

# Czech History & Culture

Lecture nr. H5:  
**The formation of Czech state – part V.**  
(1989 – ????)

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## ...from the last lecture...

- Reaction to Prague Spring 1968
  - ➔ Military occupation of Czechoslovakia
- Period of reestablishing the country to the situation before the reforms from 1968 (status quo ante)
  - ➔ Normalization
- Non violent end of communism in Czechoslovakia in 1989
  - ➔ Velvet Revolution
- First non-communist president of Czechoslovakia after 1948
  - ➔ Václav Havel

# The Velvet Revolution 1989

- 1989 – Eastern bloc collapsed
- 17.11. Student non-violent demonstration in Prague
  - but violently suppressed by the police at Narodni Trida
- Next days: protests against the police brutality
  - on Wenceslas Square from 18.11. till 27.11.1989
  - 100 – 300.000 people - jingling of keys
  - General strikes
- Communists under the pressure
- December 1989
  - Non-violent dissolution of communist regime
  - Obcanske Forum (Civic Forum) - Václav Havel became president

# 1990 – democratic Czechoslovakia

- The „Hypen war“ „-“ (dash)

Czechoslovak socialist republic



Czechoslovak federal republic / Czecho-slovak federal republic



Czech and Slovak Federal Republic

- Václav Havel
  - president of Czechoslovakia (1989 – 1992)
  - dramatist, writer, dissident, politician



# Dissolution of Czechoslovakia

- 1.1. 1993 Czech Republic and Slovak Republic
- Peaceful division of the federation
- Political decision – Vaclav Klaus and Vladimir Meciar
- Separation of:
  - National property (immovable by territory, movable 2:1)
  - Citizenship
  - Currency
  - Sport
  - Communication

# Dissolution of Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovakia



127 900 km<sup>2</sup>

15,6 M

Czech Republic



78 867 km<sup>2</sup>

10,3 M

Slovak Republic



49 035 km<sup>2</sup>

5,3 M

# Independent Czech Republic

- Czech Republic ? Czechia ? Czechlands?
- Václav Havel – 1st president (1993 – 2003)
- From 1991 member of Viségrad Group
- From 1995 member of the OECD
- From 1999 member of the NATO
- Václav Klaus – president from 2003 till now
- From 2004 member of the EU
- From 2007 member the Schengen Area
- 2009 in the Presidency of the EU



# Czech Republic and the EU

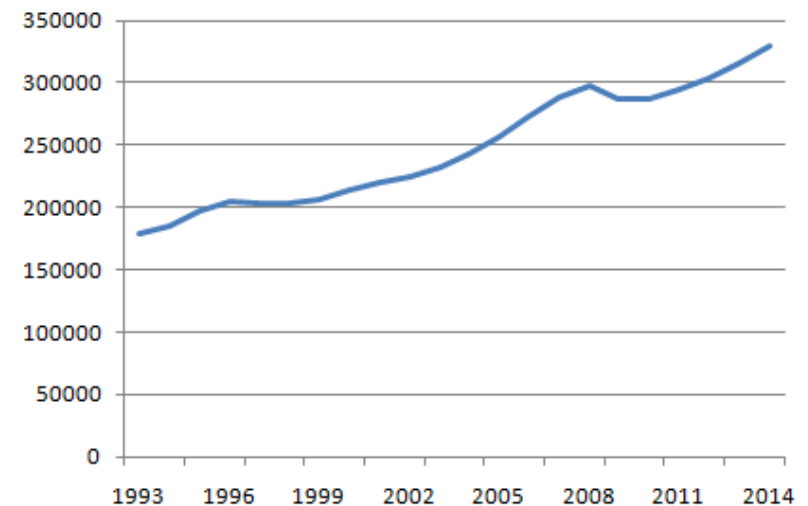
- Application in 1996
- Negotiations 1998-2002
- Referendum in 2003
  - 77 % for entrance
- Entrance 2004
- Schengen 2007
  
- EURO in Slovakia 2009
- EURO in Czech Republic ?





# Economy of the Czech Republic

- Developed economy of Czechoslovakia till 1939
  - Damaged by planned economy (1948 – 1989)
  - Public ownership → in 1989 privatization needed
- Voucher privatization
- Low inflation and unemployment, concentration on industry
- Czech economy (GDP in PPP)
  - 82 % of average of EU
  - World rank 26 (WB) 35, (IMF)
  - Nr 36 by HDI (0.903)



# Czech Republics - figures

- Total area = 78,867 sq km (app like Austria or Hungary)
- Borders with:
  - Austria 362 km, Germany 815 km, Poland 615 km, Slovakia 197 km
- Highest point: Snezka 1,602 m
- Population 10,2 million
- Urbanisation 73 %
- Military expenditures 1,5 %
- Education expenditures 4,5 %



# The résumé

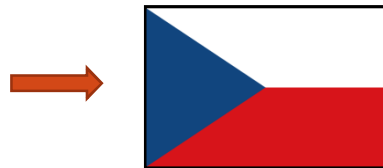
- Creation of the Czech Republic

→ 1.1.1993

- First president of the Czech Republic

→ Václav Havel

- The flag of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic



- President of Czech Republic from 2003 till today

→ Václav Klaus