THE WARS OF 18TH C.

BACKGROUND/SETTING

2 Key Issues:
- War of Austrian Succession (Prussia vs Austria)
- Seven Years’ War (Britain vs France)

- self-interest—“reason of state” concept
- international rivalry—balance of power
- taxes and standing armies
- states fought over:
- peace from 1715-1740
- 18th c. Wars were:

THE WAR OF AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION (1740-1748)

- 1740-1748
- Charles VI and the Pragmatic Sanction
  - All turned against
- Causes of War:
  - Immediate:
  - Big picture:

Two Sides
- Prussia: (France, Spain, Bavaria, Saxony)
- Austria: (United Provinces, Great Britain, Russia, Savoy)

Prussia
- Frederick II
- Silesia—First Silesian War (1740-1742)
- first of series of claims
- “reason of state”

France
- traditionally
- goal:
- A chance to:
- temporarily wins Austrian Netherlands

Other Players
- Spain:
- Bourbon family
- Italy
- Bavaria:
  - Rival w/ Austria
  - did not recognize Pragmatic Sanction
  - Elector Charles wanted:
  - German princes (Saxony):
    - supported:
    - Moravia

Austria
- Maria Theresa:
  - Background:
  - Hungary and Bohemia:
  - Allies:
  - Dutch:
  - Great Britain:

Alliance Switches
- Saxony allies with Austria/Hungary along with Britain & Hanover
- 1745 HR Emperor dies and Bavaria supports MT’s husband
  - Francois as HR Emperor

Russia
- complicated due to anti-Prussian & Austrian attitudes in general
- Empress Anna—pro Austrian court
- Empress Elizabeth
- foreign minister was anti-French and Prussian
  - Frederick & Louis XV tried to influence his removal
- 30,000 troops sent against Prussia leads Bourbons to push for
  peace treaty in 1748

WAR OF AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION CONTD (1740-1748)

Outcomes:
- 1748 Treaty of Aix-la Chapelle (Aachen)
- Austrian losses:
- Maria Theresa:
- Prussia:
- French weakness:
- Spain:

Diplomatic Revolution of 1756
- reversal of alliances
- discord:
- Austrian Foreign Minister: Count Kaunitz
  - proposal:
    - encouraged France:
      - arranged marriage of Maria Antonia to dauphin Louis
      - leads to Seven Years’ War

THE SEVEN YEARS’ WAR 1756-1763

- 1756-1763
- continuation
- Prussia & Frederick the Great:
- France:
  - Louis XV “lose/lose situation”
- coalition
- Russia
- Empress Elizabeth dies in 1762
- Peter III pro-Prussia policy implemented:

America
- French and Indian War
- international trade & tensions
- St. Lawrence River valley and Ohio River valley

Outcomes
- Treaty of Paris 1763:
  - terms:
  - 1763 Peace of Hubertusburg between Austria & Prussia (5 days later)
  - terms:

Importance of 1763
- Britain:
- Prussia:
- Austria:
- France:
- balance of power:

Austrian Changes
- “rape of Silesia”
- reforms:
  - son Joseph II