



Erasmus+

# Welcome to Varaždin!

Ana

Vida

Miranda

Rosalie

Klara

Eline

Sarah

Petar

Maja

Martyna

Emily

Marta

Ivona

Amalie

Agata

Jasmijn

Zoran

Cecilie

ZouZou

Patrick

Marija

Franziska

Malgorzata

Alexandra

Victoria

Liza Sophie

Laura

Julia Caroline

Aslesha



September  
17-23, 2017

# **TRANSFORMING POLITICAL AND MORAL CONVICTIONS IN EUROPE DURING AND AFTER WW1**

**Prva gimnazija Varaždin**

**September 18 – 22, 2017**

A young man (20 years old) is writing a letter to his friends from a football club about leaving to join a military unit in August 1914. Write a letter that could include his thoughts. Use all available sources.

Dear Bertie,

I won't make it to next weeks practice because I decided to enroll in the army. Please tell Frosty and Coach, you know they don't like it when we miss our meetings. Maybe they won't be so mad if you tell them why I'm missing- they'll understand that I want to help our country and king with this great war against the German tyranny.

You know, there were quite a few posters around town and I could not help but feel proud for our great country. All the newspapers are writing about conflicts with the Enemy- before and after the formal declaration of war. We both know, that those bastards always try to invade our seas and lands. Have you read that article in the "Daily Telegraph" about the ships our army annihilated? Ha, serves them right, dontya think? That is what I want to do.

The thought of going to the front fills me with dread, but at the same time I feel excited to have that metal in my hand and show those Germans what a Brit's worth is. I will serve and make my country and parents proud. Tinker will also join me, so nothing can go wrong. Our country stands strong with so many allies all over Europe, fighting for the same righteous cause, facing the same great threat- There's NO WAY Germany could win this war- it will face utter defeat by our heroic troops.

I'll write you if I get to the front-

Like my mother says: God save the king, god save us all!

Greetings, Fatty



A soldier is writing a letter to his best friend from the student days after having spent two years on a front. Write the letter. Use all available sources.

10/12/1917

Dear Hans,

My dearest friend, how have you been? I am writing to you from the trenches near the small town of Ypres, in Belgium. As you know, I have been stationed here for three and a half months now, after my time on the front in Verdun, France. My apologies for not writing to you earlier, there were some major setbacks for the German army during the Battle of Passchendaele, which prevented me from writing to you, my dear friend.

How has your family been doing over the past few months? I hope your sister's treatment for the Spanish Flu is going well, even though I know the odds are not in her favour. While the lieutenant general informed us of the atrocious conditions in Germany including disease, lack of supplies and an economic state of distress, I sincerely hope things are not as severe as he described them to me and the other soldiers.

Although my boots are covered in a thick layer of slippery mud which causes many soldiers to get a disease known as 'trench foot', I need you to know that I am very proud to be able to serve my country well. The conditions in the trenches are dreadful. We live on the bare minimum of food and drinks; every night we go to sleep hungry. The trenches and the battlefields are scattered with dead bodies, many of which I am familiar. I am counting the days since my buddy from the trenches died in my arms after being wounded by artillery fire. 12 days. Now rats crawl over his body and feed on his flesh. It is a petrifying sight that I am forced to see every day. I am scared for my own life as death is all around us.

I try to get take my mind of these horrible thoughts I have, from the second I wake up, to the moment I go to sleep. One of the ways I do this is by thinking about Christmas; I cannot believe it will be my second Christmas away from home. I still remember when we were little and played around in the snow and we did not know the meaning of war. I wish I could turn back time to those simpler days were war was not an issue and we feasted on juicy well - fed stuffed turkeys with all of the mashed potatoes we could eat. Every time I think of my mother's sweet cranberry sauce, it takes me back to the fond memories I have from our hometown Ravensburg, where we grew up. When I get back to reality I am surrounded by a river of blood with dead bodies floating in it.

But, have you heard the very exciting news? My wife just gave birth to twins! I am so happy to be a father even though I am a little confused about the whole situation, as I have been on the front for two years now. But she told me that since she was expecting twins, her pregnancy was twice as long, and I cannot do anything else but believe my sweetheart, because she was the one who went through this.

I hope to hear from you soon my beloved friend. Hopefully, with good news.

Yours sincerely,

Stefan

A grammar-school student is observing the changes around him in the time period of 1914-1918. Write diary entries for a couple of days of each year. Use all available sources.

3rd August 1914

Dear Diary,

Today was an exhausting day. I have a strange feeling that the tense situation in Europe is not going to end well. Those bloody Germans declared war on France today and people are going crazy! My lad, John Schmit, was punched by a brute this morning and we had to go to the hospital. School starts soon and even though it would be lovely with a longer vacation, it would be a fool paradise. Well, better get some sleep before my big date tomorrow!

|

4th August 1914

Dear Diary,

Guess who decided to ruin my date? Those bloomy Germans. Today the government finally decided to put an end to this and declared war on the Germans. They stand no chance against our mighty forces and will probably fall within some weeks. Hopefully, Mary's mum will let her go out again soon.

19th January 1915

Dear Diary,

I'm beyond terrified. I did not expect them at all. I've spent the whole day in the basement. Everything was so unclear, no one told me anything. I woke up last night to my dad screaming that I had to run down to the cellar. My little sister was crying and sobbing the whole time and no one got any sleep. God save us all.

A Spanish journalist visits Croatia (or another country) in August 1914. Write a newspaper article that he would write for a conservative newspaper. Use all available sources.

## How the war saves us all

By Carlos Henriquez

**T**ravelling along the countryside, landscapes changing outside the window; I sat and observed. The horrific scenes came to my view. I saw the war happening in front of my eyes: soldiers walking towards the front lines, vehicles with supplies following them. Suddenly, the train stopped just outside of Zagreb, children with their mothers, left alone, saying goodbye to their men, who entered my wagon. The War was coming to Croatia, sitting just next to me in the crowded train.

### 8<sup>th</sup> of August – the day I arrived

Precisely a week ago the War on Serbia was declared by Austria-Hungary. We all know that the War will certainly bring changes and we can only benefit from it. Experts state that the assassination of Franz Ferdinand was not the main reason, the tension between

countries was also an important factor. But the War is said to ease the tension and bring profits.



Firstly, Austria-Hungary expects the outcome of the war to end with the defeat of Serbia once and for all. Moreover, the War will bring new, good times of economic stability and general well-being. Those soldiers I saw will soon return to their women in order to celebrate the great victory of the Great War.

### New times coming – traditions preserved

Respect for traditions and willingness to save them should be our main destination. Therefore, one question seems to be unavoidable - how is Austria-Hungary going to benefit? First of all, the area would extend, while the impact ethnic diversity (lots of different ethnic groups packed together) on

country's economy would decrease to a great extent. These two processes will lead to the general stabilisation of a country and create a foundation for further development.



### More than one winner allowed

Not only Austria-Hungary will benefit from the War, I feel. The extent of advantages is broad and will certainly reach another country, Spain for example. Awaiting the great changes, willing to preserve traditions, I'm all thrilled while entering the returning train.

Sources:

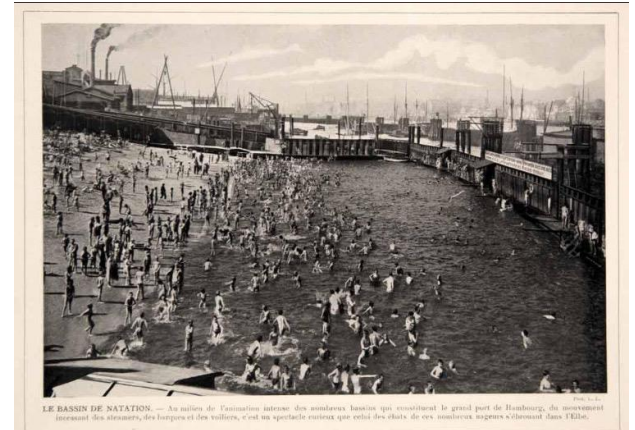
- Herwig, Holger H. *The First World War: Germany and Austria-Hungary, 1914-1918*



Create a photo album that would show social changes between 1914 and 1918 (choose a country) through a couple of photos for every year. Use all available sources.

Germany

1914



1915



1916



1917



1918





Chief inspector for Austro-Hungarian POW camps visited the Varaždin County in August 1916. Write his report. Use all available sources.

Subject: Monthly report, Camp no.27

To the military martial in charge of the occupied Yugoslavian territory

As requested, the situation has been looked into and these are the reports so far. In March another 1,768 new internees arrived at the Varaždin railway station and had been taken to the local detention camp. From there they have been actively motivated to do different kinds of work in agriculture and brickyards. With this new load of prisoners the camp now has approximately has 7,000 internees who are all kept preoccupied with various labors.

There have been a few complaints by the local citizens about POW's visiting the local inns and other places where the alcoholic drinks could be served which resulted in the prisoners walking around drunken and bothering the local populous. Also, it has been found out that the municipality official invited the POW's to attend a Catholic Mass celebration in spite of the military order which prohibited such wrongdoing. It is requested to take countermeasures, or increase the security measures.

The local military will need financial support, as the hospital fees have been raised from 2 to 2.5 crowns, as 2 crowns cannot cover neither food nor medication of an individual, let alone be sufficient for utility costs.

Chief Inspector of the Austro-Hungarian POW-camp surveillance  
In Varaždin 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 1916

A high representative of the Red Cross visited the Varaždin County in September 1916. Write his report on the state of prisoners and internees. Use all available sources.

Report on conditions in Varazdin County, 14th of September 1916

Upon arriving in Varaždin County I observed great masses of people that exceed the capacity of the hospital. People are dispersed all around the hospital. Some of them are standing, others are laying in the hallways due to the lack of beds. During my tour around the hospital, I encountered a woman who was screaming her lungs out. I asked her what the matter was and she informed me that she had been denied the medication for her sick daughter. Upon hearing this I searched for a doctor who informed me that due to the lack of foundations it is not possible to provide medication for each patient. He also informed me that the lack of funding led to the insufficient amount of food and forced people to pay for heating, personnel, lighting, cleaning, and laundry by their own. This became evident as most prisoners appeared to be malnourished based on the fact of dull eyes, bony arms and showing ribs.

Following my hospital visitation, I went to the farms close to Varaždinske Toplice to see the working environment in which they were working in. The work seemed hard and lasted the entire day. I was not allowed to talk to the workers due to the strict rules. However, I observed that their working hours are inhumane.

Summing up my visitation I would recommend sending more medication and raising more awareness about the living conditions in the Varaždin County.

Signed

A high representative of the Red Cross





Create a Powerpoint presentation about new roles for women during 1914-1918. Use all available sources.


# WOMEN IN WORLD WAR I

THE NEW ROLES BETWEEN 1914 AND 1918

1

## BEFORE THE WAR

- Women were housewives
- Had no political voice
- Didn't see their men



2



## NEW ROLES FOR WOMEN

- Working for men
- Nursing work
- Transport work
- Communication jobs
- Soldiers
- Police women
- Fighting men

3

## TRANSPORTATION

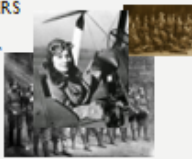
- Driving buses, cars and trucks

6


## SOLDIERS

Many women joined the military to support the war effort. They worked in various capacities, including as nurses, clerks, and even as soldiers in some cases. The image shows a group of women in military uniforms, some standing and some sitting, in a formal setting.



7

## POLICE WOMEN



8

## NURSES




- Most of the women volunteered
- By 1918 there were over 12,000 nurses at work in Britain, Belgium, France, Italy and many other places
- They fought in many battles, including the Battle of the Somme and the Battle of Passchendaele
- They also worked in hospitals and in the field
- The Red Cross was a major employer

4

## FACTORY WORKERS






5

## COMMUNICATION

- Primarily in US, Canada, French France
- Operated in both languages in both languages in the field
- 100 women received 1000 women applied
- After women gained the right to vote from the army



9

## VOTING



10

Create a poster that invites the citizens of Varaždin to host and feed children from Istria and Dalmatia during the war. Use all available sources.

# PROTECT OUR FUTURE




## BY OPENING YOUR DOORS!

Stop the starvation by hosting and feeding  
these orphans.

20,000 are waiting for your help!

We are already losing our generation, help  
us save the next.

Create a Powerpoint presentation that shows examples of children being used to support the war effort. Use all available sources.




**Children Supporting the War Effort**

28/09/2017  
Exercise - Module 4

1


**'A Tiny Patriot'**

In September 1914, young Ruth Gwenton of Felling gave away her cherished pet lamb to support New Zealand's war effort. She donated her apolo companion to the national Patriotic Fund, which raised over £300 from its sale before returning the animal to the little girl.




2

Propaganda poster encouraging Liberty bonds which helped fund the war.



THIRD LIBERTY LOAN  
Did Yours?


5



Building Britain during the war

During World War I, as soldiers fought overseas, many children stayed at home. They were encouraged to support the war effort in various ways. Some children joined the Girl Guides or Boy Scouts, which provided them with training and discipline. Others worked in factories or on farms, helping to produce goods and food for the war effort. The government also encouraged children to save money and resources, such as by participating in 'Dig for Victory' campaigns.


6



The picture shows children injured during the First World War, since they were on the front in Ypres.


9

Help him win by Saving and Serving




WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

BOYS and GIRLS! You can Help your Uncle Sam Win the War



Save your Quarters BUY WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

10




**Little AMERICANS**  
Do your bit

If a Chinese Crane nest cracks  
Hatches - other nests crackle  
and blow with war.  
Save the wheat. And our soldiers  
Learn cooking in your place

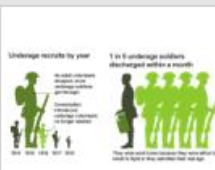
3

The poster 'Daddy, what did YOU do in the Great War?' played on the guilt of the men who did not volunteer.




4

Underage recruits for war




1 in 6 underage soldiers discharged within a month




7

**'An Heroic Sacrifice'**

Remember all wages in the name of the war effort



8



Children are still used to support war efforts, make it stop.

11

**Bibliography.**

1. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
2. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
3. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
4. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
5. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
6. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
7. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
8. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
9. The Children of the Great War. (1914)
10. The Children of the Great War. (1914)

12



Write a report on how picture postcards boost the war morale and what they try to hide.

During WWI postcards were a significant means for boosting and encouraging soldiers in the battlefield. Evidence of this can be found in many personal letters sent from the loved ones to the enlisted soldiers.

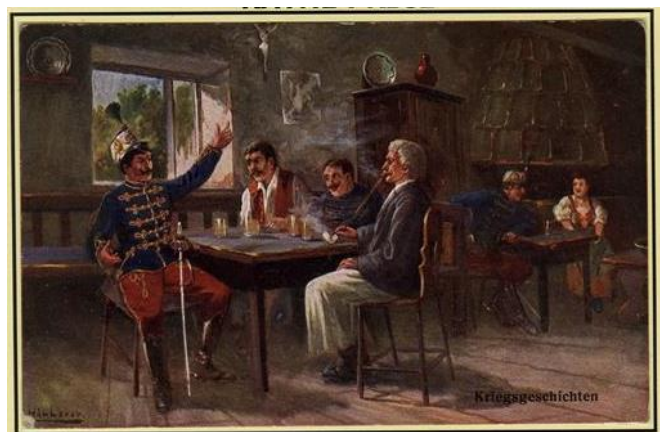
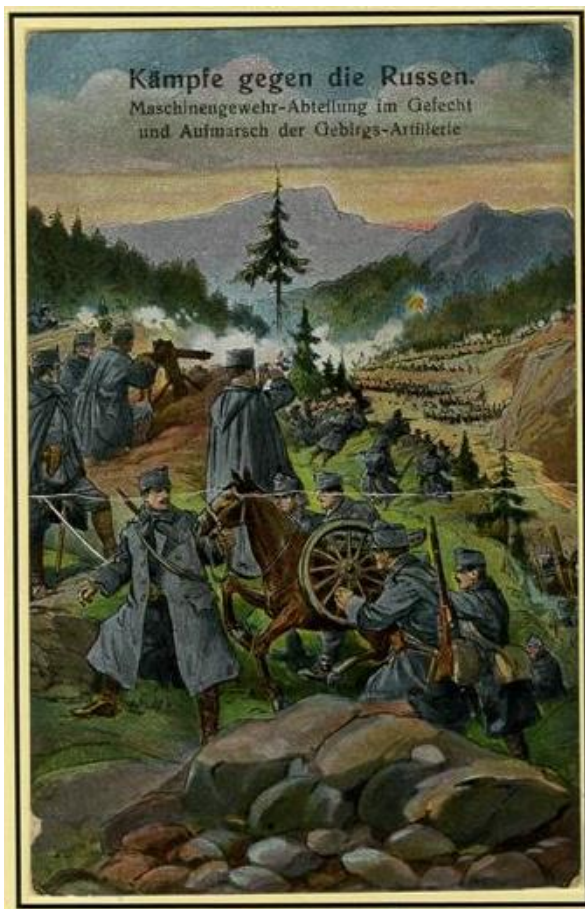
Postcard sent by the soldiers and other military personnel which were sent from the battlefield illustrate battlefield scenes, either an ongoing battle or a victorious scene of Austro- Hungarian Empire over the Russians. A vast majority of the scenes are allegoric and of suggestive nature.

Some of the postcards which could be interpreted as allegoric depict the impenetrable strength and military superiority of Francis Joseph's forces even though they were lacking in number. They present the labors of war as nothing more than a quaint vacation and a never-ending source of anecdotes to impress those not as fortunate to assist in the battlefield, never showing death and loss.

The postcards show the puny strength of the Russians as well as glorify the superiority of the Empire. One of the aspects in which the Austro- Hungarian Empire was superior was its military arsenal, the weapon which was the pride and joy of the Empire's forces was the Mortar due to its ability to fire directly into the trenches. All of this boosted morale as well as hid the truth and lured ignorant people into joining the war effort.

Another way of influencing people was as well as today, through religion. Some of the postcards imply that if we wish to be closer to God, we should do our country good and fight for the just cause. These types of postcards insinuate that war should not be feared but fought through the will of God.







Make a poster to persuade the citizens of Varaždin to buy war bonds and war loans.

THEY ARE DOING  
THEIR DUTY  
DO YOURS



buy war bonds!



Make a poster to invite women to volunteer for hospital duties.



13 March 1915

# HELP!

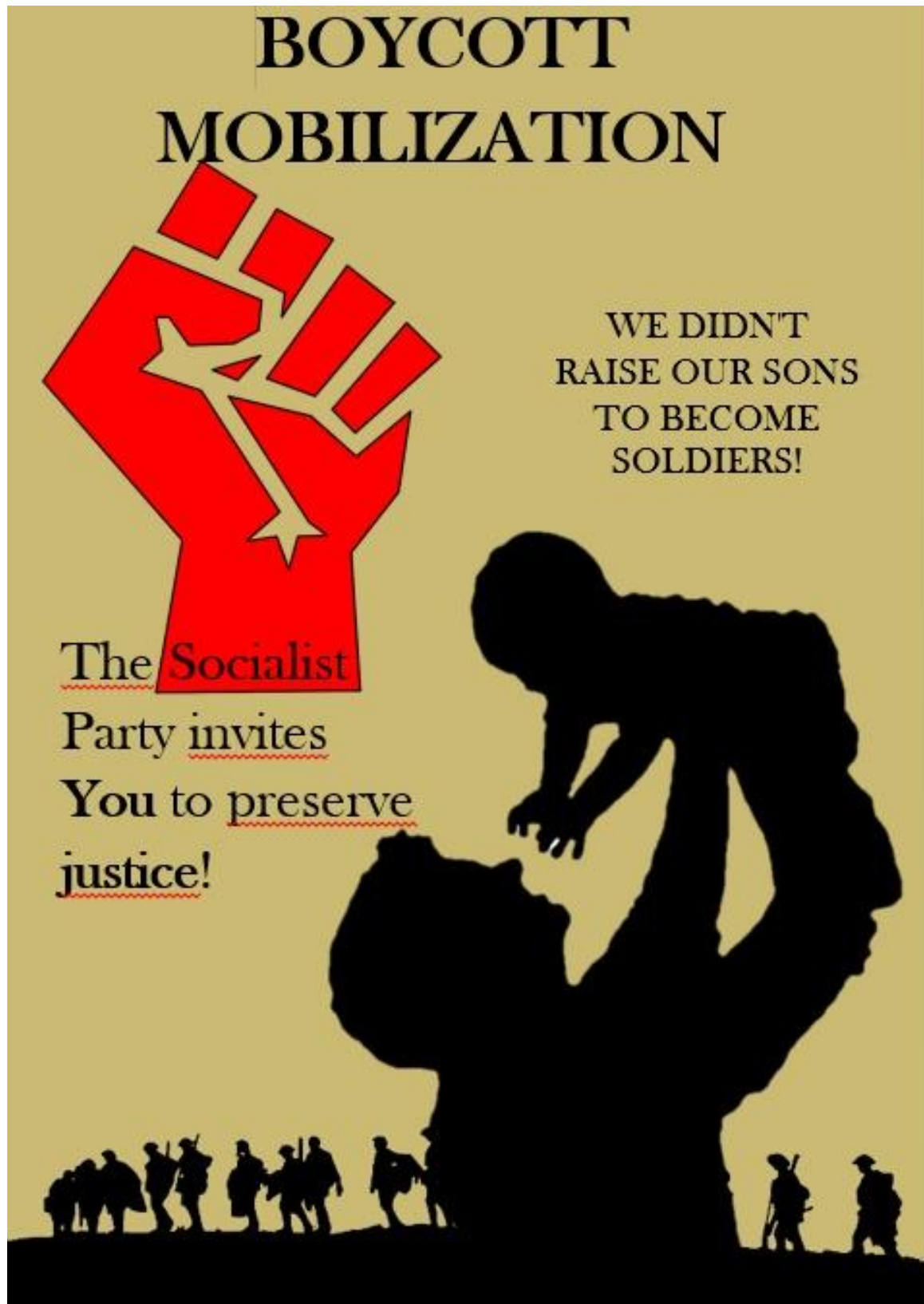
**Your  
country  
needs  
YOU!**

**Join today!**



BERT HERTER

Make a poster in which the Socialist Party invites people to boycott mobilization.



The Russian Army occupied Lviv in September 1914. As an Austro-Hungarian Army war reporter, describe the event as utterly irrelevant, or even favourable for the defence of Austria-Hungary. You cannot deny the fact that the Russian Army is in Lviv.

Dear people of Austria-Hungary, fear not the Russian army. Despite their attempts to enter our mighty country in full power, only a few Russian soldiers managed to forcefully enter the city of Lviv. We have decided to retreat to nearby cities, not because we fear the Russians, but to enhance and strengthen our position and regroup and enlarge our army. The reports and claims that our people are fleeing the city are incorrect, as there is no reason for them to run. In fact, it is the Russians that should flee, since they are clearly in disadvantage when it comes to strategical position. Have no doubts, in a few weeks our army will once more re-take the city of Lviv and send these pesky Russians back where they came from.



## **Students participated**

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