

Partitions of Poland

Jakub Bialas, Graham Welch

Political Climate in Poland



By the early 18th century, the commonwealth was a de facto Russian Satellite state.

The partitions resulted in the dissolution of parliament, as well as an uprising that was quickly put down by Prussia and Austria.

Political Climate in Russia



Already had strong influence on politics in Poland, and the commonwealth relied on Russia as a counter to Prussia's expansion.

Russia had just won the Russo-Turkish War, gaining land just south of Poland.

Political Climate in Prussia



Growing in power and influence in the past century to rival Russia, separated by only Poland between them.

Prussia had just finished Seven Years War, and didn't want to start a war with Russia.

Political Climate in Austria



Was threatened by Russia's expansion after the Russo-Turkish War.

France suggested Austria join in the partitioning of Poland in order to avoid war and make things more fair between Russia and Prussia.



Pomorsko-Malborskie-Chełminskie Territory (PMC Territory)

Prussia : 25

Contained the major
port cities of Gdańsk
and Gdynia.

Russia : 10

Western Polish Territory

Prussia : 30

Key location
connecting the
Central, Southern,
and PMC territories;
as well as arable soil.

Russia : 25

Central Polish Territory

Prussia : 30

Contains Warsaw,
Poland's Capital and
leadership.

Russia : 40

Former Livonian Territory

Prussia : 0

A former Russian territory that has a high population of ethnic russians.

Russia : 5

Former Belarusian Territory

Prussia : 0

Again, former Russian territory, with lots of ethnic russians.

Russia : 5

Southern Polish Territory

Prussia : 15

Larger territory that borders the Central territory and had

Russia : 10

major cities Kraków and Lwów. Contained very valuable rock salt deposits.

Eastern Polish Territory

Prussia : 0

Very large but sparse, un-arable land. No major cities. Connects to the Central Polish Territory and Warsaw.

Russia : 10

First Round

	Prussia/Austria	Russia
PMC	25	10
Western Polish	30	25
Central Polish	30	40
Former Livonian	0	5
Former Belarusian	0	5
Southern Polish	15	10
Eastern Polish	0	10
First Round Totals	70	60

Second Round

Splitting Southern Polish Territory:

Prussia	Russia
$70 - 15x$	$60 + 10x$

$$x = \frac{2}{5}$$

Prussia : 64, Russia : 64



Results

The first and second partitions matched our method quite accurately, except for the Lwów Territory which we had given to Russia but was in reality allocated to Austria.

The main difference was with the Central Polish Territory containing Warsaw, which Prussia ended up controlling.