

## Exciting and Useful Info #10

### Revolution and Upheaval in East-Central Europe, 1917-1923

#### An Awesome Timeline

1917	Nov Dec	"October Revolution" in Russia Armistice between Germany & Bolshevik Russia Finland & Lithuania declare independence from Russian empire
1918	Jan Feb March April May June July Sept Oct Nov Dec	Proclamation of Wilson's "Fourteen Points" Latvia proclaims independence from Russian empire Estonia declares independence from Russian empire Ukrainian Rada signs Brest-Litovsk treaty with Central Powers German Army marches into Kiev, kicks out Red Army Bolsheviks sign Brest-Litovsk treaty with Central Powers Beginning of final major German offensive in West (Ludendorff offensive) Germans create Ukrainian puppet-state, the Hetmanate Romania signs a separate peace with Central Powers British lands anti-Bolshevik forces in Murmansk Beginning of full-fledged Russian Civil War Ludendorff calls for Germany to seek immediate peace Hungary separates itself from Austria, declares republic in November Czechoslovakia proclaimed an independent state Proclamation of <i>Deutschösterreich</i> (German Austria), to join Germany Revolution in Germany, Kaiser forced to abdicate Proclamation of "West Ukrainian People's Republic" in East Galicia. <sup>1</sup> Armistices with Austria-Hungary (3 Nov) and Germany (11 Nov). <sup>2</sup> Proclamation of Kingdom of Serbs, Croats & Slovenes (Yugoslavia) Allies establish military occupation of Constantinople / Istanbul
1919	Jan Feb March April June	Suppression of the Spartacus uprising in Germany (social revolution fails) German parliamentary republic founded in Weimar Proclamation of Bolshevik-ruled Soviet Belorussian state (later joined USSR) French propose permanent occupation of Rhineland and Rhenish buffer state Japanese delegation proposes "racial equality amendment" Pan-African Congress meets in Paris Foundation of Hungarian Soviet Republic under Bela Kun (lasts til Aug.) Formation of Third (or Communist) International by Lenin French accept Anglo-American security pledges, abandon idea of Rhenish state Lloyd George submits Fontainebleu Memorandum, proposes lenient terms Communist republic formed in Bavaria (brutally suppressed) Treaty of Versailles (with Germany)

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<sup>1</sup> This state never really had an existence, since its proponents were defeated in a brief war with Poland.

<sup>2</sup> By this time, of course, there really was no Austria-Hungary, since several of the national groups of that state (including the Austrian Germans themselves!) had already declared independence and were already at least provisionally recognized by the Allies. But I guess somebody had to sign the armistice on behalf of the state that had originally entered the war.

	July	Hungarian communists establish pro-Hungarian Slovak Soviet republic
	summer	Germany ratifies Treaty of Versailles
	Sept	Polish-Ukrainian war over East Galicia
	Nov	Treaty of St. Germain (with Austria)
		Treaty of Neuilly (with Bulgaria)
1920	March	US Senate votes against ratification of Versailles Treaty
	April	Outbreak of Soviet-Polish War, Poles penetrate deep into Russia by June
	June	Mustafa Kemal Atatürk establishes revolutionary government in Turkey
	June	Treaty of Trianon (with Hungary)
	Aug	Greece advances into Turkey, begins Greek-Turkish War. <sup>3</sup>
	Aug	Red Army counters Polish attack, marches almost as far as Warsaw
	Nov	Treaty of Sèvres (with Turkey)
	Nov	Bilateral treaty of Rapallo finalizes Italo-Yugoslav border
1921	Feb	End of Civil War in Russia
	March	Treaty of Riga ends Russo-Polish War
	Nov	Council of Ambassadors fixes Albania's final borders. <sup>4</sup>
1922	March	Italian fascists seize city of Rijeka, ending its status as city-state
	April	Germany and Soviet Russia sign Rapallo Treaty
	summer	Kemal Atatürk organizes offensive, drives Greeks out of Turkey
	Nov	Last Ottoman sultan formally deposed
	Dec	Formation of USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
1923	Jan	France occupies Ruhr valley in response to German default on reparations
	July	Treat of Lausanne with new Turkey replaces earlier Treaty of Sèvres
	Nov	Abortive Hitler putsch in Munich

### **Plebiscites authorized by treaties:**

Schleswig (1920): north went to Denmark, south to Germany.

Allenstein & Marienwerder in East Prussia (1920): to Germany.

Klagenfurt area (1920): to Austria.

Upper Silesia (1922): most to Germany, eastern portion to Poland.

Saar (1935)<sup>5</sup>: to Germany.

### **Independent city-states created after war:**

Danzig (1920-1939)

Rijeka/Fiume (1919-1922)

<sup>3</sup> Greece sought to act before the Treaty of Sèvres with the Ottoman Empire (August, 1920), which failed to give them territory in Anatolia without plebiscites.

<sup>4</sup> In July 1919 Italy & Greece had reached an agreement to divide Albania between themselves. Albanians reclaimed their independence in 1920.

<sup>5</sup> Under League of Nations to 1935.

### **Substantial Post-War Conflicts and Wars in Europe:**

Polish-Ukrainian (summer 1919) over East Galicia. Poles emerge victorious.

Polish-Lithuanian (1919-20): over area around Vilnius. Poles were eventually able to hold this territory, forcing Lithuanians to establish their capital at Kaunas.

Polish-Soviet (1920-21): over border, also an attempt by Red Army to spread revolution. Ended with Treaty of Riga (in effect a compromise).

Hungarians against Rumanians & Czechoslovak forces (191-20): struggle over borders and an attempt by Hungarian Soviet republic to set up a similar republic in eastern Slovakia.

Greco-Turkish war (1920-23): struggle over eastern Thrace & Anatolia