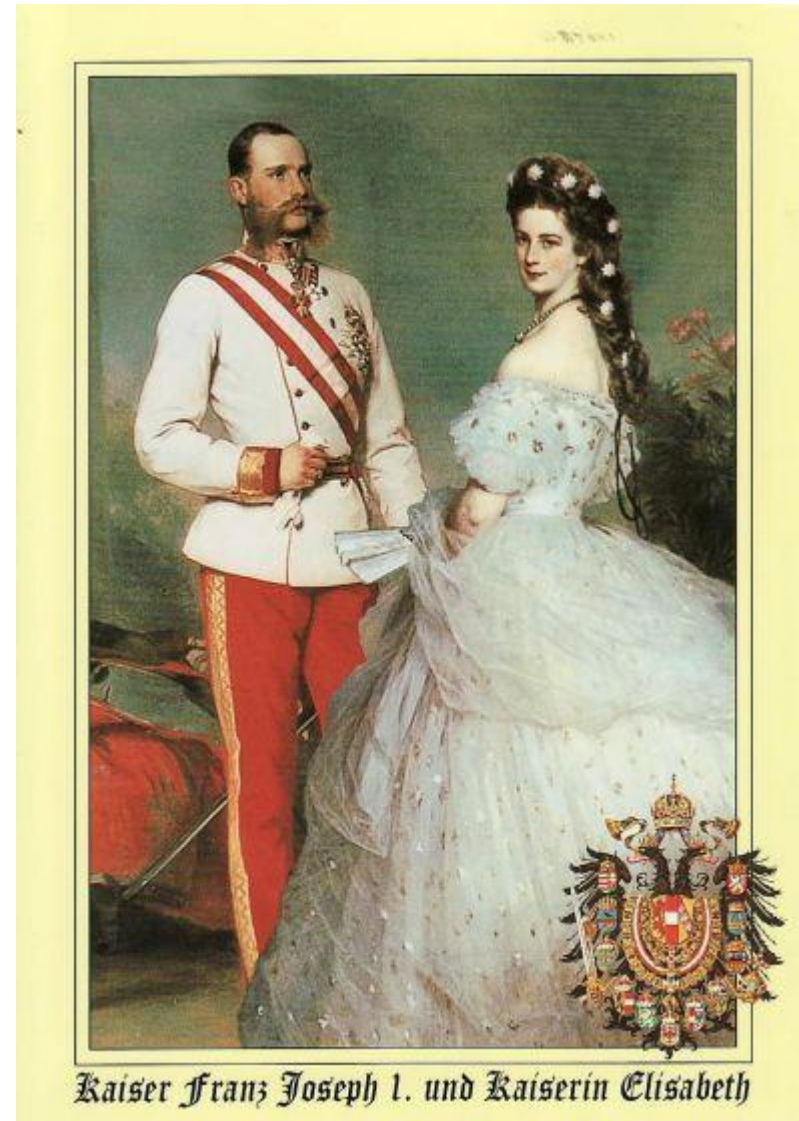


# THE TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY

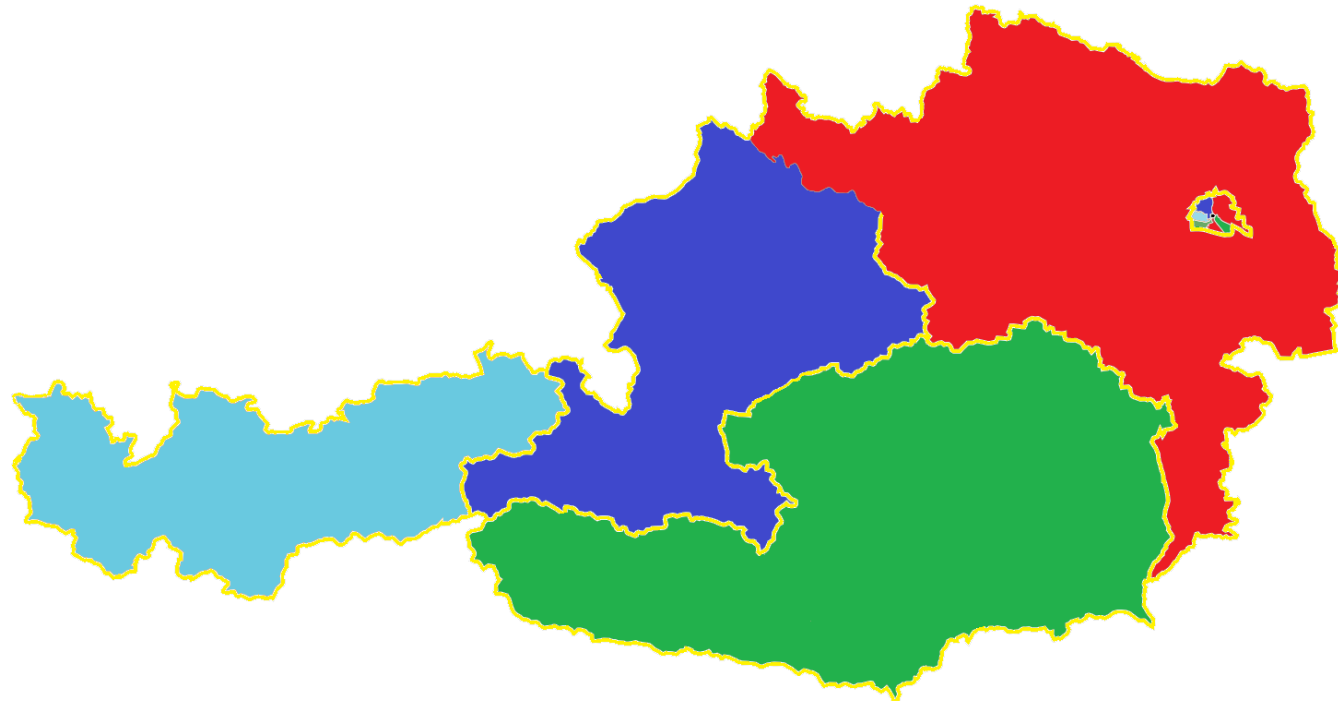
# Background Information

- Austrian-Hungarian monarchy ended in 1918
- Austria became a democratic republic
- In 1933, the parliament was suspended and rebellions started
- In 1938, Austria became part of the „Third Reich“ and was oppressed by Adolf Hitler



# After the ending of the WW II

In 1945, Austria and the capital city Vienna were divided into four parts by the allies.



Allied Occupation sectors in Austria (1945-1955).

British Sector



American Sector



French Sector



Soviet Sector





27th of April 1945: a provisional State Government was formed, headed by Karl Renner (Father of the Republic)



Huge economic problems due to the war, lack of food and important consumer goods.



As soon as the government was recognized by the Allies, ELECTIONS took place.



The three political parties were:  
the Socialist Party, People's Party and Communist Party.



The Republic of Austria was still under Allied occupation and not completely sovereign

# Independence of Austria

May 15th 1955 the Austrian Independence Treaty was signed by the Allies and Austrian politicians in the Castle of Belvedere, Vienna.





Since the **1950s** the Austrian **economy** has gradually recovered

With the fall of the **iron curtain** in **1989** Austria's position in the European structure changed once again



# 1995: Austria joins EU

- In 1995 Austria officially joined the European Union because of economic and safety reasons.
- 2002 the currency Schilling was replaced by the euro.





# Recent developments

- Sebastian Kurz was forced to resign
- Austrian president Alexander Van der Bellen announced a new government, headed by Brigitte Bierlein, our first female chancellor.



# Parliament Building

The government meets in the parliament building in Vienna erected by Theophil Hansen in 1883 . He studied Ancient Greek architectural style. Hansen justified the Greek Style of the government building saying that the Greeks were the first people to love freedom and democracy.





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