

# CENTRAL EUROPE IN THE SECOND HALF OF 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

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# HABSBURG MONARCHY

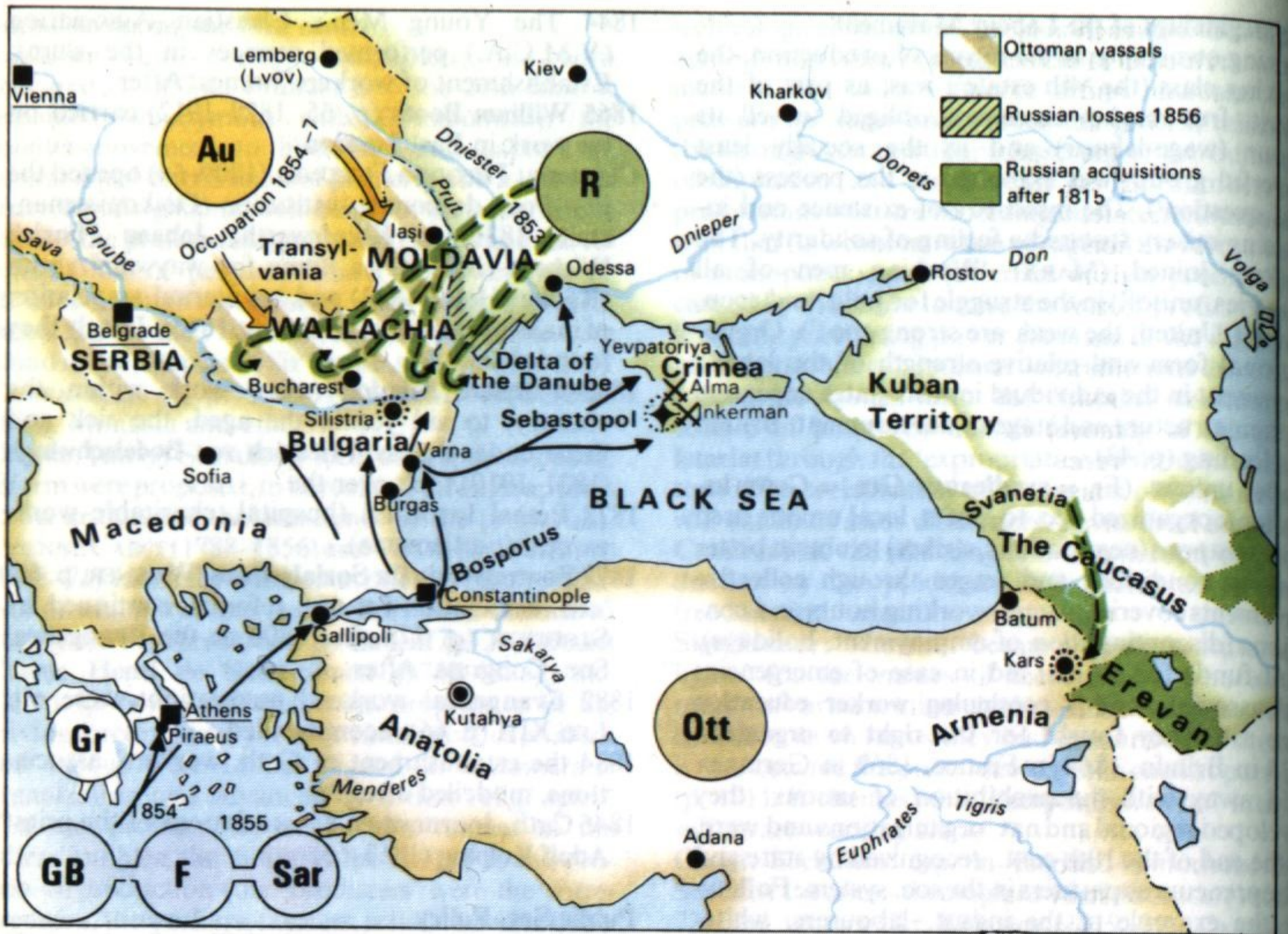
- ◉ after the defeat of revolution movement in Habsburg monarchy conservative absolutism again
- ◉ the ruler - Emperor

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

- ◉ 1851 - the constitution was cancelled - neoabsolutism was introduced
- ◉ the main personality - the Prime Minister **Alexander Bach** → *Bach's absolutism*
- ◉ police regime, centralism, control of public life, strict censorship
- ◉ political rights cancelled
- ◉ kept - equality before the law, freedom of religion and cancellation of the serfdom
- ◉ economic reforms

# FOREIGN POLICY OF HABRSBURG MONARCHY

- ◉ **foreign policy - unsuccessful**
- ◉ neutrality in *Crimean War 1853-1856*
- ◉ Originally a conflict between Ottoman Empire and Russia - the dispute for protection of the rights of Christians in the Holy Land (controlled by Ottoman Empire)
- ◉ Russia wanted to use the decline of the Ottoman Empire („sick man of Europe“) and take control over the straits Bosphorus and Dardanells
- ◉ November 1853 - Ottoman fleet destroyed by Russians at the Battle of Sinope
- ◉ Great Britain and France declared the war against Russia and supported the Ottoman Empire, later also the Kingdom of Sardinia
- ◉ Austrian Emperor agreed the intervention but did not support it, declared neutrality
- ◉ 1854 - the Russians advanced to the Danubian Principalities Wallachia and Moldavia, after their withdrawal their place in these Principalities was taken by the Austrians
- ◉ 1856 - Paris Peace Treaty - neutrality of the Black Sea
- ◉ After the end of the war Austria had to return them to the Ottoman Empire, practically they became independent
- ◉ International isolation of Habsburg Monarchy during and after the Crimean War



The Crimean War, 1853-6

# FOREIGN POLICY OF HABRSBURG MONARCHY

- ◉ 1859 - ***the war with Italy*** - Habsburgs were defeated and lost Lombardy
- ◉ this war caused deep financial crisis in Habsburg Monarchy
- ◉ this crisis and dissatisfaction with absolutist policy led to its end
- ◉ its main representatives headed by Alexander Bach were withdrawn
- ◉ 1860 - **the October Diploma** - the new imperial code - was proclaimed
- ◉ 1861 - February - new the constitution was introduced, it was the beginning of parliamentary monarchy in the Habsburg Empire

# HABSBURG MONARCHY

- ◉ 1866 - **Austrian-prussian war**
- ◉ Austria was defeated
- ◉ Austria lost its influence in Italy and in Germany
- ◉ internal weakness of Habsburg Monarchy was shown
- ◉ it was used by Hungarians - their representative count **Julius Andrassy** (1823-1890)
- ◉ they refused centralism but also federalism which proposed the Czech political representation
- ◉ so called **Compromise** with Hungary in 1867
- ◉ the empire was divided into two parts: the border the river Leithan between Austria and Hungary - the dual monarchy was established
- ◉ **Cisleithania** (Austrian lands, Bohemia, Moravia, Galicia and Bukovina, Adriatic lands - Dalmacia, Istria, Terst, Gorica) - domination of German nation
- ◉ **Translaithania** (Hungary, Upper Hungary - Slovakia, Transylvania, Croatia, Slavonia, Rijeka) - domination of Hungarian nation

# AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (1910)



- ◉ **Empire of Austria (Cisleithania):**

1. Bohemia,
2. Bukovina,
3. Carinthia,
4. Carniola,
5. Dalmatia,
6. Galicia,
7. Austrian Littoral,
8. Lower Austria,
9. Moravia,
10. Salzburg,
11. Silesia,
12. Styria,
13. Tyrol,
14. Upper Austria,
15. Vorarlberg;

- ◉ **Kingdom of Hungary (Transleithania):**

16. Hungary
17. Croatia-Slavonia;

- ◉ **Austrian Condominium:**

18. Bosnia and Herzegovina

# AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

- ◉ Austria-Hungary became an union of two states with different constitutions a political system
- ◉ they had common ruler - the Emperor Franz Joseph I., common Ministry of War, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- ◉ they were connected also economically - common currency, customs union
- ◉ common legislative organ for common issues
- ◉ **Austria** - 1867 - liberal constitution, parliament monarchy - the power of the ruler was limited by parliament, the ministrers were responsible to the parliament which was approving the legislation and the taxes
- ◉ the ruler was not responsible to parliament (the rest of absolutism)
- ◉ **Hungary** - no liberalization but centralisation, the only Hungarian nation, the official language was hungarian, the other nations without any rights, high schools only in Hungarian language



# AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

- ◉ the Czech political representation was dissatisfied with the situation - the political rights of Hungarians were accepted but of Czechs were not
- ◉ they tried to change this situations many times but their politics were unsuccessful
- ◉ they started so called passive politics - they were boycotting the parliament sitting and the council meetings till 1878


## *Readings:*

Okey, Robin (2001): The Habsburg Monarchy c. 1765-1918: From Enlightenment to Eclipse.  
London: Macmillan Press LTD.

# UNIFICATION OF ITALY

- ◉ there were 8 smaller states in Italy - rulers - the Habsburgs, the Bourbons, the Pope
- ◉ in the north-western part the most economically developed Kingdom of Sardinia and Piedmont was situated, the home dynasty was ruling there - the House of Savoy - king **Victor Emanuel II**



 *The Unification of Italy. By 1860, the majority of the Italian "boot" was under the rule of Piedmont-Sardinia. By 1870, the unification was complete.*

# UNIFICATION OF ITALY

- ◉ 1859 - the war with Habsburg Monarchy,
- ◉ at the same time, the revolution in smaller states in the middle Italy broke out and the local pro-Habsburg rulers were overthrown
- ◉ after the plebiscite these states were connected with Victor Emanuel's state
- ◉ the uprising led by legendary hero **Giuseppe Garibaldi** (1807-1882) - he led one thousand of men in red shirts to Palermo, occupied it, in September they entered the city of Naples and defeated the army of king Francis
- ◉ then Garibaldi gave his power to Victor Emanuel II and southern parts of Italy were unified with the northern parts

# UNIFICATION OF ITALY

- ◉ March 1861 - **the Kingdom of Italy** was proclaimed in Torino
- ◉ 1866 - after Austrian-prussian war Veneto was connected with the Kingdom of Italy
- ◉ 1870 - the Papal state with Rome was annexed by the Kingdom of Italy
- ◉ 1871 - Rome became the capital city of Italy
- ◉ Victor Emanuel II ruled till 1878



# UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

- ◉ between 1849-1866 - the struggle between Austria and Prussia for domination in German states (German Confederation)
- ◉ in Prussia the king **William I (1861-1888, since 1871 the first German Emperor)**
- ◉ since 1862 - the Prime Minister **Otto von Bismarck** - his target was to unify Germany „*by blood and iron*“ that means by army and military power and make Germany the strongest Empire in Europe
- ◉ 1866 - the alliance between Prussia and Italy - against Austria
- ◉ Not all the German states wanted the unification - e. g. Bavaria a- allied with Austria against Prussia

**DER DEUTSCHE BUND**  
1815-1866



# UNIFICATION OF GERMANY



- July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1866 the battle of Sadowa near Königgratz (Hradec Králové), 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest battle in Europe since the Battle of Leipzig in 1813
- Austria was defeated and lost some areas in Germany and Veneto in Italy)

# UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

- ◉ the German Confederation existing since 1815 was dissolved
- ◉ instead of that **the North German Confederation** was constituted - 21 states - customs union, common currency and common foreign policy - the first step to unification
- ◉ Prussian king became the President of this Commonwealth and the commander-in-chief of the army
- ◉ Prussia provoked France to declare war on Prussia in 1870
- ◉ France was defeated at **the battle of Sedan** in September 1870 - French king **Napoleon III** was captured what caused the fall of the French Empire
- ◉ Paris was besieged since September 1870 till January 1871
- ◉ in January 1871 - **The German Empire was proclaimed**



# UNIFICATION OF GERMANY



# UNIFICATION OF GERMANY



# UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

- ◉ Germany annexed Alsace and Lorraine what were the richest French provinces
- ◉ Germany became federation of 25 states (22 states + 3 cities) with its own representatives
- ◉ each state nominated its representative to the Senate (Bundesrat), the members of the assembly (Bundestag) were voted - the suffrage was universal for all the men since 25 years
- ◉ Germany became European and world power with strong army and imperial politics
- ◉ **William II (1888-1918)** - the last prussian king and German Emperor

## *Readings:*

Breuilly, John (ed.): Nineteenth-Century Germany: Politics, Culture and Society 1780-1918. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997 and 2001.

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS BEFORE THE WW1

## Great powers at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century:

- ◉ **USA** - the strongest
- ◉ **Germany** (2<sup>nd</sup> world industrial area), the most powerful state in Europe, strong army, developed economy and culture
- ◉ **France** - the bank of the world, 2<sup>nd</sup> strongest European state, succesful colonial politicis - colonies in Africa and in Asia
- ◉ **Great Britain** - the greatest colonial power - its domain included the geatest colony - India, also colonies in
- ◉ in Asia **Japan** - constitutional monarchy, development of industry, expansive politics
- ◉ **Austria-Hungary** -cooperation with Germany, its foreign politics focused on the Balkan Peninsula
- ◉ **Russia** - economicaly and politicaly the weakest state among the great powers, military-political system, absolute power of the Tsar, no political rights for citizens, social movement, expansion to Asia - conflicts with Japan and Great Britain

# FORMATION OF TWO ENEMY BLOCKS IN EUROPE AT THE END OF 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

- ◉ 1879 - the secret agreement was concluded between *Germany* and *Austria-Hungary* - against France and Russia
- ◉ 1882 - *Italy* joined this pact → **Tripple Alliance (later the Central Powers)**
- ◉ 1893 - *Russia* and *France* made an agreement - they both were isolated and were affraid of strong and aggresive Germany
- ◉ 1904 - so called *Entente Cordial* concluded between *France* and *Great Britain* (affraid of strong Germany)
- ◉ 1907 - *Russia + Britain* → **Tripple Entente**

# BALKAN WARS

- ◉ the first conflict in Europe after 40 years
- ◉ the Balkan nations were fighting against Turkey which was occupying them
- ◉ **1912-1913 - 1<sup>st</sup> Balkan War** - so called *Balkan League* (Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece and Montenegro) X Turkey - Turkey was defeated and its European areas were liberated
- ◉ but then the former allies started to fight with each other because of dividing of the liberated areas, Bulgaria had greatest war casualties and invested the most but the liberated areas (Macedonia, Thrakia) got especially Greece and Serbia → Bulgaria was dissatisfied and declared war on Greece and Serbia → **2<sup>nd</sup> Balkan War - 1913**
- ◉ Turkey and Rumania joined Greece and Serbia and they were fighting against Bulgaria which was defeated and lost also the areas which obtained after the 1<sup>st</sup> Balkan War
- ◉ but also Serbia was dissatisfied with the results of the wars (Serbia was expecting enlargement of its territory and wanted to raise Adriatic coast but instead of that Albania was formed)
- ◉ Serbia started to prepare for the new war - wanted to unify all the southern Slavs - who were living in Austria-Hungary

# BALKAN WARS



1st Balkan War



2nd Balkan War