HISTORY OF CENTRAL EUROPE

Jana Škerlová 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 allowed one unexcused lecture
- midterm test (09/11/2014) and final test (17/12/2014) 50 - 46 A; 45 - 41 B; 40 - 36 C; 35 - 31 - D; 30 - 25 - E
- Reading



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• What is the definition of CENTRAL EUROPE?

Or

• Where is 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)

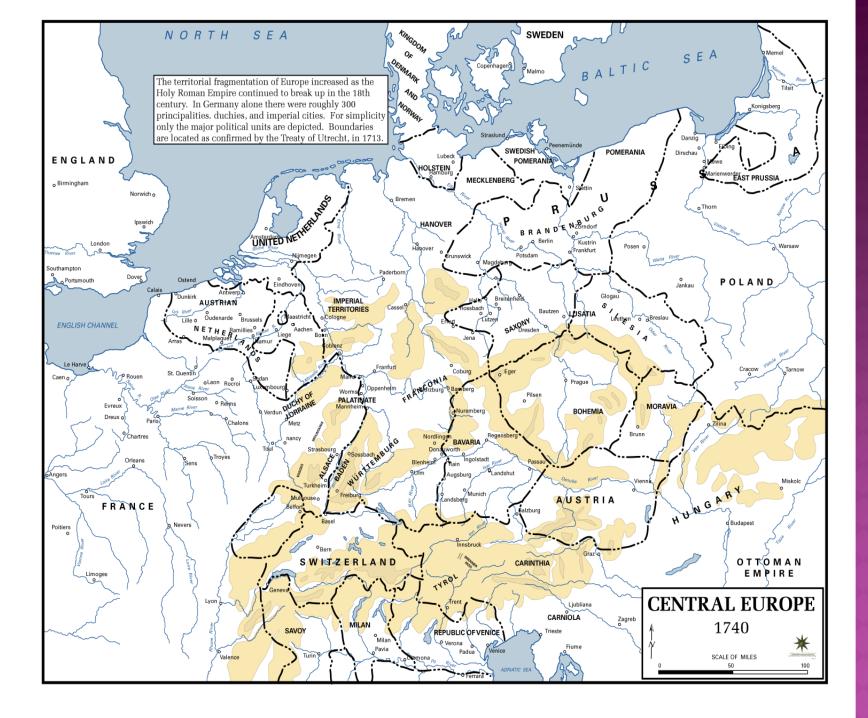
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• Slovenia, Croatia (new concept)

• 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



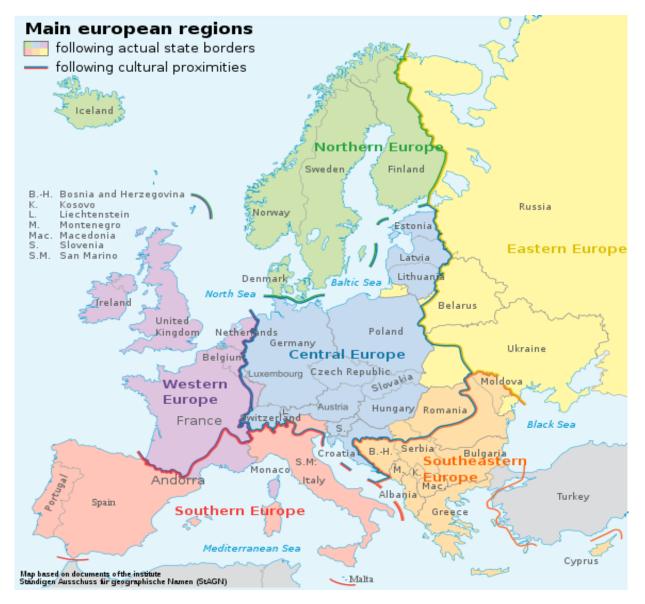


Divided Europe During the cold war, Europe was divided into opposing military alliances, the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact (Communist bloc).

CE AS A CULTURAL UNIT?

- Cultural concept of CE till 1795 (disitengration 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

• Before World War I: German idea of "Mitteleuropa"

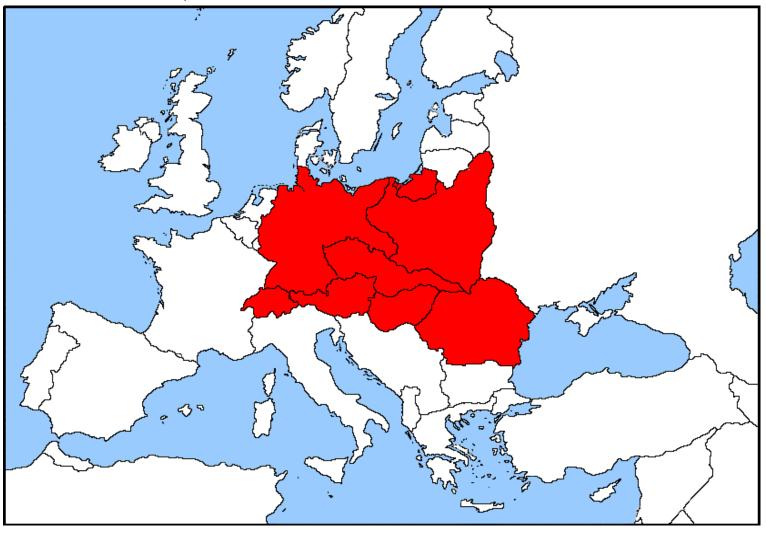


- 1904 in Berlin Central European Economic Association (economic integration of Germany and Austria-Hungary with eventual extension to Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands)
- T. G. Masaryk CE space between Germany and Russia

CE: INTERWAR PERIOD

• Emmanuel de Martonne (Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Poland,

Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania)



CE: INTERWAR PERIOD

• Little Entente





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



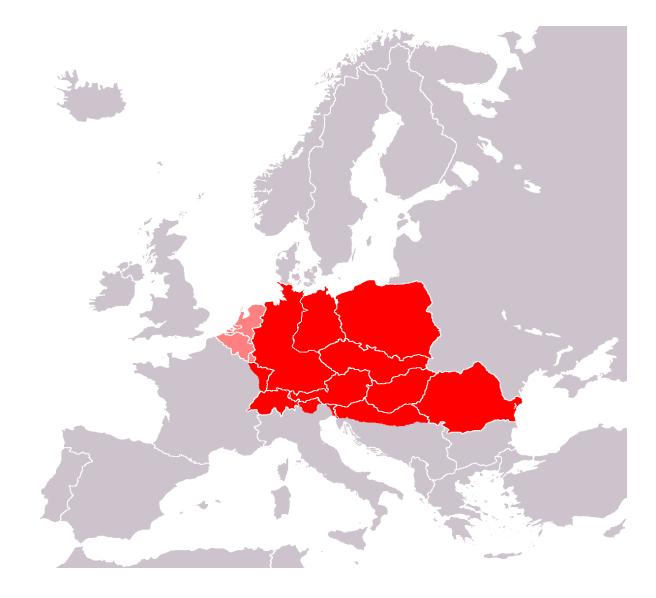


• A. F. A. Mutton (1961)





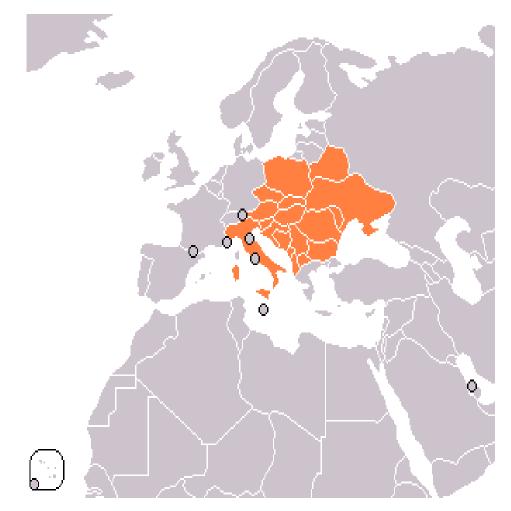
• Meyers Encyclopedia (1980)





• 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).





• 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)

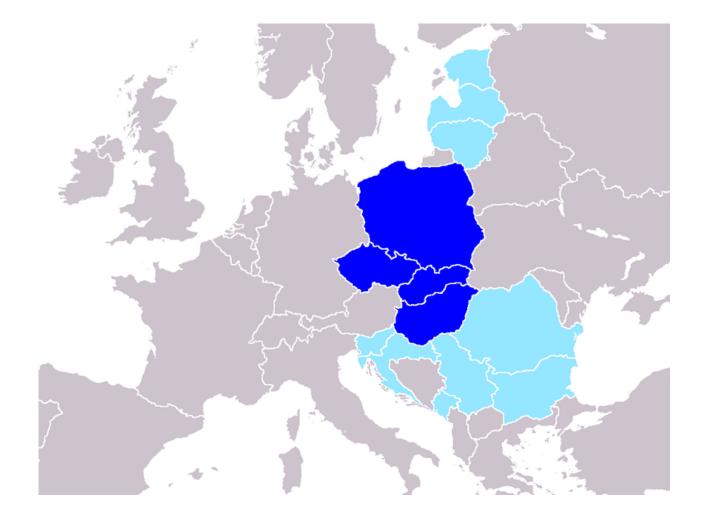
- Operational Program 'Central Europe' Program under the European territorial cofunded by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia

- CE Visegrad group, in a broad sense -Austria, Slovinia, Lithuania and sometimes Estonia + Latvia, + Germany
- Hugh Seton-Watson, Ivan Bérend 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





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.