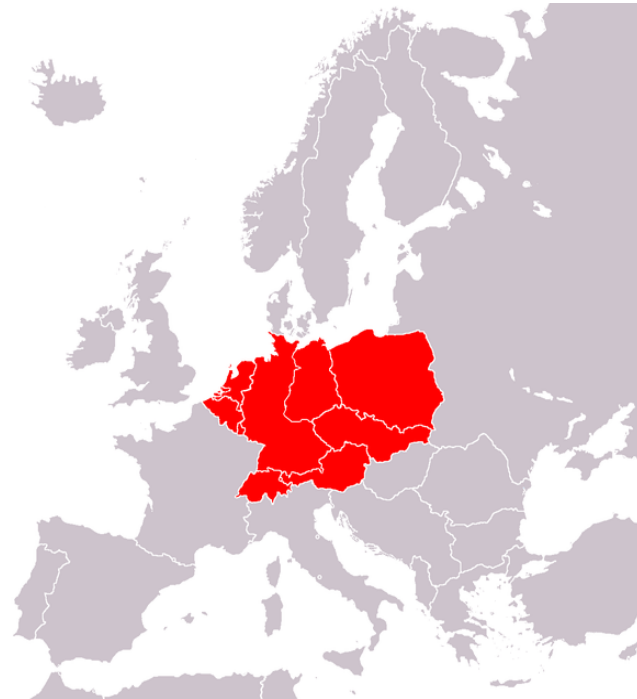
* CE: Interwar period

- Little Entente



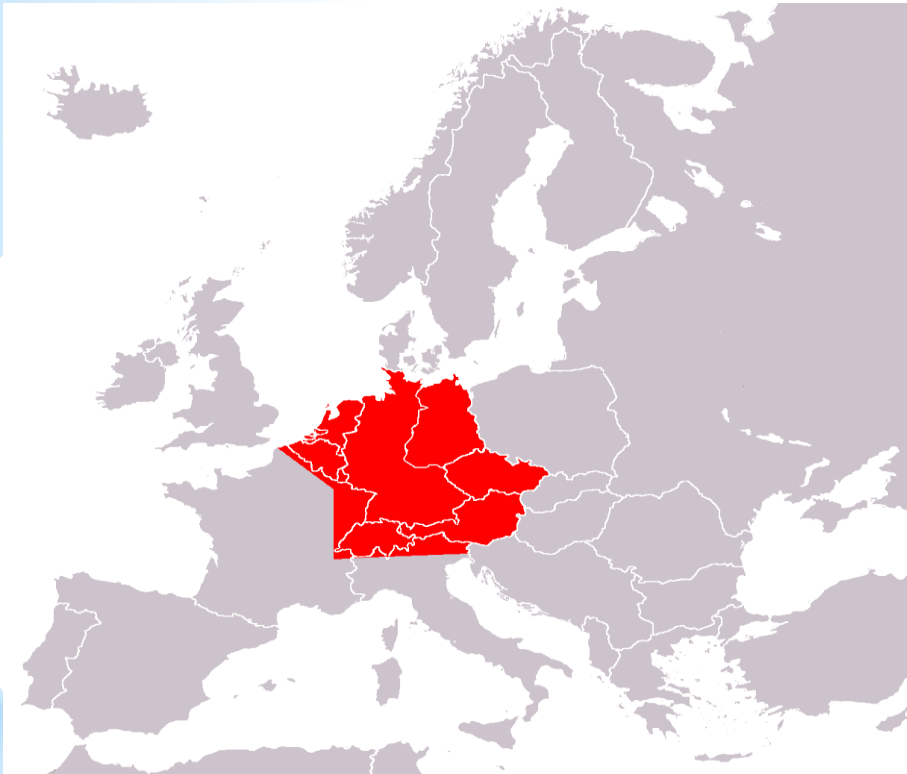
*CE after WWII

- As a part of the Eastern Bloc – East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary
- E. Schenk (1950)



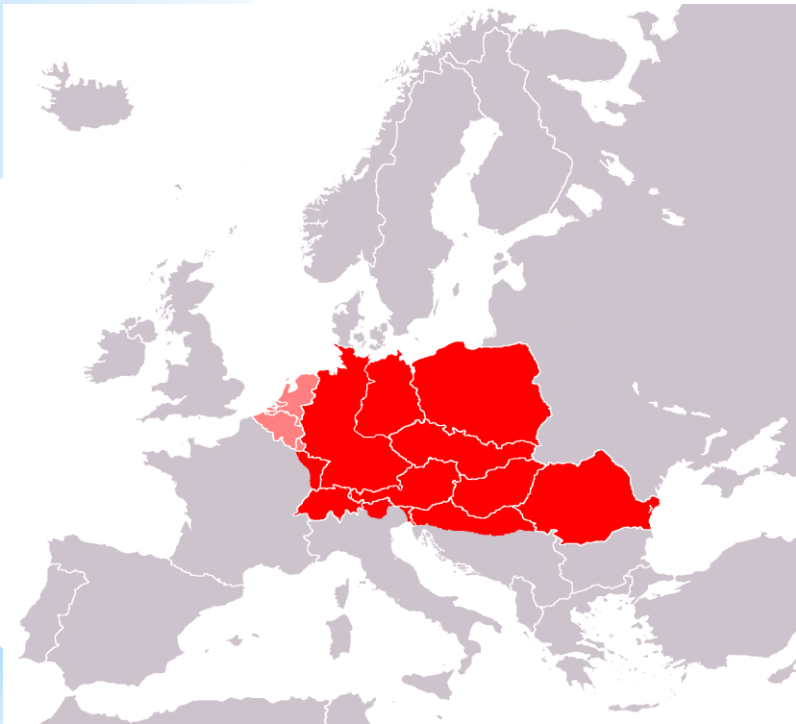
* CE: after WWII

- A. F. A. Mutton (1961)



* CE: after WWII

- Meyers Encyclopedia (1980)



* CE 1989

- **Central European Initiative** - forum of regional cooperation Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine; founders were Italy, Austria, Hungary and the former Yugoslavia



* CE after 1989

* Visegrád Group: <http://www.visegradgroup.eu/about>



* CE after 1989

- CEFTA
- Former parties are Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. Their CEFTA membership ended when they joined the EU. Croatia is set to join the EU in 2013
- of 1 May 2007, the parties of the CEFTA agreement are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and UNMIK on behalf of Kosovo

* ERDF (CENTRAL EUROPE PROGRAM)

- Operational Program “Central Europe”
Program under the European territorial co-funded by
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Poland,
Slovenia, Slovakia

*CE

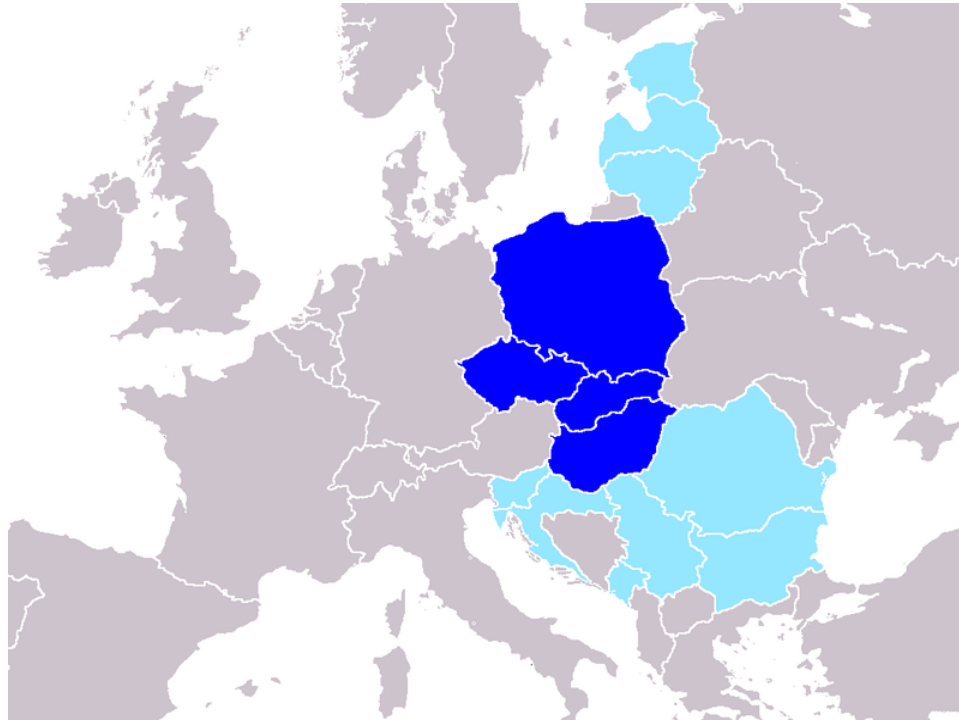
- CE – Visegrad group, in a broad sense - Austria, Slovenia, Lithuania and sometimes Estonia + Latvia, + Germany
- Hugh Seton-Watson, Ivan Bérénd a György Ránki – CE: Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Balkans – Eastern Europe
- Oskar Halecki – 2 macro regions (west and east), region of 2 CEs – important transition zone between West and East x Friedrich Naumann's Mitteleuropa – alliance between German Empire and Austria – Hungary

* **CE: Lonnie R. Johnson**

- “...*religious frontiers between the Roman Catholic West and the Orthodox East...*”

* **CE: Peter J. Katzenstein**

“...V4 and cuncontestable way to decide whether they are parts of Central Europe or not...”



* CE: Ronald Tiersky

“...V4...”



*References

- *Johnson, Lonnie (1996): Where is Central Europe. In.: Central Europe: Enemies, Neighbors, Friends. Oxford University Press, pp. 3 – 12.*
- *Tiersky, Ronald (2004). Europe today. Rowman & Littlefield.*

*** Central Europe and the
Czech Lands in the
Middle Ages**

Jana Musilová, PhD

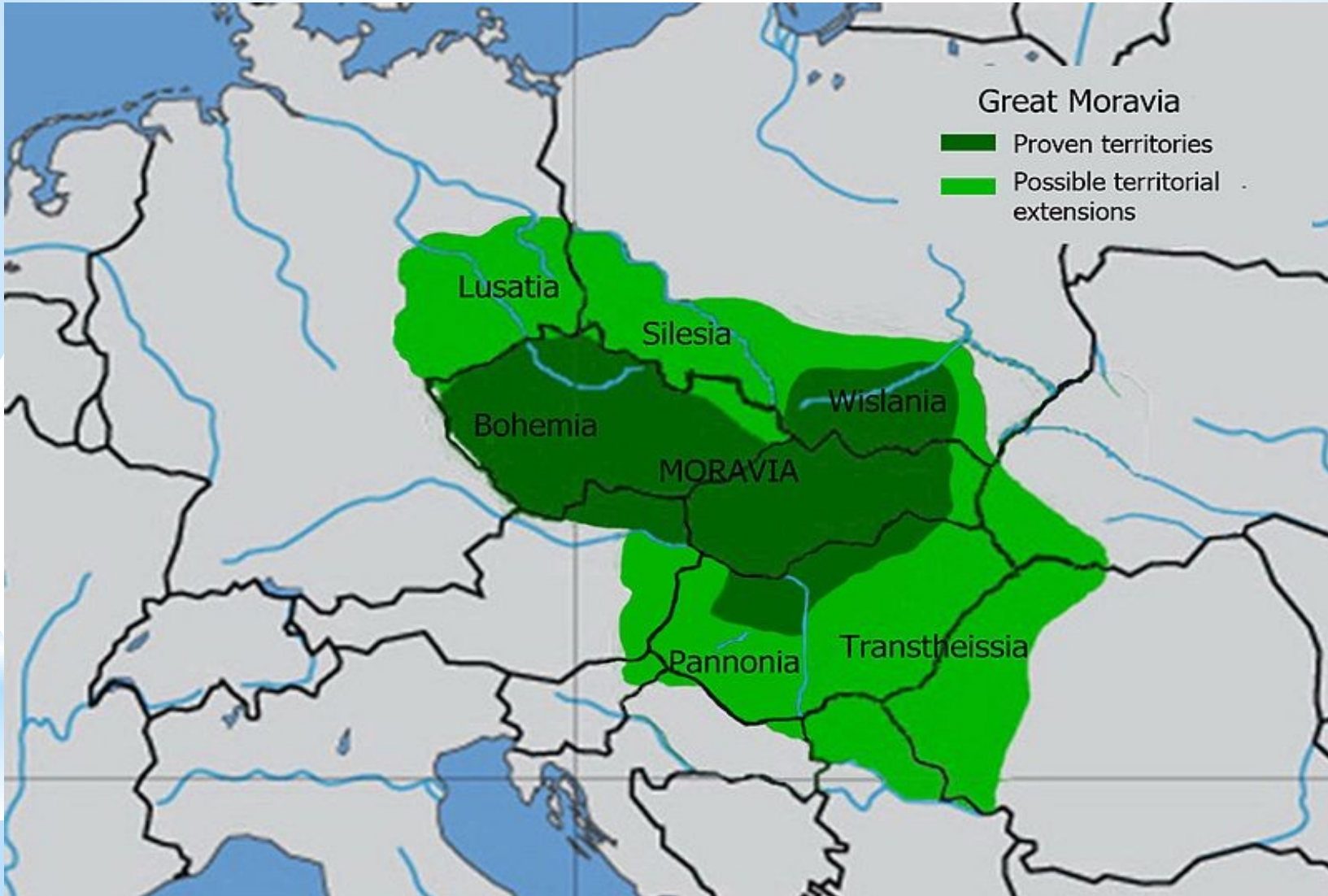
*Middle Ages

- Elements of unity for Western and Central Europe were Roman Catholicism and Latin
- Eastern Europe, which remained Eastern Orthodox Christian, was the area of Byzantine cultural influence; after the schism (1054), it developed cultural unity and resistance to the Western world (Catholic and Protestant) within the framework of Slavonic language and the Cyrillic alphabet

*Great Moravia

- Was the first major state that was predominantly Slavonic
- Emerge in the area of Central Europe
- The core of Great Moravia was established, according to legend, in the early 830's, when Prince Mojmir I crossed the Morava and conquered the principality of Nitra (present-day western Slovakia)
- Moravia reached its largest territorial extent under Svatopluk I, who ruled from 870 to 894, and who was occasionally styled as king in contemporaneous sources

*Map of Great Moravia



* Great Moravia – cultural development

- Significant cultural development under Rastislav
- 863 of the mission of Cyril and Methodius (Rastislav had asked the Byzantine emperor to send a "teacher" to introduce literacy and a legal system to Great Moravia)
- Brothers Cyril and Methodius introduced a system of writing (the Glagolitic alphabet) and Slavonic liturgy, the latter formally approved by Pope Adrian



* Collaps of Great Moravia

- Separatism and internal conflicts emerging after Svatopluk's death contributed to the fall of Great Moravia, which was overrun by the Hungarians. The exact date of Moravia's collapse is unknown, but it occurred between 902 and 907
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIhAm0mq-Ss>

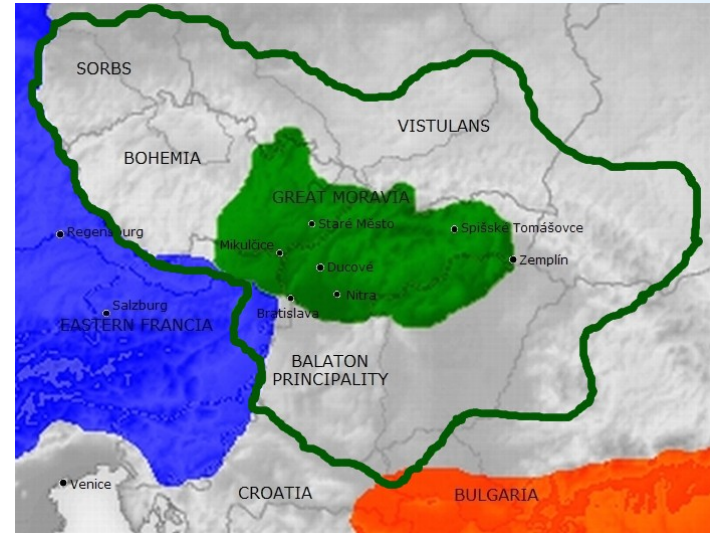
* Great Moravia: territorial changes



Politická situace na poč. 9. stol. n. l. (do roku 833):

- Nitransko za Pribiny
- Morava na počátku Mojmirovvy vlády
- Hranice moderních států

Mojmír I



Rastislav

* Central Europe in 10th and 11th century

- The Great Moravia collapsed (Hungarian tribes)
- The territory inhabited by Slovaks became a part of newly created **Kingdom of Hungary** – the **House of Arpád**
- **1000** – **Stephen I of Hungary** (?*969–1038) was crowned a king, **christianization** – saint patron of Hungary
- **Ladislav I of Hungary** (*1046–1095) – expansion – 1091 – King of Croatia
- **Poland** – the Piast dynasty – **Duke Mieszko** (?*935–992) – 966 – conversion to **christianity** → **1000** – Poland recognized by Pope and by the Holy Roman Empire as a state
- 1025 – Duke **Boleslaus I the Brave** was crowned a King – strong ruler – expansion – 1002–1003 – Duke of Bohemia (his mother was from House of Přemyslid)
- After his death – the decline of Polish empire – renewed and unified by the King **Ladislav I the Elbow-High** (*1261–1333)

* Rulers



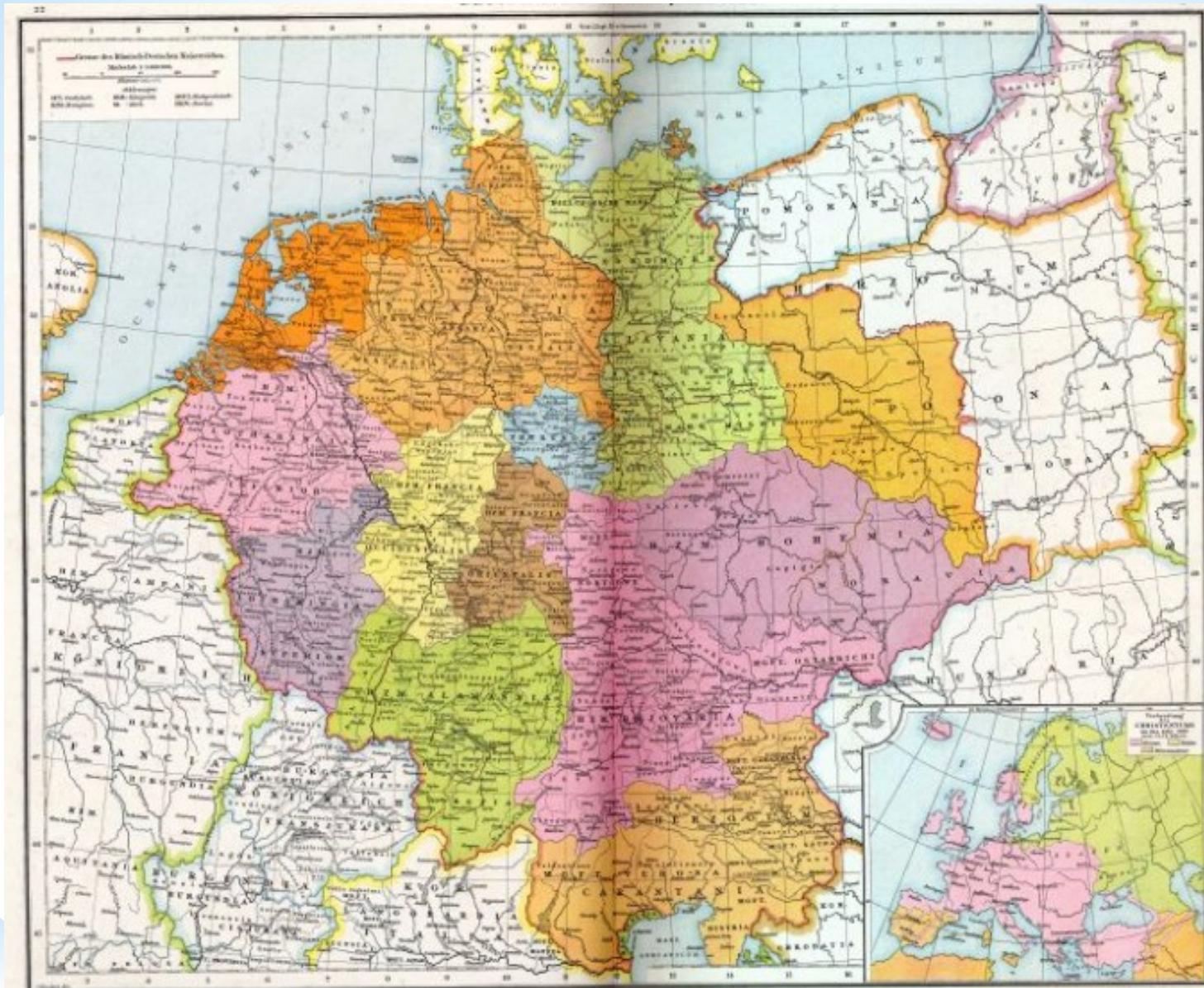
Stephen I of Hungary



Boleslaus I the Brave

* Bohemia from 9th century till 1306

- Centre moved to Bohemia – **The Duchy of Bohemia**, dependent on Holy Roman Empire
- Prague - capital city
- **The Přemyslid dynasty - ruling**
- 883 – Duke **Bořivoj** and his wife **Ludmila** were baptised by Methodius
- 10th century – duke **Wenceslaus** – vassal of the German Empire
- **Wenceslaus** was assassinated by his brother → **Saint Wenceslaus** – the saint patron of the Czech lands
- 973 – the Prague Bishopric was established (2nd bishop **Adalbert – St. Vojtěch** - apostolic mission to Poland)
- **Přemyslids** eliminated other strong noble families who were competing with them (massacring of two noble clans in 10/11th century)
- **Duchy of Bohemia was a part of Holy Roman Empire**



* CE around the year 1000



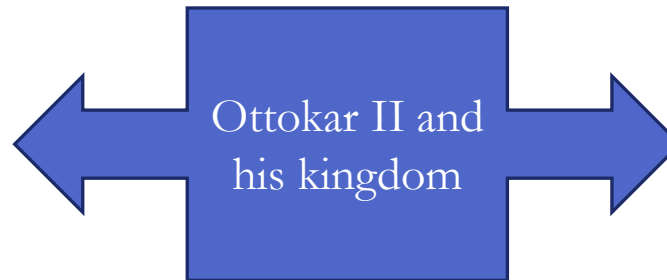
St. Wenceslaus



**St. Vojtěch
(Adalbert) – 2nd
Bishop of Prague**

* The Kingdom of Bohemia

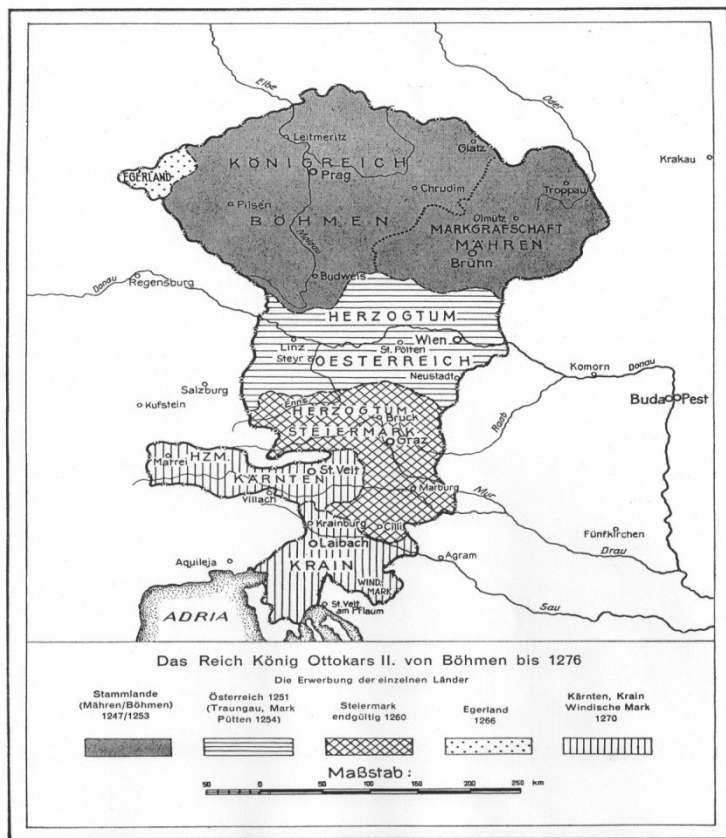
- Bohemian kings were members of College of Electors of the German Empire
- **Ottokar I** (*?1155/1167–1230)
- 1212 – **Golden Bull of Sicily** – a decree issued by the Holy Roman Emperor Frederik II in basel that confirmed the royal hereditary title for Ottokar
- **Wenceslaus I** (*1205–1253)
- **Ottokar II** (*?1233–1278, Přemysl Otakar II) – The Iron and Golden King , the rise of the power of Bohemia – his kingdom from the Krkonoše mountains to the Adriatic sea
- 1255 - a crusade to Prussia – founded the city of Königsberg (Kaliningrad today)
- 1278 – died in a war with his rival, the Roman king **Rudolph Habsburg**



*The Kingdom of Bohemia

- **Wenceslaus II of Bohemia** (*1271–1305) – King of Bohemia, King of Poland
- **Wenceslaus III** (*1289–1306) – King of Bohemia, Poland and Hungary, assassinated without heirs – the Přemyslid dynasty died out in the male tail
- After four years of struggles for the throne – the new dynasty of Luxembourg came to Bohemia and the Polish throne returned to the **dynasty of Piasts**

* Maps of Bohemian Kingdom



The Kingdom of Ottokar II
around 1270



The Kingdom of Wenceslaus II
around 1301

*The House of Přemyslids



Seal of King Ottokar II
of Bohemia



King Wenceslaus II

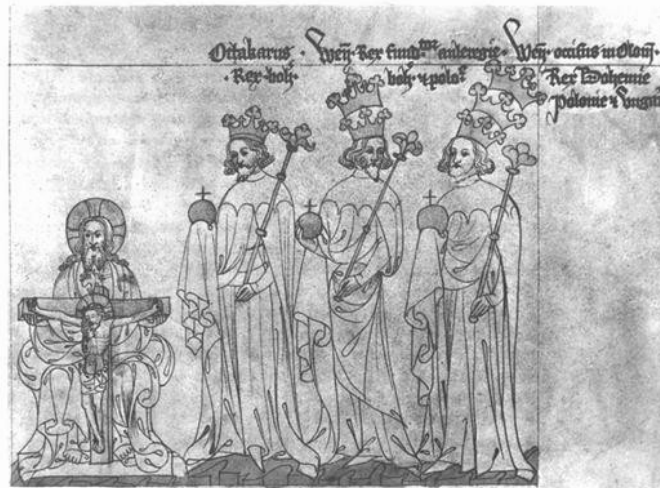
* Holy Roman Empire



10th – 13th century

Around the year 1300

*Arts



č.4

The Bohemian Kings – Otokar II, Wenceslaus II, Wenceslaus III
Chronicle of Zbraslav

The oldest fresco **OF THE MEMBERS OF
PŘEMYSLID DYNASTY**: Rotunda of St. Catherine
in Znojmo



* Early Gothic Art

- * **St. Prokopius' Basilica** (abbey church) in Třebíč, built around 1101 – 1104, between romanesque and gothic



* Early Gothic Art (1230 – 14th C)

Předklášteří u Tišnova



* Osek - Burgundian Gothic monastery, close to Teplice



* Castles Zvíkov and Buchlov



* The House of Luxembourgs



John of Luxembourg

Charles IV

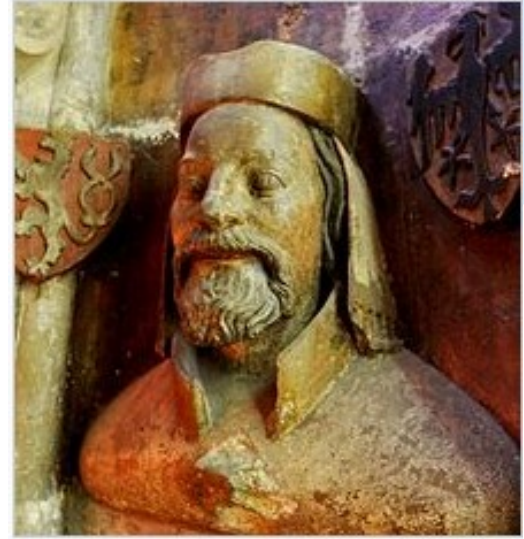
* **The House of Luxembourgs (1310–1437)**

- **John of Bohemia/John of Luxembourg** (*1310 – †1346, John the Blind)
- Married Eliška Přemyslovna → a new dynasty – **the House of Luxembourgs**
- Succesfull European diplomat and warrior, but in Bohemia was unpopular – needed lots of money for his campains, was very often abroad so the country was without a ruler → the power of nobility strenghten
- † in *the Battle of Crécy*
- **Charles IV (*1316 – †1378)**
- **Son of John of Bohemia**
- King of Bohemia (1346–1378) and Holy Roman Empire King (1346–1355), Holy Roman Emperor (1355–1378)
- 4 wives and many children but was waiting for male descendant for very long so his oldest son **Wencelaus** (*1361–†1419) - bad ruler

* Charles IV

- The most important and the best known Bohemian king – *Pater Patriae* (Father of the Country), his reign = Golden age of Bohemia
- **Prague** became the capital of the Holy Roman Empire, most important city in the Central Europe
- Charles IV rebuilt the city on the model of Paris, in Gothic style
- Founder of **the New Town of Prague, Charles Bridge, Charles Square, St. Vitus Cathedral**, rebuilt **the Prague Castle ...**
- 1346 – the elevation of the Prague bishopric to an archbishopric
- 1348 – he founded **the University of Prague**, later named after him, the very first university in Central Europe; Prague became intellectual centre of the CE
- **The Karlštejn Castle** – a place for safekeeping the Imperial Regalia and Bohemian Crown Jewels
- Named after him (abroad): Montecarlo (Charles' Mountain) fort and village in Italy

- * He promulgated the Golden Bull of 1356 whereby the succession to the imperial title was laid down, which held for the next four centuries
- * Patronage of culture and the arts
- * Vita Caroli – his own CV



- * Bust of Charles IV in St. Vitus Cathedral, 1370s, Prague

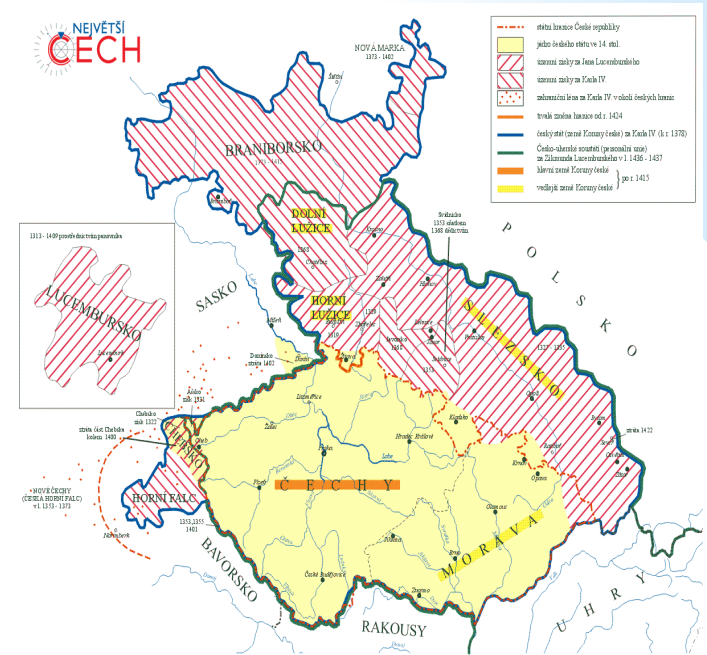
* Regalia



Part of Bohemian Crown
Jewels



Part of Imperial Regalia



Map of the Kingdom of Bohemia during the reign of Charles IV

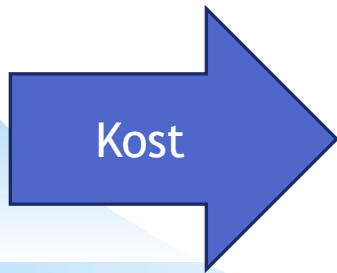
* Holy Roman Empire under the reign of Charles IV



- St. Vitus Cathedral
- Castles Karlštejn, Kost, Kašperk
- Prague's Old Town and New Town Hall

*High Gothic Art



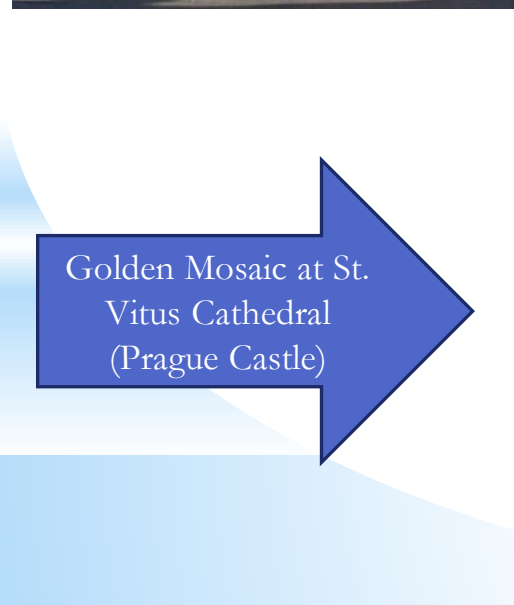




Prague's New
Town Hall



Prague's Old
Town Hall



Golden Mosaic at St.
Vitus Cathedral
(Prague Castle)



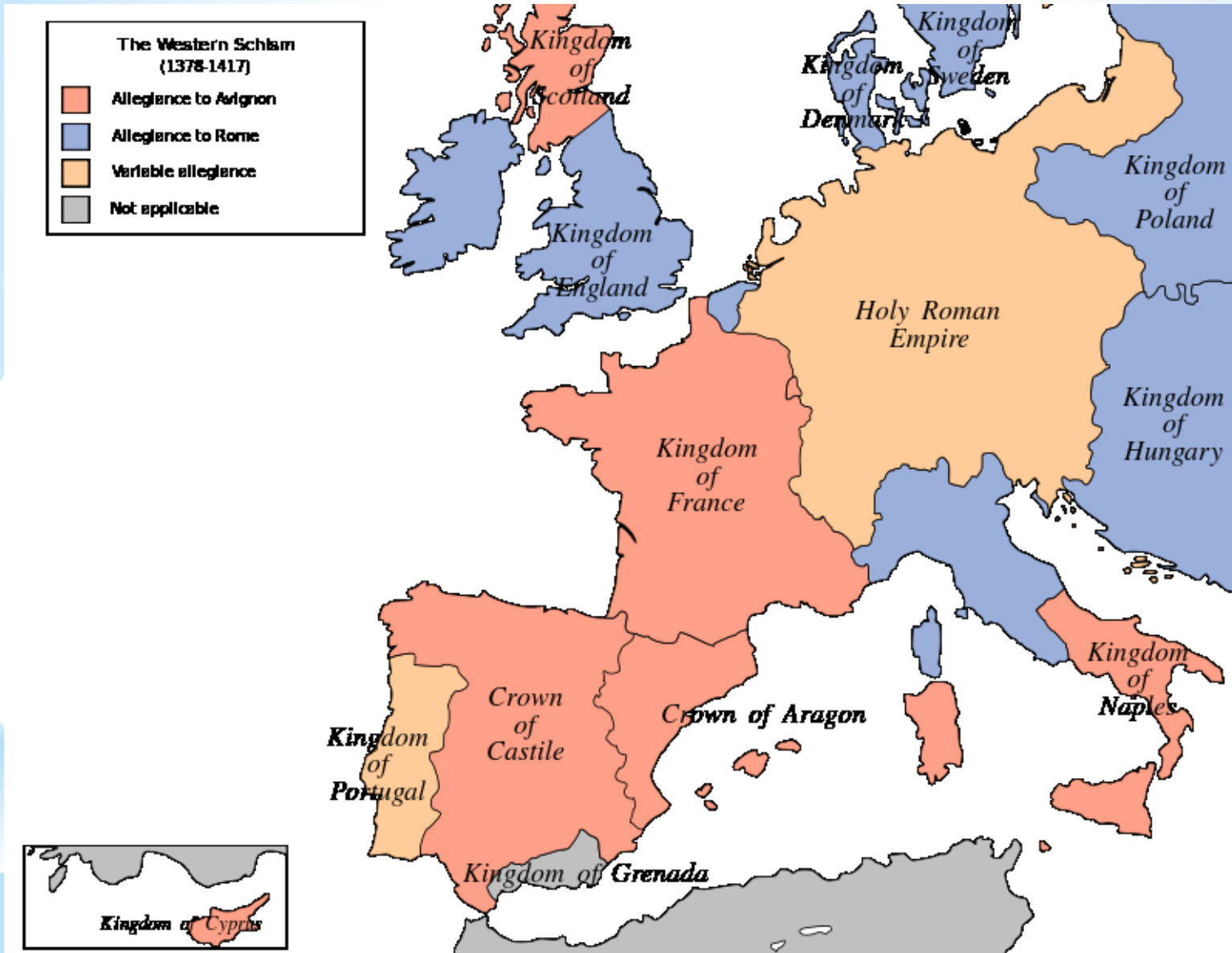
* The Holy Roman Empire during 14th - 15th century

- 1273 – **Rudolf the Habsburg** elected the king of the Roman Empire – unimportant dynasty from Austria, elected because the dukes didn't want powerful Bohemian king Otakar II on the Roman throne
- 14th century – the house of Luxembourgs – **Henry VII** (*1275/76–1313), after his unexpected death the struggle for the throne began – **Louis IV of Wittlesbach** (*1282/7–1346) from Bavaria won
- **Charles IV** (*1316–1378) of Luxembourg
 - 1346 – Holy Roman King, 1355 – crowned the Holy Roman Emperor
 - 1356 - **The Golden Bull** – the basic law of the Holy Roman Empire
 - **Wenceslaus IV** (*1361–1419) – a son of Charles IV, King of HRE (1378–1411) – weak ruler
 - **Sigismund of Luxembourg** (*1368–1437) – Wenceslaus' brother, son of Charles IV, 1378 – King of Hungary and Croatia (married Mary of Hungary), 1411 – King of HRE, 1419 – King of Bohemia, 1431 - King of Italy, 1433 – HRE

* The church in 14th and 15th century

- The crisis of Papacy
- 14th century - Great Papal Schism – two Popes – one in Rome (Italy) and one in Avignon (France)
- 1409 – the council of Pisa elected a new pope → three popes
- 1410 – indulgences were authorized by one of the Popes (John XXIII) who wanted to get money for the crusade against his rival Pope Gregory XII and his protector king Ladislaus of Naples
- 1414 – the Council of Constance was called – the main purpose was to finish the papal schism
- 1417 – a new pope – **Martin V** was recognized by the entire Europe - the schism was ended

The schism caused aslo diplomatic crisis in Europe – each secular ruler had to choose which Pope he would had supported



* The Hussite Revolution (1419 - 1436)

- **Master Jan Hus** – became one of the forerunners of the Protestant Reformation , was inspired and influenced by British thinker John Wyclif (†1384)
- Scholar, clergyman, preacher at the Bethlehem Chapel in Prague and Professor of Prague University, 1402 – Rector of Prague University
- Wanted to reform certain practices of the Roman Catholic Church
- He was protesting against clerical abuses, especially the sale of indulgences (paying for forgiveness of the sins during the confession)
- Declared that the clergy should live according to the Bible, in poverty, without property and without a secular power
- Proclaimed that the believers should understand the Holy Writ so it should be proclaimed in the national languages, not in latine
- 1410 – Hus was excommunicated from the church by Pope Alexander V
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9gjzpM01Gc>

* Master Jan Hus



Jan Hus at the stake.

- Jan Hus was invited to the Council of Constance to defend himself and explain his theories
- The King of Holy Roman Empire **Sigismund** guaranteed to Jan Hus a safe passage through the HRE but he didn't have any jurisdiction at the Council of Constance → Hus was imprisoned in Constance for 8 months
- Master Jan Hus was condemned by the Council at Constance as a heretic and was sentenced to death.
- 6th July 1415 – he was burnt to death at the stake.

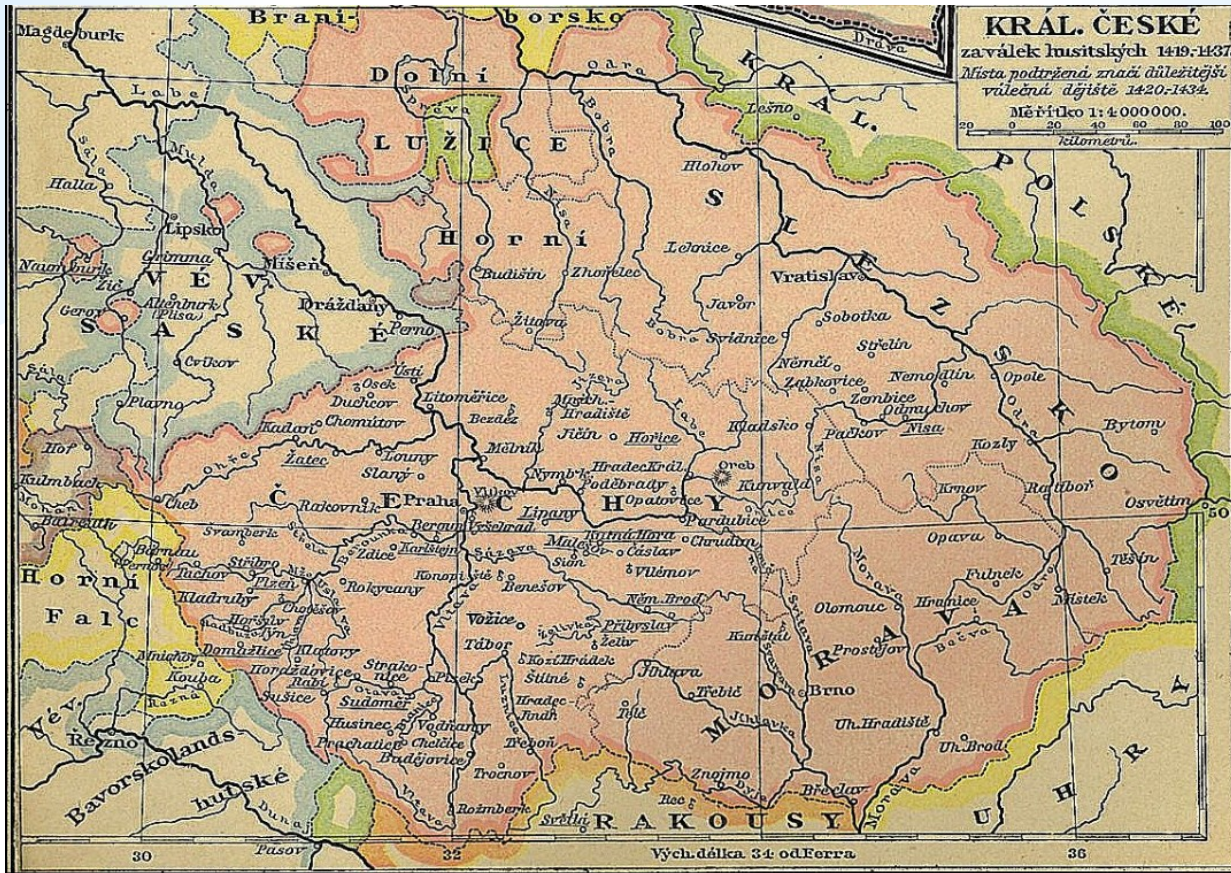
* The Hussites

- The Bohemian people blamed Emperor Sigismund for Hus' death so they did not want him to become the king of Bohemia after Wenceslaus' death in 1419
- Hus' followers launched powerful religious movement, they called themselves *the Hussites*; (or the Men of the Chalice - the symbol of Hussites movement)
- Principles:
 - Freedom to preach the Word of God
 - Celebration of the Lord's Supper in both kinds (bread and wine to priests and laity alike)
 - No secular power for the clergy.
 - Punishment for the mortal sins.
- 1420 - after his coronation in 1420 the Hussite uprising in Bohemia → the so called Hussite wars started
- Catholics against Hussites
- Sigismund organized five crusade campaigns against Hussites but all the campaigns were unsuccessful (due to the outstanding military leader of Hussites – **Jan Žižka** who became a hero in the Czech tradition)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOcUVplxVOo>

- Almost 15 years of religious struggles and civil wars – the country was destroyed and plundered: the economical consequences: starvation, stagnation of the bussiness, destroyed buildings
- Hussite movement split into two fractions: the moderate and the radical: Moderate Hussites wanted to finish the warfare so they united with Catholics and destroyed the radical Hussites at the **battle of Lipany in May 1434**
- The Catholic and the Hussite became legal in Bohemia and **two churches were established**
- 1436 – Sigismund was accepted as the King of Bohemia, but he died just one year later
- Sigismund had to fight not only against the Hussites but also against the **Ottoman Empire** who spread into Europe from Asia Minor at the end of the 14th century – firstly they attacked the Balkan Peninsula and later – in 15th century – they threatened Hungary

* The Hussites

- After two weak kings from the house of Habsburgs a Bohemian nobleman and the leader of the Hussites **George of Kunštát and Poděbrady** (1458–1471) was elected - **Bohemian king**
- He suggested something what could be considered as a proposal of today's European Union
- He tried to prevent isolation of hussite Bohemia in catholic Europe, so he proposed a treaty among all Christian powers, the member states should pledge to settle all differences by exclusively peaceful means and fight altogether against Ottoman Empire who was threatening Central Europe
- 1464 the new Pope Paul II asked George to leave hussite church and join the Catholic Church, but George refused → the Pope proclaimed George a heretic and excommunicated him
- He had also enemies among Bohemian catholic noblemen – they allied with **Matthias Corvinus of Hungary** (*1443–1490)
- Matthias conquered a large part of Moravia, and in 1469 was crowned King of Bohemia by the papal party in the Moravian ecclesiastical metropolis Olomouc
- 1470 – an agreement – Matthias was ruling over Moravia and George over Bohemia



* Kingdom of Bohemia during the Hussite Wars

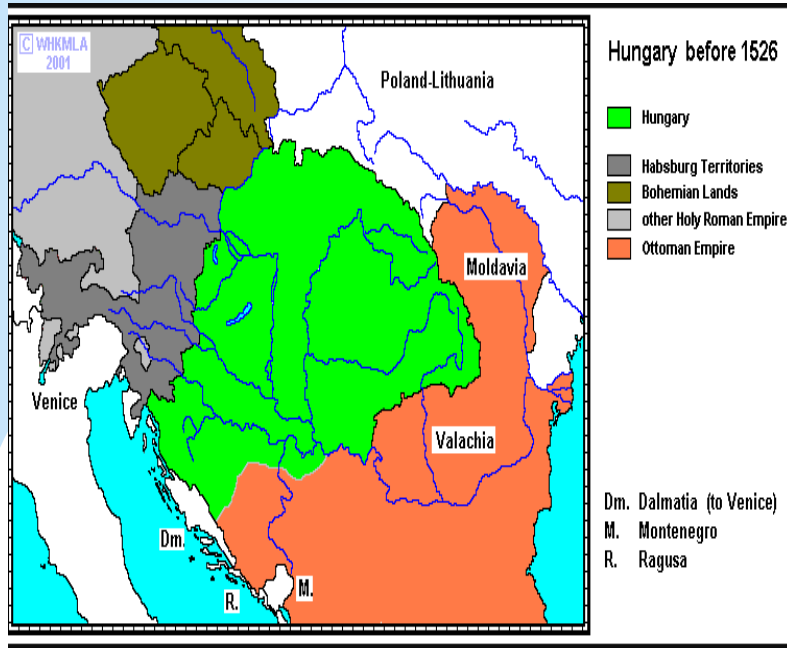
* The House of Jaggiellonians

- After George's death a new dynasty from Poland (originally from Lithuania) came to the Kingdom of Bohemia – **Jaggiellonians**
- **Vladislaus II** (*1456–1516)
- A conflict between Bohemian and Hungarian King succeeded – 1471 – the Peace of Olomouc, which allowed both Vladislaus and Matthias Corvinus to use the title "*King of Bohemia*," (Vladislaus would reign in Bohemia and Matthias gained Moravia, Silesia, and the two Lusatias)
- 1491 – Mathias died → a personal union between Bohemia, Poland and Hungary – Vladislaus moved his capital to Buda (Hungary)
- Vladislaus was weak ruler and didn't like conflicts
- 1500 – Czech Council adopted a new municipal constitution that limited royal power and Vladislaus signed it in 1502 (hence it is known as *Vladislav municipal constitution*)
- 1515 – his daughter Anna married **Ferdinand of Austria** from the **House of Habsburgs**

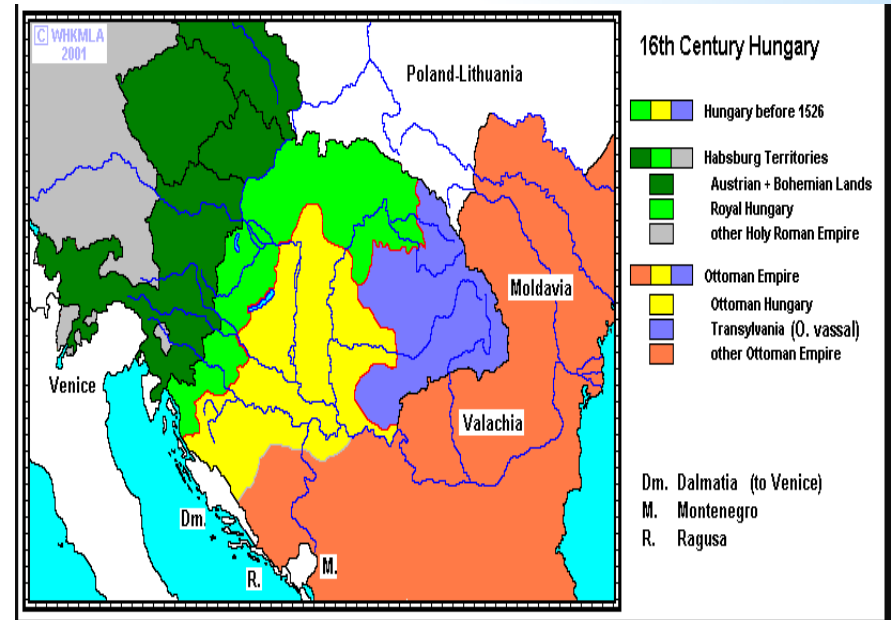
* The House of Jaggiellonians

- During their reign Hungary was under consistent border pressure from the Ottoman Empire
- **Louis (Ludwig) II** (*1506–1526)
- Only 10 years old when his Father died
- 1526 – died at the **battle of Mohács** - his troops were defeated by the Ottoman Empire – Sultan **Suleyman the Magnificent**
- The Ottoman victory led to the partition of Hungary for several centuries among the Ottoman Empire, the Habsburg Monarchy, and the Principality of Transylvania
- Because Louis II died without having any children, his successor became his sister's husband **Ferdinand of Austria**

Before 1526



After 1526



* Map of Hungary before and after 1526



* The House of Jaggiellonians

Vladislaus II

Louis (Ludwig) II

* Late gothic art (Jagiellonian Gothic)

* Vladislav Hall, Prague Castle



* Late gothic art (Jagiellonian Gothic)

* Church of Our Lady before Týn, Prague



Kingdom of Bohemia during the Middle Ages. a map.

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SK7YmwuVak>

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