

Topic 7: Ukraine under the Power of Russian and Austrian Empires in 18th – at the beginning of 20th centuries (till the First World War)

Plan

1. Social, economical, political development of Ukrainian lands in Russian Empire. The development of a serfdom.
2. Reforms of 1860-70-s of 19th century and market modernization of Ukraine.
3. Social, economical, political development of Western Ukrainian lands in Austro-Hungarian Empire. Reforms of Jozef II and revolution of 1848.
4. Evolution of social and political life in Ukraine at times of Empires. Russian revolution of 1905-1907 and Ukraine.
5. Ukraine at times of World War I.

Read the task and answer the questions after that:

At the beginning of 19th century Ukraine was divided between two strong neighbors: Russian Empire and Austrian Empire. Russian Empire covered the area of modern Russian Federation, part of Poland and Finland. Austrian Empire covered the area of Eastern Europe, part of Central Europe and several Balkan counties. 80 % of modern Ukrainian area belonged to Russian Empire. It was divided in 9 administrative regions. Geographically they are Left-Bank Ukraine, Right-Bank Ukraine, Eastern Ukraine and Southern Ukraine. 20 % of modern Ukrainian area belonged to Austrian Empire. There were 3 modern Ukrainian Geographical regions: Halychyna, Zakarpattya and Northern Bukovyna.

19th century was a period of a strong pressing on Ukrainians (Ukrainian culture, language, literature, and Ukrainian nation at all). Both Russian and Austrian empires have the same attitude to Ukrainian nation. In such conditions Ukrainians were forced to hold a struggle for national renaissance.

1. Ukrainian lands in Russian Empire. At the beginning of 19th century publications in the Ukrainian language began to appear. They were the works by such famous writers as: Ivan Kotlarevsky, Hryhory Kvitka, Evgen Hrebinka. Ukrainian customs and traditions were described by the great Ukrainian writer Mykola Hogol. It was of great popularity works by great Ukrainian philosopher Hryhory Skorovoda. Folk stories, songs and art became very popular subjects in printed publications, which brought Ukrainian peasants and intelligent people closer together.

19th century was a century of political activity of Ukrainians. A secret political association called “The Cyril and Methodius Brotherhood” appeared in 1846. They were struggling for social equality and freedom of thought and speech. Ukrainian future they saw in federation of Slavic states under the leadership of Ukraine. In the middle of 19th century appeared Ukrainian communities, called hromady. Their political aim was transformation of the Russian Empire into a federation of independent states. During this period schools, universities and theaters began to develop. Books and journals appeared, notably by professors at Kharkiv University. In 1805 an Emperor’s University was opened in Kharkiv.

A famous poet and painter Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861) lived in 19th century. In his poems we can read a protest against injustices and suppression of freedom in Ukraine. His poetry reflected a conception of Ukraine as a free and democratic society that had an influence on the development on Ukrainian political thought.

2. 1860-s was a period of great economical reforms in Russian Empire. Serfdom was forbidden. Peasants became a free people. They started to work only for their own purposes, but they were free to change their job and place of living. So this first reform was connected with the agriculture. Other branches of economy and society were also reformed. There were reforms in finances, army, judge, education, system of local administration.

According to this development of Ukrainian culture at the beginning of XX century the first Ukrainian political party was created. It was the Revolutionary Ukrainian Party. It was created in

1900 in Kharkiv. Their political goal of "one, single, free, independent Ukraine". Later Ukrainian National Party, Ukrainian Democratic Party and Ukrainian Social-Democratic Party were created. Their political aims were nearly the same: free Ukrainian state, democracy, development of Ukrainian language, literature, traditions and nation at all.

During 1905-1907 the Democratic revolution took place in Russian Empire. The slogans of this revolution were: democracy, parliament and protection of economic interests of workers and peasants. Ukrainians had their own aims connected with the creation of its own state and legalization of Ukrainian language and culture. These goals were not reached like the rest of revolutionary slogans. Only Parliament appeared in Russian Empire. Ukrainian also had a political representation there.

3. Western Ukraine under the Austrian authorities. Three Ukrainian regions were under the Austrian power: Halychyna, Zakarpattia and Northern Bukovyna. Austrian Empire was such a kind of empire, where the numerous European nations were united. During the reign of two great Austrian Emperors like Maria Teresia and Josef II many reforms were introduced. The aim was to build a model of well-educated absolutism. In 1774 the Uniate church was renamed to the Greek Catholic church and equalized in status with Roman Catholic Church. Educational reforms in 1775 allowed for instructions in Ukrainian language. But Ukrainian language was allowed only in private and church schools. So position of those Ukrainians who were in Austrian Empire was better than positions of Ukrainians in Russian Empire.

Under the influence of new European tendencies, political, social and cultural changes the first generation of national consciousness Ukrainians appeared in Halychyna. The center of the first wave of the national renaissance became Peremyshl, where a small group of intelligent people was formed at the head of Bishop Ivan Snihursky. They began to establish primary schools for the local population. The first Ukrainian grammar books appeared authored by Ivan Mohylnytsky (1822), Josef Lozynsky (1833), Joseph Levytsky (1834). At the same the first collections of folklore – "Polish and Russian songs of Galician people" of Vatslav Zalesky (1833) which was of the same importance for Halychyna as "Songs of Malorussia" by Mykola Maksymovych for Left-Bank and Right Bank Ukraine, the collection "Russian wedding" by Joseph Lozynsky (1835).

Most outstanding in Ukrainian literature was so called "Ruthenian Triad": poet Markiyan Shashkevych, professor of Ukrainian language Yakiv Holovatsky and historian, ethnographer, linguist Ivan Vahylevych. They printed a special magazines with materials about Ukrainian culture and language. Their first publication in 1834 "Zorya" (The Star) was banned, their second publication – a collection of folk songs and stories, "Rusalka Dnistrova" (Dnister Mermaid), published in Hungary, was confiscated and not released till 1848.

Many changes came in 1848. A big revolution took place in Austrian Empire. In Europe this revolution called like "spring of nations", because many nations in Austrian Empire became to struggle for their freedom. Among them are Hungarians, Poles, Czechs and also Ukrainians. During this revolution a freedom was proclaimed and a parliamentary form of governing was established.

In the summer of 1848 the election to the Austrian Parliament took place for the first time and the Ukrainians managed to get 39 deputy seats. Their political goal was to divide Halychyna in two parts: in Polish part with the centre in Krakow and Ukrainian part with the centre in Lviv. The problem of this region was connected with the mixture of Ukrainians and Polish, where the Polish were trying to dominate. That problem was not solved in Austrian Empire. It was solved much more later, during the National Revolution in Ukraine of 1918-1921.

So during the revolution of 1848 in Austrian Empire Ukrainian language was legalized and it was studying in the Lviv University. At public schools teaching was in Ukrainian language, in gymnasiums the Ukrainian language was a compulsory subject. There was improvement noticed in the literature life. For the first time Ukrainian writers in Austrian Empire were published and reading halls were opened.

5. World War I (1914-1918). Next period of Ukrainian History is connected with the First World War. A lot of changes in political, economical, national and international branches took place after this War. World War I was a military conflict lasted from 1914 to 1918 and involved

most of the world's great powers, assembled in two opposing alliances: the Allies (centered around the Triple Entente) against the Central Powers. More than 70 million military personnel, including 60 million Europeans, were mobilized in one of the largest wars in history. More than 15 million people were killed, making it one of the deadliest conflicts in history. This war is also known as the First World War, the Great War.

The assassination on 28 June 1914 of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, the heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, is seen as the immediate trigger of the war, though long-term causes, such as imperialistic foreign policy, played a major role. Ferdinand's assassination at the hands of Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip resulted in demands against the Kingdom of Serbia. Several alliances that had been formed over the past decades were invoked, so within weeks the major powers were at war; with all having colonies, the conflict soon spread around the world.

The conflict opened with the German invasion of Belgium, Luxembourg and France; the Austrian-Hungarian invasion of Serbia and a Russian attack against Prussia. After the German march on Paris was brought to a halt, the Western Front settled into a static battle of attrition with a trench line that changed little until 1917. In the East, the Russian army successfully fought against the Austrian-Hungarian forces but were forced back by the German army. Additional fronts opened with the Ottoman Empire joining the war in 1914, Italy in 1915 and Romania in 1916. Imperial Russia left the war in 1917. After a 1918 German offensive along the western front, American forces entered the trenches and the German armies were driven back in a series of successful allied offensives. Germany surrendered on Armistice Day, November 11, 1918.

By the war's end, four major imperial powers — the German, Russian, Austrian-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires — had been militarily and politically defeated, with the last two ceasing to exist. The revolutionized Soviet Union emerged from the Russian Empire, while the map of central Europe was completely redrawn into numerous smaller states. The League of Nations was formed in the hope of preventing another such conflict. The European nationalism spawned by the war, the repercussions of Germany's defeat, and of the Treaty of Versailles would eventually lead to the beginning of World War II in 1939.

The tragedy of Ukrainians during the First World War was that they were in different Empires Russian and Austrian. These empires were enemies in the First World War. So Ukrainians were forced to kill each other. This War was one of the reasons of the National Revolution in Ukraine, which took place in two Empires, where Ukrainians lived: in Austrian Empire and in Russian Empire.

Topics for abstract:

1. Integration in Empire structures.
2. Ukrainian National Renaissance
3. Economical development of Ukrainian lands in Russian Empire
4. Ukraine in World War I.

Task 7

Answer the questions:

1. Situation in Ukraine in Russian Empire.
2. Situation in Ukraine in Austrian Empire.
3. Compare the Democratic Revolution of 1905 - 1907 in Russian Empire and Revolution of 1848 in Austrian Empire.
4. WWI and its influence on the development of your country. Participation of your country in the WWI.

Topic 8: Revolution and Civil War in Ukraine

Plan

1. Creation of the Central Council and its activities. Struggle between the Central Council and the Bolsheviks (1917, December – 1918, April).
2. Ukrainian State of Hetman Skoropadskyi.
3. Civil War at Directoria times.
4. Western Ukrainian Lands in 1920-1930s.

Read the text and answer the questions after that:

In 1917 Ukraine was divided between two empires: Russian and Austrian. From 1914 lasted the First World War and these two empires also took part in it. In 1917 February Democratic Revolution started in Russia. Russian tsar (emperor) was overthrown and Russia became a democratic federal republic. It was the second revolution (after the Revolution of 1905) in the Russian Empire, which led to the collapse of the tsarist regime and the inauguration of a democratic, republican government. Russia was weakened at the time by military failure, an economic crisis, and public discontent. The working class wanted better living and working conditions, the peasants wanted more land, and the oppressed nationalities wanted freedom. Almost everyone wanted an end to the war with the Central Powers.

The revolution quickly spread throughout the Russian Empire. On Russian ethnic territory the revolution was primarily a social one; on non-Russian territories it was mainly a national revolution. Ukrainians organized their own associations and demanded recognition for their language, Ukrainian schools, and their own distinct military formations. In 3-4 of March 1917 in Ukraine the Central Council (Tsentralna Rada) was established. It was the first Ukrainian Parliament. In this parliament the most popular Ukrainian political parties were represented, such as: Ukrainian Social Democratic Party, Ukrainian Social Revolutionary Party, and Ukrainian Social Federative Party. Socialism was the most popular movement among Ukrainians. Mykhailo Hrushevsky presided over the Central Rada, which, after convening the All-Ukrainian National Congress on 19-21 April 1917, became Ukraine's revolutionary parliament.

The Central Council published four laws in Ukraine, called “universals”. According to these four laws Ukrainian National Republic was proclaimed. Ukrainian Government, program of reforms in every branch of state were also created by these laws. In 1918 Ukraine was proclaimed as an independent state.

In general the February Revolution was carried out in a more peaceful and organized way in Ukraine than in Russia. Many massive rallies, demonstrations, congresses, and so on were staged without bloodshed. Besides, social change the struggle for national, political, and cultural rights played a primary role in the Ukrainian revolution. Gradually national rights, followed by autonomy, and finally independence were achieved.

In 25th of October 1917 a new revolution took place in Russia. It was the October Revolution – event, which changed for 70 years the history of Russia, Ukraine and a lot of other states. A new power was established in Russia. It was a power of Bolshevik's party – Communist Party of USSR in future (CPSU). Bolsheviks started to build the new state in Russia based on principles of socialism and Marxism-Leninism (theory created by German scientist Karl Marx and Russian revolutionary – Vladimir Lenin). From that times Russia became Soviet state.

As their immediate goal the majority of the population wanted Russia to pull out of the First World War. As a broader goal they demanded wide-ranging social reforms and the redistribution of land. The non-Russian peoples of the empire wanted national autonomy and equality. Meanwhile the Bolsheviks and other left-wing groups, whose power base consisted of workers' and soldiers' councils (see Soviet), they pressed for a continuation of the revolution.

The principal organizer of the October Revolution was the Russian Social Democratic Labour party (Bolsheviks), Vladimir Lenin was the leader and the main ideologist of it. Bolsheviks formed the first Soviet government, the Council of People's Commissars (Sovnarkom). It was headed by Lenin, and included Trotsky, Anatoliy Lunacharsky, A. Rykov, and Joseph Stalin. The Sovnarkom issued a series of decrees concerning peace, land, the establishment of workers' control, and the nationalization of all heavy industry. It also issued the Declaration on the Rights of the Peoples of Russia on 15 November 1917, in which the equality of all peoples was formally proclaimed.

By early 1918 the Bolsheviks had managed to seize power fairly easily in most cities and regions of Russia. They attempted to stage a similar coup in Ukraine but found considerably stronger opposition. The support for the Bolsheviks was much weaker there, where there were only 5,000 members of Bolshevik organizations (almost exclusively located in the cities). They consisted primarily of Russian or Russified working-class elements in the Donbass region, Katerynoslav, and Kharkiv. Moreover the Tsentralna Rada managed to consolidate its hold on power and on support among the Ukrainian masses through its national and socialist policies.

The Bolsheviks left to form their own revolutionary committee after the Tsentralna Rada refused to recognize the Soviet government in Petrograd. The initial round of fighting between the three forces resulted in a victory for the Tsentralna Rada and the proclamation of the Ukrainian National Republic on 20 November 1917.

Bolsheviks didn't consider Ukraine as an independent state, so their political aim was to conquer Ukraine and to turn the status of Russian province. That's why the war between Russian Bolsheviks and Ukraine started at the end of 1917. On the East of Ukraine Soviet Ukraine with the capital in Kharkiv was proclaimed. On January 1918 a treatment between Soviet Russia and Germany and Austro-Hungarian Empire was concluded. According to this treatment Russia and Ukraine didn't take a participation in the First World War anymore and concluded a treatment with their enemies. Germany and Austria promised Ukraine to defeat it against Soviet Russia.

Although the Bolsheviks' attempts to seize power in Ukraine as a whole failed at first, they managed to gain control of Kharkiv and some Russified cities in the Donbass region through their workers' and soldiers' soviets. They hoped to achieve a formal proclamation of soviet power at an All-Ukrainian Congress of Workers', Soldiers', and Peasants' Deputies, which they convened on 17–19 December in Kyiv. On 25 December 1917 congress moved to Kharkiv and Soviet rule in Ukraine was proclaimed. A central executive committee of Ukraine and a government body, the People's Secretariat were elected.

The creation of a rival Soviet government in Ukraine made it possible for the subsequent armed intervention by Bolshevik troops from Russia during the Ukrainian-Soviet War, 1917-1921 to be presented as a class rather than a national struggle. It also marked an important turning point in Ukraine's struggle for independence (1917-1920), as the Bolsheviks demonstrated their willingness to force their state structure onto Ukraine in spite of the almost total absence of popular support.

On April 1918 according to agreement between Ukraine and Germany and Austria, Ukraine was occupied by armies of these two states. Germany and Austria established a new state authority in Ukraine. Hetman Ukrainian state was proclaimed with the leader – Hetman Pavlo Skoropadski. It was an attempt to create a strong autocratic Ukrainian state with a strong ruler on the head. But this idea was not popular among Ukrainians, that's why Pavlo Skoropadski was overthrown. For a short term Ukraine was ruled by special political organization Directoria. In 1919 Ukraine was conquered by Russian Bolsheviks and new state was established.

Western Ukraine in 1920s-1930s. Western Ukraine is the designated name of the territories of the renewed Ukrainian state created in what had been part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, defined by the Ukrainian National Rada in a resolution of 19 October 1918 in Lviv. Western Ukraine encompassed – Eastern Halychyna, Northern Bukovina, and the Ukrainian region of northeastern Hungary – Zakarpatska Ukraine. That entity became the Western Ukrainian National Republic (ZUNR) by the constitution of 13 November 1918.

The term 'Western Ukraine' was also used popularly to designate the Western Ukrainian National Republic or to describe all the Ukrainian territories occupied by Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Rumania in the interwar period. After 1939 'Western Ukraine' referred to the Ukrainian territories which in that year became part of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, as distinct from central and eastern Ukraine, which were parts of the Ukrainian SSR in 1920-39. In Soviet terminology 'Western Ukraine' designated the historical or geographic territories that became Lviv region, Ivano-Frankivsk region, Ternopil region, Volyn region, and Rivne region.

Western Ukraine before the First World War was part of Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 1918 Austro-Hungarian Empire was collapsed. During 1918–1920 Western Ukraine became an independent state, called Western Ukrainian National Republic. In 1919 Western Ukrainian National Republic and Ukrainian Nation Republic on the East were united in Ukraine. But soon Eastern Ukraine was conquered by Soviet Russia and Western Ukraine was also conquered by aggressive neighbors: Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania.

Western Ukrainian National Republic was a nation-state established on the Ukrainian ethnic territory of former Austria-Hungary on 19 October 1918 by the Ukrainian National Rada in Lviv. The Constitution of 13 November 1918 determined its name and defined the territory of the ZUNR as that which encompassed the Ukrainian regions of the Austrian crown lands of Halychyna and Bukovina and Zakarpatska Ukraine. A Ukrainian government took power on 1 November 1918 in Halychyna on 6 November in Bukovyna, and on 19 November in Zakarpatska Ukraine. The governments in the last two territories were short-lived. In spite of the Ukrainian-Polish War in Halychyna, 1918-1919 the government of the ZUNR held out longest in eastern Halychyna.

The Ukrainian National Rada, a legislative council, was the state's ruling body before the calling of the Constituent Assembly of the ZUNR. The State Secretariat of the Western Ukrainian National Republic was its executive branch. Its power was eventually transferred to the Dictatorship of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic.

On 1 December 1918 the State Secretariat of the Western Ukrainian National Republic concluded a preliminary agreement with the Directory of the Ukrainian National Republic on the union of the two Ukrainian states. The agreement was approved by the Ukrainian National Rada on 3 January 1919 and by the Directory on 22 January. The union was proclaimed in a special proclamation of 22 January. Thenceforth the ZUNR assumed the name Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic. But the union was not fully implemented: the government bodies of the ZUNR continued to operate separately (see Dictatorship of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic). When the government of the Ukrainian National Republic recognized Polish rule in Ukrainian territory west of the Zbruch River, the ZUNR government rejected its policies completely.

In July 1919 Poland occupied most of the territory of the ZUNR and tried to get Entente recognition for its rule in Halychyna. Although the Supreme Council of the Paris Peace Conference representing the Entente instructed Poland on 25 June to occupy Ukrainian Halychyna temporarily, it recognized Halychyna's special status. On 20 November it drafted a treaty with Poland on the autonomy of eastern Halychyna under the higher administration of Poland for 25 years, but the Poles rejected that treaty. The Conference of Ambassadors of the great powers of the Entente finally recognized (12 March 1923) the Polish occupation, albeit with the provision that eastern Halychyna was to remain autonomous.

Topics for abstract:

1. February revolution in Ukraine
2. The main reasons for Ukrainian national movement
3. Ukrainian-Bolshevik war
4. ZUNR installation
5. Ukrainian-polish relations

Answer the questions:

1. Between which empires was Ukraine divided before 1917?
2. February Democratic revolution and its consequences.
3. The Central Council (Tsentralna Rada) and its activities.
4. October Socialist Revolution and its results.
5. Western Ukraine and the main features of its development.