

# HISTORY OF CENTRAL EUROPE

Jana Hrabcová and Jana Musilová

# 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 and the Early Modern Times

# ORGANIZATION

- Introduction
- Jana Hrabcová 104456@mail.muni.cz a Jana Musilová 87562@mail.muni.cz
- attendance - min. 70%
- midterm test (09/04/12) and final test (14/05/12) 50 - 46 A; 45 - 41 B; 40 - 36 C; 35 - 31 - D; 30 - 25 - E
- reading

# READING

Learning Materials /um/ D: x

← → ↻ <https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1490/podzim2012/CZS51/um/?lang=en> ☆ 📶 🔍

česky | in English

Mgr. Jana Musilová (učo 87562)

MASARYK UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM

## Study materials posted under the course CUS:CZS51

• [IS MU](#) > [Personal Administration](#)

Vyhledat 🔍

**HIGHLIGHT** Address within IS:

IS.MUNI.CZ Other courses offered in **Spring 2011:** [CZS51](#); **Autumn 2012:** [CZS51](#)

MY MAIL

PEOPLE

**CST:CZS51 History of the Central Europe (Autumn 2012)**

In another term: [Autumn 2012](#), [Spring 2012](#), [Autumn 2011](#), [Spring 2011](#), [Autumn 2010](#)

Operations

STUDENT

Study materials posted under the course **CUS:CZS51 /CZS51/**

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Materials /um/		26. 5. 2012	🔑
<input type="checkbox"/>	/2 reading_1 /reading_1/	Musilová, J.	9. 9. 2012	🔑
<input type="checkbox"/>	/4 reading_2 /reading_2/	Musilová, J.	9. 9. 2012	🔑

Operations

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DOCUMENTS

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DRILL

SHOPPING

central\_europe [Reži...]

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CS 📶 🔍 15:23

# CENTRAL EUROPE

- ◉ What is the definition of CENTRAL EUROPE?

Or

- ◉ Where is CENTRAL EUROPE?



# EUROPE



# CENTRAL EUROPE

- ◉ Demarcation of the region - 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

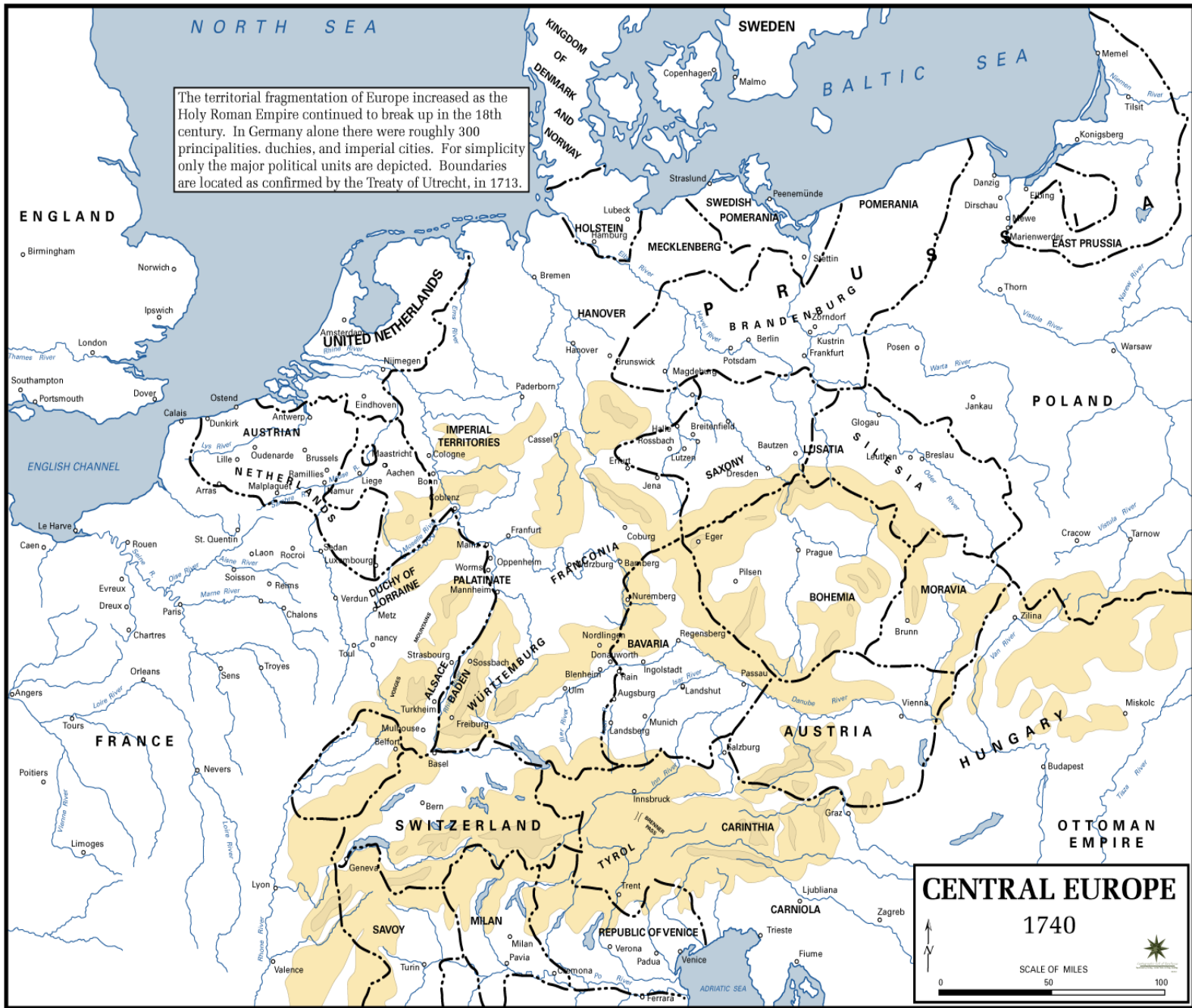
- ◉ Slovenia, Croatia (new concept)
- ◉ climate, water - shed, mountains



# HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL EUROPE

- ◉ 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).

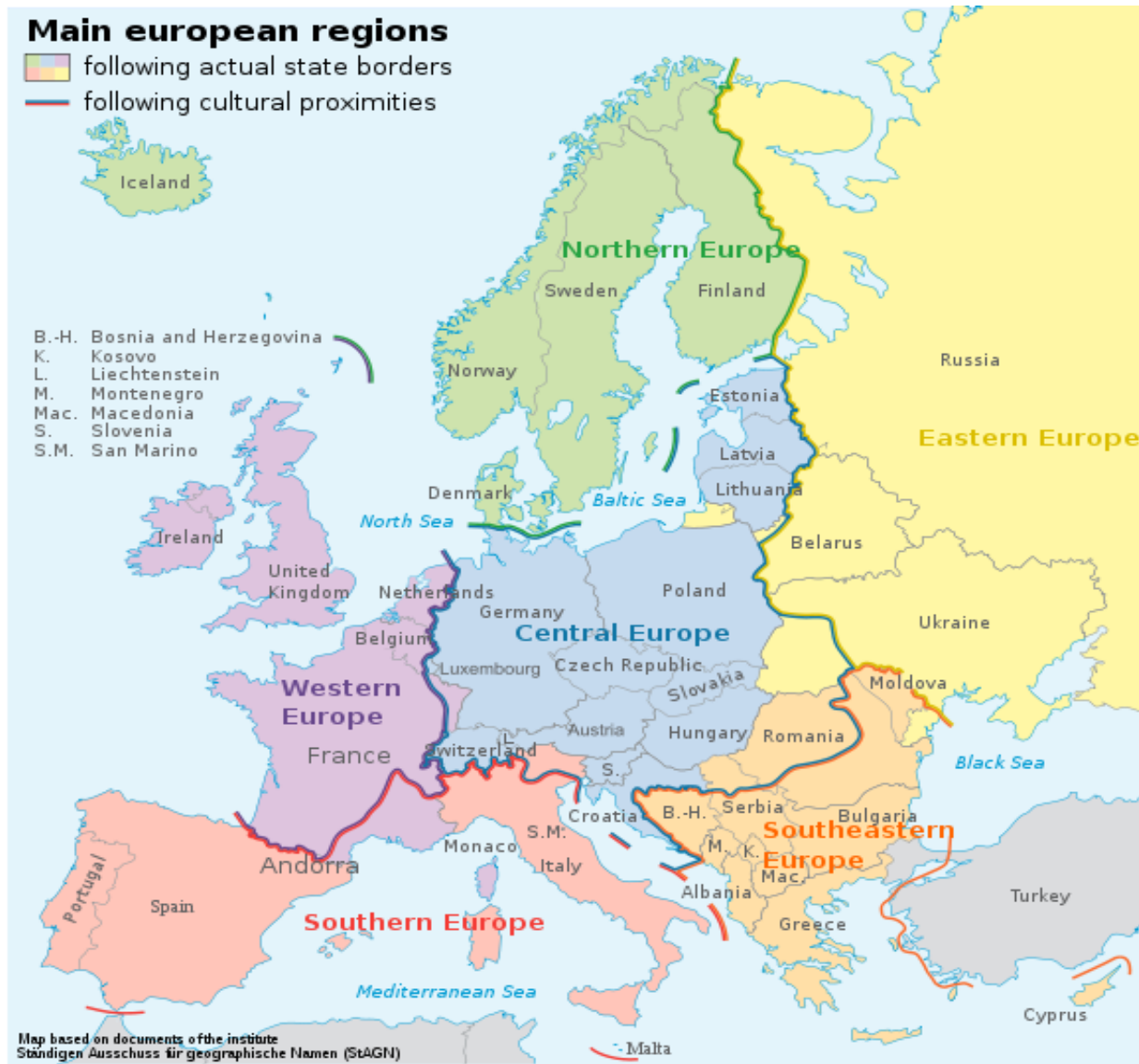
# CE AS A CULTURAL UNIT?

- ◉ 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



# CENTRAL EUROPE

- ◉ Before World War I: German idea of “Mitteleuropa”



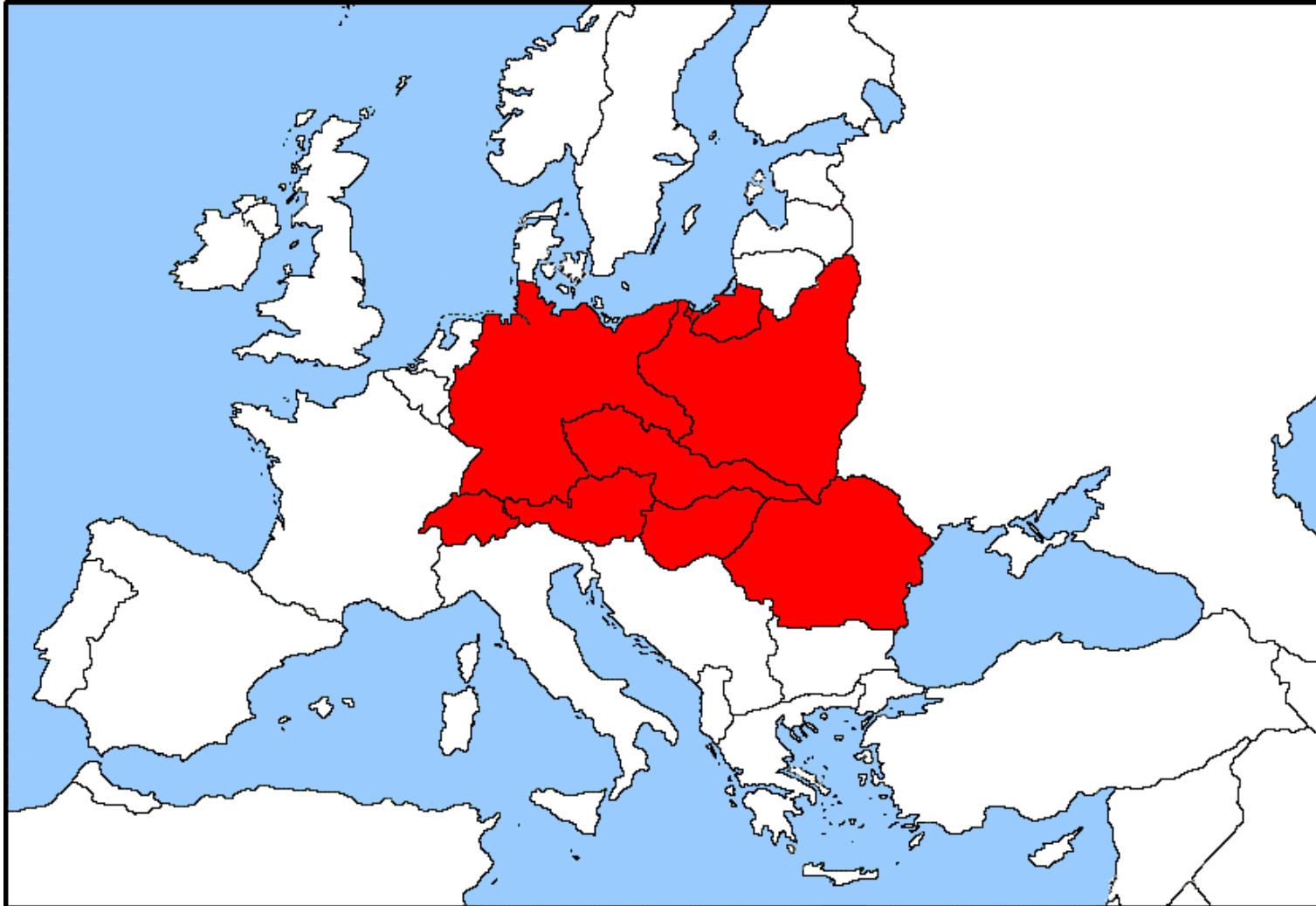


# CENTRAL EUROPE

- 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



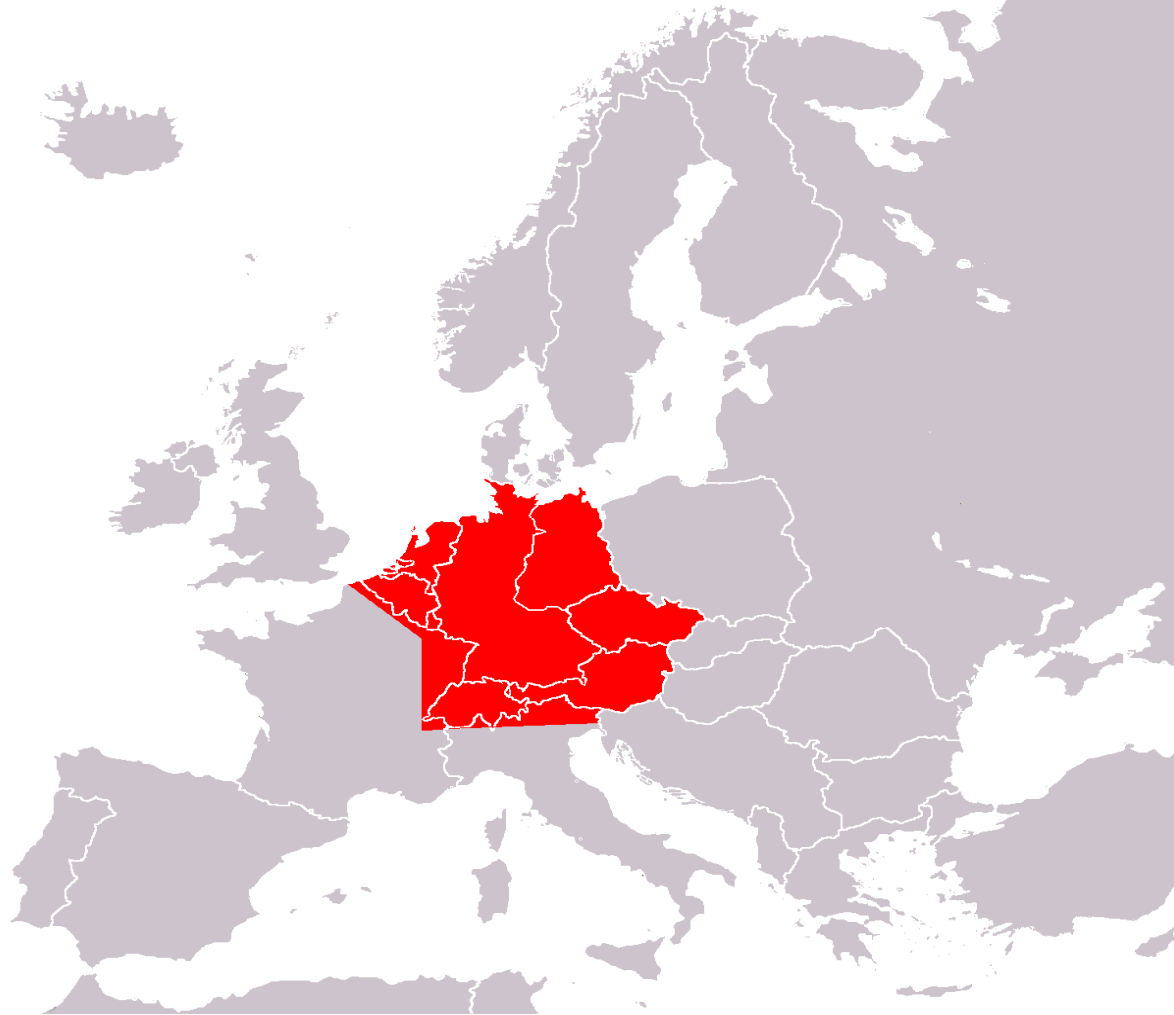
# CE AFTER WW II

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



# CE: AFTER WW II

- A. F. A. Mutton (1961)





# CE: AFTER WW II

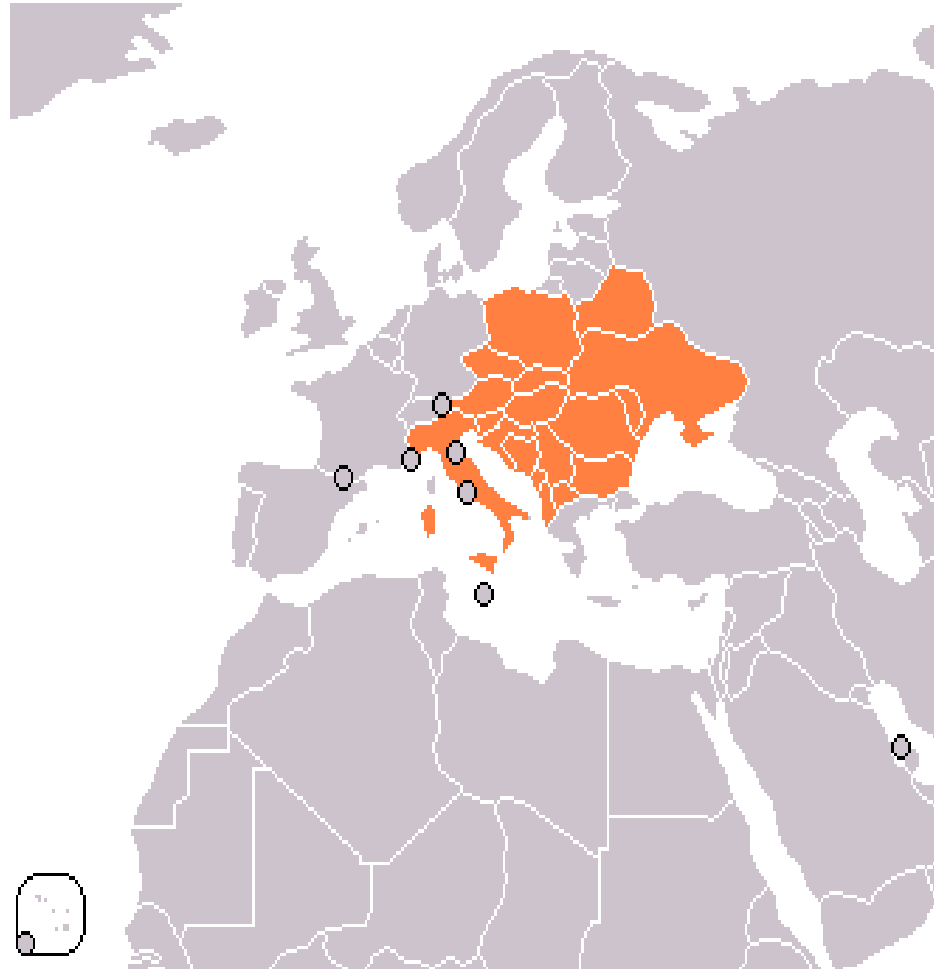
- Meyers Encyclopedia (1980)



# 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 Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY).



# 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



# CENTRAL EUROPE

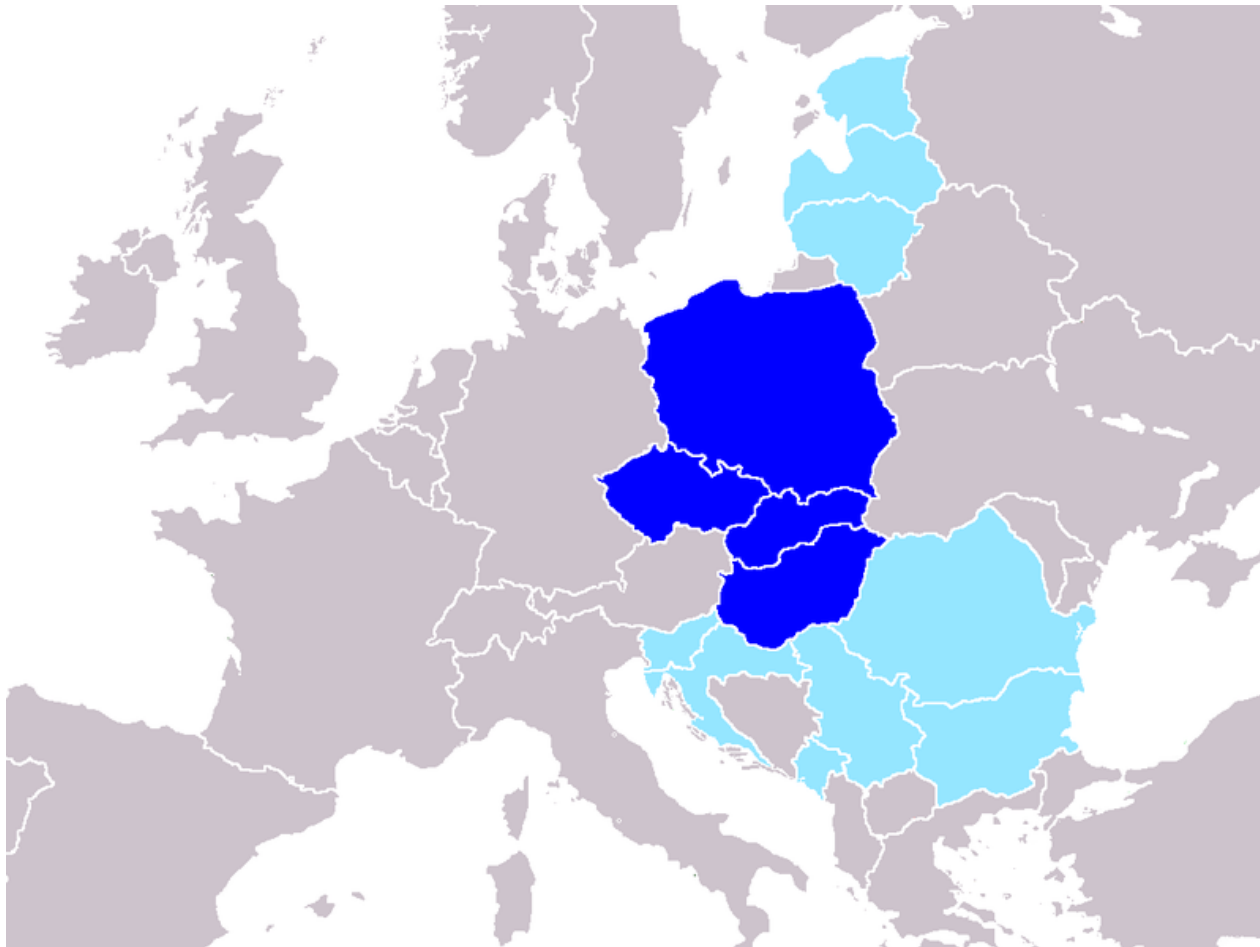
- CE - Visegrad group, in a broad sense - Austria, Slovenia, Lithuania and sometimes Estonia + Latvia, + Germany
- Hugh Seton-Watson, Ivan Bérénd a György Ránki - CE: Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Balkans - Eastern Europe
- Oskar Halecki - 2 macro regions (west and east), region of 2 CEs - important 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.*