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Rise of Austria, Prussia, & Russia

Thirty Year's War

Electors- 7 leading German princes who decided on who ruled the Holy Roman Empire

30 Years War was a time of multiple wars where political motivations sought control of Europe



Mercenaries- Soldiers for hire, would destroy entire villages & wolves prowled the streets

Depopulation- Reduction in population. 1/3 of population in German states killed in war

Peace of Westphalia- Series of treaties that ended the war & divided up the landscape

Hapsburg Austria Expands

Austria & Prussia rise to power to centralize power
after the Thirty Years War

Maria Theresa was supposed to control the realm, but
Frederick II of Prussia seized power



War of the Austrian Succession- 8 year war to
return Maria to the throne.

Prussia Emerges

Protestant German speaking power in the north in Germany

Frederick William I seeks control & strengthens itself against Austria



Frederick II- inherits the throne becomes **Frederick the Great**

He uses army to make the world recognize Prussia as a great power

Peter The Great

He first takes the throne at age 10, but eventually puts Russia on a path to modernize

As a young Tsar, he visits west Europe & becomes inspired by the technology & people



Westernization- The adoption of Western ideas, technology, & culture

Autocratic- Unlimited authority as an absolute monarch

Expanding Russian Borders

Peter sought to grow the country via a **warm-water port**- port not frozen in winter

Russian armies were modeled after Western armies & in 1709 Russia defeats the Swedes & builds **St. Petersburg**



Inspired by France, Peter invites European architects to design St. Petersburg

Russia even heads east across the sea into California & Alaska

Catherine the Great

German princess who marries into Russian throne at age 15 & wins loyalty of the people

She ascends the throne when Tsar Peter III is murdered by assassins

She embraces Western ideas & grows the Russian empire to the Black Sea & becomes absolute Monarch



Partition- The division of land up between countries