



Central European Monarchs

And Thirty Years' War



Add to List

- Austria (Hapsburg Family)
 - Maria Theresa
- Prussia (Hohenzollern Family)
 - Frederick the Great (Frederick II)

Thirty Years' War

- Conflict over religion, territory and power among European ruling families
- Effects:
 - Hapsburg Empire (Spain and Austria) weakened
 - France strengthened
 - German princes independent from Holy Roman Empire
 - Ended religious wars
 - New method of peace negotiation
 - **MOST IMPORTANT:** marked the beginning of the modern state system

Formation of Strong States

- Strong states formed more slowly in Central Europe than in Western Europe
- Landowning nobles blocked development of strong kings
- Little income for king, no law courts, no standing army
 - Strong ruler could not form a unified state
- What does that leave?
 - Old, weakened empires and kingdoms

Central European Map Activity

Maria Theresa (Austria)



- Her father, Charles VI, persuaded other rulers to recognize Maria Theresa as heir to the throne
- Faced years of war with Prussia over land
- Decreased the power of the nobility
- Limited amount of labor for peasants

Frederick the Great (Prussia)

- Read Frederick II: Essay on Forms of Government and answer questions #1-4