Nationalism’s Effect on Austria-Hungary 1848 - 1919
Nationalism broke up the multinational empire of the Austrian Habsburgs
Habsburg Dynasty
Capital city - Vienna, Austria

- What do you call their empire?

- 800 - 1804 Holy Roman Empire
- 1804 - 1867 Austrian Empire
- 1867 - 1919 Austria-Hungary or the Dual Monarchy
The Austrian Empire

- Ruled by the German-speaking Habsburgs.
- An ethnically heterogeneous empire.
- Corrupt & inefficient administration.
- Ferdinand I of Austria (r. 1835-1848)
  - An epileptic because of his hydrocephalus.
- The empire is vulnerable to a revolution.

His parents were first cousins
Ferdinand I of Austria (r. 1835-1848)

- 1848 Vienna university student rebellion for liberal reforms.
- Army could not restore order.
- Ferdinand I abdicated in favor of his young nephew, Franz Joseph.
- Ferdinand’s weakness encourages the Hungarians to revolt.
The New Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph I [r. 1848-1916]

68 year reign
The Hungarian Revolution, Mar. 1848- Oct. 1849

• Hungarians (2\textsuperscript{nd} largest ethnic group) wanted their own kingdom.
• Austrian & Russian armies eventually defeated the Hungarian army by 1849. (Holy Alliance, 1815)
• 13 Hungarian generals executed by hanging.
Assassination attempt on Franz Joseph I in 1853 by a Hungarian nationalist
1866 – Austria humiliated in the Austro-Prussian War (in 7 weeks)
Hungarians are the 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest ethnic group in the Habsburg Empire

- Austrian govt. looked weak.
- Hungarians demanded independence.
The Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867

- Created the **Dual Monarchy** of Austria-Hungary.
- The Habsburg family was now the monarch of two states:
  - Emperor of Austria & the king of Hungary.
- Separate parliaments but the same ministries of war, finance, & foreign affairs.
The Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867

In the Dual Monarchy, German-speaking Austrians & Hungarians had equal status in the empire.
The Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867

- Which ethnic groups in the empire didn’t have equal status?

Czechs, Slovaks, Poles, Romanians, etc.
Austria-Hungary was a **multinational (multiethnic)** state.

**Definition:** a state in which the population consists of two or more ethnically distinct nations (of peoples) that are of significant size.
Austria-Hungary - a Multinational or Multiethnic State
The “powder keg of Europe”

“Some damned foolish thing in the Balkans will provoke the next war.” Otto von Bismarck
“Some damned foolish thing in the Balkans will provoke the next war.” - Bismarck
Nationalism & the Dual Monarchy

• Other “nations” of people desired political independence – especially in the Balkans.

• Nationalism was one of the causes of WW I.
June 28, 1914 – a Bosnian Serb terrorist assassinated the Archduke Franz Ferdinand (the heir to A-H) & his wife.
Austria-Hungary in the Central Powers, WW I
1919 - Paris Peace Conference

• U.S. President Wilson’s Fourteen Points.

• Principle of Self-Determination – the right of a nation of people to determine their own political status. (nation-state)

28th President, 1913-1921
How could the Allies break up Austria-Hungary?

By Ethnicities – Nations of People Create Nation-States
Four Empires end and are replaced by many new nation-states
Last Habsburg Emperor

- Karl I of Austria, (r. 1916-1919).
- Empire troubled by ethnic conflict in the final years of WW I.
- #10 of Wilson’s Fourteen Points, demanded that Austria-Hungary allow its people to have self-determination.
“Habsburg Law” - 1919
of the new Republic of Austria

• Karl I permanently exiled.

• Moved to Madeira Island. Died there in 1922.
“Habsburg Law” - 1919 of the new Republic of Austria

• All Habsburg property confiscated by the Republic.
“Habsburg Law” - 1919
of the new Republic of Austria

• Other family members would be exiled unless they renounced dynastic claims.

• Karl von Habsburg, 55 & family.