Enlightened Monarchs

- Growth of Monarchy
  - New Monarchs – 16th Century
  - Absolute Monarchy – 17th Century
  - Enlightened Monarchy – 18th Century
    - Very similar to each other
    - Role of Monarch evolves
  - New Monarchs
    - Characteristics
      - Laid foundations of modern state
      - Suppressed brigands
      - Established law and order
      - Levied taxes
      - Claimed rule by divine right
        - Legitimacy from God
    - Examples
      - Henry VII of England
      - Louis XI of France
      - Ferdinand and
  - Absolute Monarchs
    - Characteristics
      - Centralized power
      - Created nation-states
      - Mercantilists
      - Weakened nobility and church
      - Built bureaucracy
      - Built up military
      - Ruled by divine right
    - Examples
      - Louis XIV of France
      - Peter the Great of Russia
      - Charles XII of Sweden
      - Leopold II of the Holy Roman Empire
      - Frederick William the Great Elector
  - Enlightened Monarchs
    - Characteristics
      - Made reforms to increase their own power
        - Education
        - Toleration
        - Eased punishments
      - Made state more powerful, but not necessarily more just
      - Secular rules
        - No longer claiming to rule by divine right
    - Examples
      - Frederick the Great of Prussia
      - Joseph II of Austria
      - Catherine the Great of Russia
      - Louis XV of France
Enlightened Monarchs

France - Louis XV and Louis XVI
- 1715-1774 & 1774-1793
- Not very enlightened
  - Refused to change too much

Spain - Charles III
- 1759-1788
- Required universities to teach science and philosophy
- Relaxed censorship
- Abolished death penalty
- Expelled Jews

Austria - Maria Theresa
- 1740-1780
- Very cautious to change
  - Took small steps
- Built up centralized bureaucracy
  - Appointed able ministers
    - Good at selecting good people
- Increased taxes
- Maintained flow of soldiers
- Broke control of local diets
  - Assembly
- Left Hungary alone
  - Did not force Hungary to conform
- Wanted to increase production
  - Set up tariff union of Bohemia, Moravia, Austria
    - Area of free trade
    - Limited guilds
    - Suppressed brigands
    - Reformed abused of serfdom

- Joseph II
  - 1780-1790
  - Impatient
    - Wanted total abolition of bad conditions
  - Abolished serfdom
  - Economic reform
    - Built up port of Trieste
    - Established an India East India Company
    - Equality of taxation
  - Equal punishment for equal crimes
  - Punishments made less cruel
  - Freedom of press and religion
    - Improved civil rights for Jews
      - Granted nobility to some
    - Allowed protestants to become civil servants
- Supported Febronianism
  - Freedom from Roman Church
  - Increased control over bishops
  - Suppressed monasteries
    - Took some of their wealth
  - Set up secular hospitals
- Administrative reforms
  - Centralized the state
    - Included Hungary under controls
    - Established German as single language of the government
  - Civil servants
    - Arranged for training courses
    - Provided retirement pensions
    - Established efficiency reports and inspections
  - Used secret police
  - Established education system
    - Primary through university

- Failed
  - Could not do it all by himself
  - Opposition from nobles, church, Hungary
  - Too few middle class to help support
  - Leopold (brother) undid most of Joseph’s reforms

Prussia
- Frederick the Great
  - r. 1740-1786
  - Background/Beliefs
    - Did not get along with father
    - Became cynical
    - Became a soldier
    - Married but never consummated
    - Invaded Silesia
      - War of Austrian Succession
      - Broke pragmatic sanction
    - Very Ill
      - Porphyria
    - Read Philosophes
      - Ran a salon
      - Fought with Voltaire
      - Wrote history
        - Anti-Machiavelli
    - Interested in music
      - Played flute
      - Wrote sonatas and concertos
    - Protestant/Lutheran
      - Devoted to his subjects
        - His job to make people happy
        - Without giving up power
        - Against sweeping change
          - Wise, moderate, reasonable
Administrative reforms
- “1st servant of the state”
- Codified laws
- Abolished capital punishment
- Reformed courts
  - Cheaper, increased efficiency, honesty
- Built up civil service
  - Established civil service examination
  - Never relegated and real authority
    - Attended to all business himself
- Religious reforms
  - Some religious reform
    - Prussia already docile and Lutheran church subordinate to state
    - Intolerant of Jews
- Social Reforms
  - Some free elementary education for all
  - Did little for serfs
    - Freed serfs on his own estate
    - Junkers free to deal with serfs in their own way
  - Maintained rigid class differences
    - Small middle class
    - Power of Junkers checked but not abolished
  - Believed in freedom of speech
- No successors

Catherine the Great
- r. 1762-1796
- Background
  - German
    - Adopted Russian ways and languages
  - Married to Russian Tsar Peter III
    - r. 1762-1796
    - May have been responsible for husband’s death
  - Intelligent and ambitious
  - Agreed with philosophes
    - Read Voltaire
    - Invited Diderot to Russia
- Political Reforms
  - Charter of Rights
    - No taxation for nobles
    - No government service for nobles
  - Legislative commission
    - 1767
    - Traveled around Russia and reported to Catherine
  - Merchants received freedom to trade
  - Expansionist
    - Expanded territory west and south
    - Breaks down balance of power in Europe
- War with Ottoman Empire
  - Won ports on Black Sea
  - Annexed Crimea
- Three partitions of Poland
  - Won land in west
  - 1772, 1773, 1795
  - Poland erased
    - Annexed by Russia, Austria, Prussia
- Favored Boyars
- Social Reforms
  - Wrote legal code
  - Restricted use of torture
  - Granted some religious toleration
    - Stopped persecution of Old Believers
  - Introduced western education
  - Encouraged the arts
  - Encouraged printing
  - Established schools to educate daughters of nobles
- Did not help the serfs
- Pugachev’s Rebellion
  - 1773
  - Fighting for rights of Serfs
  - Failed
  - Led to further degradation