

# HISTORY OF CENTRAL EUROPE

Central Europe after WW II

# CENTRAL EUROPE AFTER WW II

- ◉ WW II lasted for 2.194 days
- ◉ 30 states, operations - 40 states
- ◉ 110 millions of men and women (army)
- ◉ Neutral - Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Swiss
- ◉ Soviet Union - 27 millions, China - 10 millions, Germany - 6 millions, Poland - 6 millions, Japan - 2.5 millions,...
- ◉ Germany - the principle of collective guilt

# WW II AND NEW WORLD ORDER

- ◉ **New superpowers: US and Soviet Union** (defeated Nazi Germany), in Asia - growing China
- ◉ **New trend in European policy - left**
- ◉ **US - the strongest world economy**
- ◉ **April 1945 - OSN - United Nations charter, Security Council, General Assembly** (50 states, today more than 193, international law, international security, economic development, social progress, human rights, and achievement of world peace, replaced the League of Nations, to stop wars between countries, and to provide a platform for dialogue. It contains multiple subsidiary organizations to carry out its missions)





## SUMMER 1945, POTSDAM

J.V. Stalin, H. Truman, W.  
Churchill /C. Attlee

# CONFERENCE - POTSDAM

- Main goals: united Germany - 4 occupation zones only temporary
- plan 4 “D” - demilitarization, democratization, denazification, decartelization
- new boards - polish boards
- expulsion of Germans from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary
- war reparations - products and raw materials
- punishment of war criminals

# NUREMBERG TRIAL

- ◉ November 1945 - October 1946
- ◉ 24 Nazi functionaries were accused of crimes against peace and humanity
- ◉ 12 executed
- ◉ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWR2I5Q9d9U>





# PEACE TREATIES

- ◉ February 1947 Paris - Bulgaria, Finland, Italy, Hungary, Romania
- ◉ With Germany and Japan - NEVER signed  
(conference in Moscow - contradictions between the powers - how should be Germany organized - centralized x federated)

# US x SOVIET UNION


- Once the common enemy was defeated - relation between US and Soviet Union became worse and slowly the rivalry began
- US - better economy, atomic bomb, technically better equipped army
- Soviet Union - huge material lost, but still very powerful army - aroused American respect
- After Japan was defeated - H. Truman - stop supplying - first step: from alliance to enemies (Lend-Lease aid)



# LIBERATION

- ◉ States of Central and Southeast Europe were liberalized mainly by Red Army
- ◉ From Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia Red Army left immediately, but in Romania, Hungary, Poland, Finland and in occupied zones (Austria, Germany) stayed



- ◉ Growing power of the Soviet political system in these states 
- ◉ Policy of these states should have been directly under the control of Soviet Union
- ◉ 1946 - 1948 emergency of the bloc of the states with so called Democratic People's Republic of...
- ◉ Out of direct sphere of influence - Greece, since 1955 Austria and Finland
- ◉ 1947 establishment of Infobyro - organization, Soviet government was able to control and lead the other communistic parties
- ◉ Growing leftist governments in West Europe

# RED ARMY x AMERICAN ARMY

## Demarkační linie



# BEGINNING OF THE COLD WAR

- ◉ 1947 - H. Truman - Doctrine against Communism
- ◉ 1946 - W. Churchill - Iron Curtain

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvax5VUvjWQ>

- ◉ 1946 - G. Marshall - Marshall Plan, Czechoslovakia and Poland had to refuse - definitive line between East and West



COLD WAR

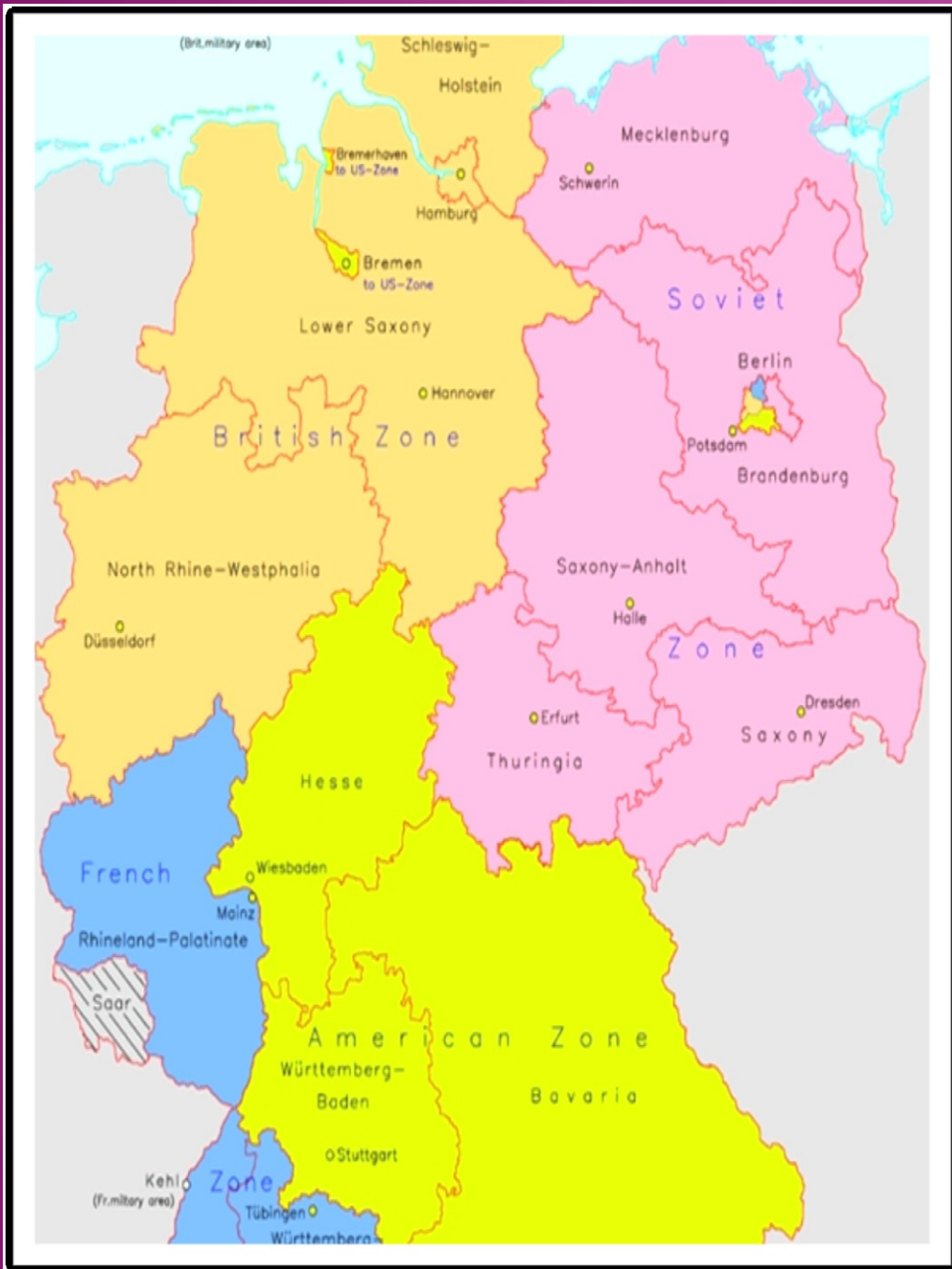
# CONFLICT EAST AND WEST

- No open military conflict
- Rivalry: policy, economy, science, culture and sport,...very dangerous phenomenon of the conflict East and West was armaments



# EMERGENCY OF 2 GERMAN STATES

- ◉ Soviet Union x West Bloc
- ◉ In western occupation zones - 4 political parties, election, institutions under the occupation power gave the political power to new local governments
- ◉ In soviet zone - one party (communists and social democrats), land reform, nationalization of some factories and denacification (schools, offices)
- ◉ June 1948 - 3 zones - monetary reform, reparation was cancelled, Marshall Plan

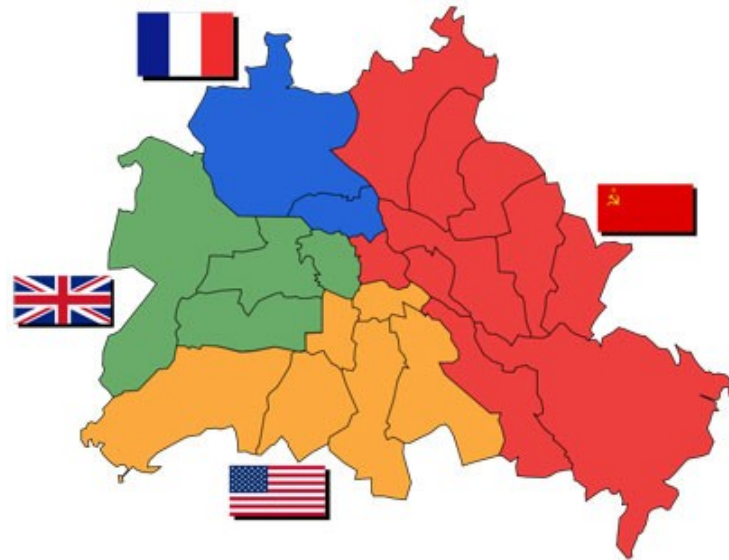


# 4 OCCUPATION ZONES

Soviet, American, French and British



# GERMANY AND BERLIN



# GERMANY

- ◉ extreme poverty
- ◉ the black market - American cigarettes
- ◉ **rationing** is the controlled distribution of scarce resources, goods, or services.  
Rationing controls the size of the ration, one's allotted portion of the resources being distributed on a particular day or at a particular time.
- ◉ US and GB - 1. 1. 1947 - Bizone and April 1948  
Trizone
- ◉ June 1948 - decision to establish Germany (3 zones) - Soviet reaction - occupation of western ways to Berlin - collapse in supplying the city-  
Berlin Crises

- ◉ Common control of Germany was finished
- ◉ J.V. Stalin - to oust western army from Berlin  
- centre of the soviet zone
- ◉ June 1948 Soviet army started to block Berlin
- ◉ Berlin crises
- ◉ September 1949 - Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer, Independent position - West Berlin
- ◉ October 1949 - GDR



# GDR

- President W. Pieck
- Soviet control
- Establishing - two German states - completed struggling for the post-war order in Europe

# SOVIET BLOC - GENERAL INFO

- ◉ J.V. Stalin - new wave of terror, no criticism, labor camp

[http://www.google.cz/search?q=soviet+working+camps&hl=cs&prmd=imvns&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=pR2ZUMrwCljEswaM8oHIBA&ved=0CAcQ\\_AUoAQ&biw=1008&bih=619](http://www.google.cz/search?q=soviet+working+camps&hl=cs&prmd=imvns&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=pR2ZUMrwCljEswaM8oHIBA&ved=0CAcQ_AUoAQ&biw=1008&bih=619)

- ◉ extreme poverty x extreme investment - army
- ◉ Crises of agriculture, 1946 - crop failure
- ◉ Soviet policy - Soviet-bloc countries were subordinate Moscow, Soviet advisers in Security forces
- ◉ 1949 - Council for Mutual Economic Assistance

- ◉ 1949 Council for Mutual Economic Assistance - Soviet Union - economical power - control over the national economies, members: Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, East Germany,...Cuba, Mongolia and Vietnam
- ◉ Political (Show)trials - ag. Communist and non - communists - accused of subversive activities, effort to find the culprit responsible for economic problems and effort to discourage people from disagreeing with the regime
- ◉ 50 's Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia,...
- ◉ Milada Horaková

- ◉ nationalization of industry, prohibitions and restrictions on private enterprise and the peasants were forced to join the collective farm
- ◉ Hardest enforcement - Soviet interests ended in 1953
- ◉ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-EwVVm89og>







# CZECHOSLOVAKIA

- ration repository, ended 1953



- Lack of food
- 1947 - disastrous drought
- prerequisite for economic recovery
  - Monetary reform
  - Payroll reform
  - child benefit
  - Xmas benefits
  - extension of paid leave

X

Volume of industry  $\frac{1}{2}$  compare to before WWII

URNA

# UNRA

- ◎ **United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA)**, organization founded (1943) during World War II to give aid to areas liberated from the Axis powers. 52 participating countries, each of which contributed funds amounting to 2% of its national income in 1943. A sum of nearly \$4 billion was expended on various types of emergency aid, including distribution of food and medicine and restoration of public services and of agriculture and industry. China, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Italy, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR, and Yugoslavia were the chief beneficiaries. UNRRA returned some 7 million displaced persons to their countries of origin and provided camps for about 1 million refugees unwilling to be repatriated. More than half the funds were provided by the United States.

# EXPULSION OF THE GERMAN POPULATION

- May 1945 - wild expulsion (15,000 - 30, 000)!!  
- displacement and expulsion of German populations, Saxon, Austria - 660, 000





# POTSDAM CONFERENCE AND EXPULSION

- ◉ August 1945 - transfer of German population from Czechoslovakia and Poland, expulsion of Hungarian population was not agreed
- ◉ Related President's Decrees - revoke citizenship, National Administration of firms, confiscation of land
- ◉ immovable property, valuables
- ◉ Personal luggage 30 - 50 kilos
- ◉ Organized transfer - 1946 - Allied Control council. 2, 256,000
- ◉ 1947 - 48 - Additional transfer - family reunification - 80, 000

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6IFfQdM7EI&feature=related>



# HUNGARIAN QUESTION

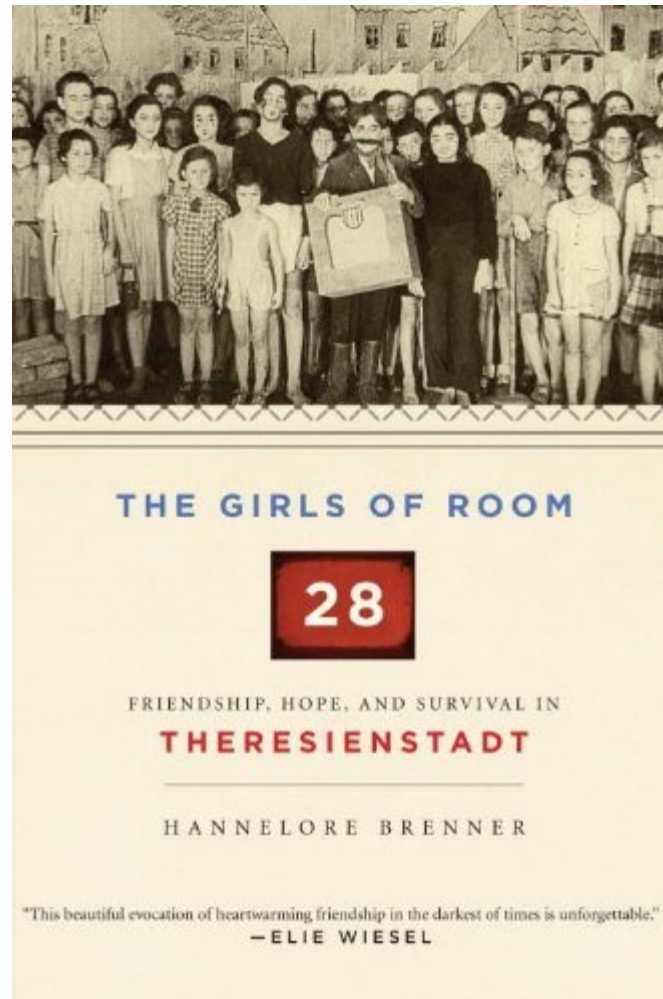
- ◉ In Slovakia 600, 000 Hungarians
- ◉ West powers did not agree with the transfer but 1946 - Czechoslovakian - Hungarian Agreement on exchange of populations  
(only 73,000 to Slovakia and quite a lot of Romas)

# JEWISH POPULATION

- 1939 - 118, 310 x 1945 14, 045
- Open asylum policy, pro - Jewish state policy
- Anna Hanusová - Flachová



- ◎ BRENNER, H.: *The Girls of Room 28: Friendship, Hope, and Survival in Theresienstadt*. New York 2009.



# THE DEFEAT OF DEMOCRACY

- 1946 - last democratic election - National Assembly
- Parties:
  - Communists (mass party. 1,000,000)
  - National Socialists
  - The People's Party
  - Social Democrats
  - Democratic Party - Slovakia,...

# ELECTION 1946

- Czech lands:

- Communists - 40%

X

- Slovakia:

- Democratic Party - 62% x Communists - 30%



# GROWING POWER OF LEFT

- ◉ 1947 - drought
- ◉ Reduction of the supplying - growing black market
- ◉ Slovakia - real poverty
- ◉ Soviet Union help - 600,000 tons of grain x propaganda - Soviets saved Czechoslovakia again...



2




Naše talíře budou v bezpečí, až vyhubíme poslední mandelinku. A svět, ten si oddychne, až budou také zneškodněni poslední nepřátelé míru

SEKORA, ONDŘEJ:  
1950.

potato beetle



# COMMUNISTS

- ◉ propaganda and publicity campaigns, mass protests, staged affair and assassination attempts, some of the policy component - provocation and espionage + close ties to the Soviet Union  effort to influence opinion about situation in CZE
- ◉ convergence process of democratic forces began late - lack of unifying personality



# MILLIONAIRE DOSE

- ◉ Communists - mass POPULARITY
- ◉ Extra income to the Treasury
- ◉ government succumbed to pressure - state budget + 6,000,000,000 Czechoslovak crown (76 304 993 000 Kčs)



## FEBRUARY 1948

- Feb 20th - 12 ministers (non communists) resigned, expected early elections or resignation of KSC

X

Communists took action Feb 21st - demonstration in Prague

# READINGS

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