



The Trip of The First Lady
to
Spain, Austria, and Portugal

July 5 - 20, 1997

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Divider Title: **BACKGROUND ON AUSTRIA**

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: AMGT

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL

1. FOLLOWING IS A DRAFT OF UPDATED BACKGROUND NOTES
FOR AUSTRIA, FORMATTED FOR PUBLICATION.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

BACKGROUND NOTES

OFFICIAL NAME: Republic of Austria

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 83,857 sq.km. (32,377 sq. mi.); slightly smaller
than Maine.

Cities: Capital -- Vienna (pop.1.7 million).

Other Cities -- Graz, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck,

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Klagenfurt.

Terrain: Alpine (64 percent); northern highlands which form part of the Bohemian Massif (10 percent); (Pannonian) lowlands to the east (26 percent).
Climate: Continental temperate.

People

Nationality: Noun and adjective -- Austrian(s).
Population (1995): 8 million.
Annual growth rate: 0.3 percent
Ethnic groups: Germans 98 percent, Croats, Slovenes; other recognized minorities include Hungarians, Czechs, Slovaks, Roma.
Religion: Roman Catholic 85 percent, Protestant 8.0, Muslim and other 7.0.
Language: German 92 percent.
Education: Years compulsory -- 9. Attendance -- 99 percent. Literacy -- 98 percent.
Health: Infant Mortality Rate -- 5.4/1,000.
Life expectancy -- 73.54 yrs. men, 80.05 yrs. women.
Work force (3.4 million): Industry and commerce -- 35 percent.
Agriculture and forestry -- 7 percent.

Government

Type: Parliamentary democracy.
Constitution: 1920 (reinstated December 1945).
Branches: Executive -- Federal President (Chief of State), Chancellor (head of government), Cabinet.
Legislative -- bicameral Federal Assembly (Parliament).
Judicial -- Constitutional Court, Administrative Court, Supreme Court.
Political parties: Social Democratic Party, People's Party, Freedom Movement, Liberal Forum, Greens (environmental party).
Suffrage: Universal over 19.
Administrative subdivisions: Nine Laender (federal provinces).
Defense (est.): 0.9 percent of GDP.
Flag: Three horizontal bands -- red, white, and red; flag may also have the national emblem (a black eagle centered in the white band).

Economy

GDP (1996): USD 228.1 billion.
Per capita income (1996): USD 28,280.
Natural resources: Iron ore, crude oil, natural gas, timber, tungsten, magnesite, lignite, cement.
Agriculture (2.7 percent of 1996 GDP): Livestock, forest products, grains, sugar beets, potatoes.
Industry (34 percent of 1996 GDP): Iron and steel,

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depression and unemployment added to these strains and shattered traditional Austrian society. These economic and political conditions led in 1933 to a dictatorship under Engelbert Dollfuss. In February 1934, civil war broke out, and the Socialist Party was outlawed. In July, a coup d'etat by the National Socialists failed, but Dollfuss was assassinated by Nazis. In March 1938, Austria was incorporated into the German Reich, a development commonly known as the "Anschluss" (annexation).

At the Moscow conference in 1943, the Allies declared their intention to liberate Austria and reconstitute it as a free and independent state. In April 1945, both Eastern and Western forces liberated the country.

Subsequently, Austria was divided into zones of occupation similar to Germany's. A Socialist elder statesman, Dr. Karl Renner, successfully organized an Austrian administration. General elections were held in November 1945, in which the conservative People's Party obtained 50 percent of the vote (85 seats) in the National Council (lower house of Parliament). The Socialists won 45 percent (76 seats), and the Communists 5 percent (4 seats). The ensuing three-party government ruled until 1947, when the Communists left the government. During that year the People's Party and the Socialists formed a coalition that governed until 1966.

Under the 1945 Potsdam agreements, the Soviets took control of German assets in their zone of occupation. These included manufacturing plants, constituting 7 percent of all Austrian industry; oil resources, which accounted for 95 percent of the nation's oil production; and about 80 percent of Austria's refinery capacity. These properties were returned to Austria under the Austrian State Treaty, signed in Vienna on May 15, 1955. The treaty came into effect on July 27 of that year. Under its provisions, all occupation forces were withdrawn by October 25, 1955. Austria became free and independent for the first time since 1938.

GOVERNMENT

The Austrian President convenes and concludes parliamentary sessions, and under certain conditions can dissolve Parliament. However, no Austrian President has dissolved Parliament in the Second Republic. The custom is for Parliament to call for new elections, if needed. The President requests a party leader, usually the leader of the strongest party, to form a government. Upon the recommendation of the

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Federal Chancellor, the President also appoints cabinet ministers. No one can become a member of the government without the approval of the President.

The Federal Assembly (Parliament) is composed of two houses -- the National Council (Nationalrat), or lower house, and the Federal Council (Bundesrat), or upper house. Virtually all legislative authority is concentrated in the National Council. Its 183 members are elected for a maximum 4-year-term in a three-tiered system, based on the proportional representation principle. The National Council may dissolve itself by a simple majority vote or it may be dissolved by the President on the recommendation of the Chancellor. The Federal Council consists of 64 members elected by the legislatures of the nine provinces for 4 to 6-year terms. The Federal Council is restricted to reviewing legislation passed by the National Council, and can delay but not veto its enactment.

The highest courts of Austria's independent judiciary are the Constitutional Court, which has jurisdiction over constitutional matters; the Administrative Court, which handles bureaucratic disputes; and the Supreme Court, for civil and criminal cases. Cases in the Administrative and Supreme Courts concerning constitutional issues can be appealed to the Constitutional Court. Justices of the three courts are appointed by the President for specific terms.

Austria's nine Laender (provinces) are headed by governors elected by the provincial legislatures. Although most authority, including the police, rests with the federal government, the provinces have considerable responsibility for welfare matters and supervision of local administration. Strong provincial and local loyalties are based on tradition and history.

PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Federal President -- Thomas Klestil
Federal Chancellor -- Viktor Klima
Vice Chancellor/ Foreign Minister -- Wolfgang Schuessel
Ambassador to the United States -- Helmut Tuerk
Ambassador to the United Nations -- Ernst Sucharipa

Austria maintains an embassy in the United States at 3524 International Court, NW, Washington, DC 20008 (tel.202-895-6700). Consulates general are located in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, with honorary consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Cleveland, Denver, Honolulu, Houston, Miami, New Orleans, Newark, Philadelphia, San Francisco, San Juan, Seattle, and St. Paul.

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POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Since World War II, Austria has enjoyed political stability. The two major parties -- the Social Democrats (SPO) and the People's Party (OVP)-- have the support of a majority of the electorate. The OVP led a governing coalition with the SPO from 1947 to 1966. Since 1970, the Social Democrats have ruled the country -- either alone or, in conjunction with the OVP except for a brief 3-year period. (From 1983-86, the SPO governed in coalition with the Freedom Party.) Three opposition parties -- the Freedom Movement, the Liberal Forum, and the Greens -- together poll about 33 percent of the vote.

The Socialist Party, renamed the Social Democratic Party in June 1991, traditionally draws its constituency from blue- and white-collar workers. Accordingly, much of its strength lies in the urban and industrialized areas. In the 1995 national elections, it garnered 38 percent of the vote. The SPO in the past advocated heavy state involvement in Austria's key industries, the extension of social security benefits, and a full-employment policy. Beginning in the mid-1980's, it shifted its focus to free-market-oriented economic policies, balancing the federal budget, and European Union (EU) membership.

The People's Party's traditional constituency has been among farmers, large and small business owners, and lay Catholic groups. Its centers of strength are the rural regions of Austria. In 1995, it received 28 percent of the vote. It advocates conservative financial policies and privatization of much of Austria's nationalized industry.

The rightist Freedom Movement (formerly Freedom Party/FPO) attracts protest votes and those who desire no association with the two major parties. Recently, the party's mixture of populism and anti-establishment themes propagated by its aggressive leader Joerg Haider has won increased support. In several provinces, including Vienna, the Freedom Movement has replaced the People's Party as the second-strongest political force. Nationally it attracts approximately 22 percent of the vote, though it gained 28 percent of the vote in 1996 elections for the European Parliament.

The Liberal Forum, focused on libertarian ideals, split from the Freedom Movement in February 1993. It received 5.5 percent of the vote in the 1995 election. The Greens, a left-of-center party focusing on environmental issues, received 4.8 percent in 1995.

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ECONOMY

Austria has a social market economy in which the government has played an important role. Many of the country's largest firms were nationalized in the early post-war period to protect them from Soviet takeover as war reparations. Currently, these state-owned corporations are intended to operate largely as private businesses, and a number are being wholly or partially privatized. The government operates various state monopolies, utilities, and services. Ongoing privatization and reduction of state subsidies is expected to reduce government participation in the future. Austrian industry, banking, transportation, services and commercial facilities are well developed.

Although some industries, such as several iron and steel works and chemical plants, are large industrial enterprises employing thousands of people, most industrial and commercial enterprises in Austria are relatively small.

Austria has a strong labor movement. The Austrian Trade Union Federation (OGB) comprises constituent unions with a total membership of about 1.5 million, representing more than half of the country's wage and salary earners. Since 1945, the OGB has pursued a moderate, consensus-oriented wage policy, cooperating with industry, agriculture, and the government on a broad range of social and economic issues in what is known as Austria's "social partnership."

Austrian farms, like those of other West European mountainous countries, are small and fragmented. Their products are relatively expensive. Although Austrian farmers provide about 80 percent of domestic food requirements, the agricultural contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) has declined since 1950 to about 2.7 percent.

Austria has achieved sustained economic growth. During the 1950s, the average annual growth rate was more than 5 percent in real terms and averaged about 4.5 percent through most of the 1960s. Following a robust 3 percent real GDP growth in 1994, the economy expanded only 1.8 percent in 1995 and 0.8 percent in 1996. The growth rate for 1997 is estimated at 1.4 percent. This lower rate of growth stems from several factors, particularly governmental measures to lower the budget deficit. From 1998-2000, the economy is expected to continue to grow at a moderate, but steady 1.8 percent.

Austria became a member of the European Union (EU) on January 1, 1995. With membership came economic

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benefits, but also challenges. The Austrian government's biggest challenge in the coming years will be maintaining positive growth while reducing the budget deficit enough to satisfy the European Monetary Union (EMU) common currency convergence criteria (deficit to less than 3.0 percent of GDP).

Trade with other EU countries accounts for over 60 percent of Austrian imports and exports. Expanding trade and investment in the emerging markets of Central and Eastern Europe is another major element of Austrian economic activity. Austrian firms have invested sizable sums and continue to move labor-intensive low-tech production to these countries. Although the big investment boom has waned, Austria still has the potential to attract EU firms seeking convenient access to these developing markets.

Total trade with the United States in 1994 reached 4.5 billion USD. Imports from the United States amounted to 2.7 billion, constituting a U.S. market share in Austria of 4.4 percent. Austrian exports to the United States in 1994 were 1.8 billion, or 3.5 percent of total Austrian exports. As a rule, Austria has experienced deficits in its merchandise trade, offset somewhat by earnings from tourism and long-term private capital.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

The 1955 Austrian State Treaty ended the four-power occupation and recognized Austria as an independent and sovereign state. In October 1955, the Federal Assembly passed a constitutional law in which "Austria declares of her own free will her perpetual neutrality." The second section of this law stated that "in all future times Austria will not join any military alliances and will not permit the establishment of any foreign military bases on her territory."

Austria has shaped its foreign policy on the basis of neutrality. However, in recent years Austria has begun to reassess its definition of neutrality. It granted overflight rights for the UN-sanctioned action against Iraq in 1991. Since 1995, Austria has contemplated participation in the EU's evolving security structure. In that year, it joined the Partnership for Peace, and subsequently participated in peacekeeping missions (IFOR/SFOR) in Bosnia. Discussion of possible Austrian NATO membership intensified during 1996. By 1998, the government plans to decide on its future security options, e.g. whether or not to join the Western European Union (WEU) as a full member (it currently has observer status) and/or NATO.

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Austrian leaders emphasize the unique role the country plays as a link between East and West, and as a moderator between industrialized and developing countries. Austria is active in the United Nations and experienced in UN peacekeeping efforts. It attaches great importance to participation in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other international economic organizations, and has played an active role in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Vienna hosts the Secretariat of the OSCE and is the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the UN Industrial Development Organization and the UN Drug Control Program. Other international organizations based in Vienna include the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its Fund for International Development and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. Recently, Vienna has added the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization and the Wassenaar Arrangement (a technology-transfer control agency) to its list of international organizations. It hosted the UN Conference on Human Rights in 1993, and the CSCE follow-up meeting in 1986.

Austria traditionally has been active "bridge building to the East," with increasing contacts at all levels with Eastern Europe and the states of the former Soviet Union. Austrians maintain a constant exchange of business representatives, political leaders, students, cultural groups, and tourists with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Austrian companies are active in investing and trading with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. In addition, the Austrian Government and various Austrian organizations provide assistance and training to support the changes underway in the region.

US-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS

Austria's political leaders and people recognize and appreciate the essential role played by U.S. economic assistance through the Marshall Plan in the reconstruction of their country after World War II, and by the U.S. in promoting the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty. It is in the interest of the U.S. that:

- the present friendly relations be maintained and strengthened; and
- Austria's political and economic stability be maintained.

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PRINCIPAL US OFFICIALS

Ambassador -- Swanee Hunt
Deputy Chief of Mission -- Joan E. Corbett
Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs -- Timothy Savage
Counselor for Public Affairs (USIS) -- Helena Finn
Counselor for Commercial Affairs -- Stephen Craven
Counselor for Administrative Affairs -- Steven White
Counselor for Agricultural Affairs -- Allan Mustard
Consul General -- Guyle Cavin
Defense and Army Attache -- Col. John Fairlamb
Consular Agent in Salzburg -- Jeanie Mayer

The US Embassy in Austria is located at Boltzmanngasse 16, Vienna 1091, tel. (43) (1) 313-39

(After office

hours: (43) (1) 319-5523). The US Consular Agency in Salzburg is located at Alte Markt 1, 5020 Salzburg, tel. (43) (662) 848-776.

TRAVEL NOTES

Climate and Clothing: Vienna's climate is similar to that of the northeastern U.S. Clothing needs and tastes are about the same. Wear sweaters and light woollens during the possible cool spells in summer.

Security: Austria counts among the safest countries in the world. The crime rate is low compared to the U.S., and cities like Vienna showcase their low crime record.

Health: Local pharmacies are well stocked, and hospitals are adequate. The U.S. Embassy can provide a list of English-speaking physicians and dentists in Vienna. Community health and sanitation are similar to that in the U.S. The Viennese are proud of their city's water, piped in from mountain springs.

Telecommunications: Telephone and telegraph services are efficient. Vienna is 6 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time.

Transportation: Public transportation in Vienna and other cities via bus, streetcar and subway is excellent. Taxis are available 24 hours a day at stands throughout Vienna. Roads are good, though occasionally steep on alpine passes. Highways connect Vienna with Graz, Klagenfurt, Villach and the Slovenian and Italian borders to the south; with Salzburg, the German border, and Innsbruck to the west; and with the Hungarian border to the east of Vienna. Tolls are collected for passage through major tunnels, and a nationwide highway toll was introduced in 1997. The Austrian train system provides service throughout the country with connections to Prague, Budapest and

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southern and western Europe.

Tourist Attractions: Austria has a number of widely differing tourist areas: Vienna and Salzburg, including respective music festivals; breathtaking alpine scenery in Vorarlberg and Tyrol, famous also for winter sports; serene lakes surrounded by jagged mountains which attract tourists to Carinthia and Upper Austria; steep vineyards rising behind medieval towns, castles and monasteries found along the Danube Valley and in southern Styria. Burgenland Province in the east, with its distinct Pannonian character, hosts Central Europe's largest steppe lake, Neusiedlersee, where unique wildlife can be admired in the region's national park.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Key Officers of Foreign Service Posts (Guide for Business Representatives). Revised biannually.

For information on economic trends, commercial development, production, trade regulations, and tariff rates, contact the Austrian desk, IEP/EUR/OWE, Room 3411, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230 (tel. 202-377-2435). End text.

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SALZBURG



AUSTRIA

HOTELS

DINING

SHOPPING

MAP

COUNTRIES

MESSAGE
TO ORDER
WAIVIATA

ADVERTISING
CURRENCY
WORLD
NEWS
WORLD
WEATHER

Mozart's birthplace and the "festival city" of breathtaking scenic beauty, "The Sound of Music" resonates in every alleyway and picture perfect street of Salzburg. One of the most famous cities in the world and for more than one thousand years a part of Germany, Salzburg used to be called the "Rome of the North" partly because of the Italian influence on its architecture and partly because it was for centuries the major centre of religious power in the German world.



Today, it is perhaps the best existing example of a Baroque city, that riotously decorative style of architecture that first blossomed at the end of the 17th century. Salzburg's most important single attraction is still music and in particular, the two festivals which annually transform the city into a music-lovers paradise.

The premier event runs from July through to the end of August and is traditionally launched with a performance of Hugo von Hofmannstahl's "Everyman" in Cathedral Square. From then on, the Festspielhause is the centre of activity with major concerts or opera in progress all the time. The shorter Easter festival, founded by the late, great conductor Herbert von Karajan emphasises the large scale aspects of music performance in grand opera productions, orchestral concerts and large choral works.



Women in Austria

Austria - a conservative society conscious of tradition - stronger tendency toward "traditional roles" of women than in the U.S.

1991 census: 3.75 million men, 4.04 million women (roughly 52% in Austria (290,000 more women)

60% of women between the ages of 15 and 60 are in the workforce

some laws exist to promote economic and social equality of women - nevertheless inequality in this area still remains

women's earnings: on average, 20 percent lower than male incomes

no women now in military, but GOA policy decision made for the introduction of women in the military within the next year or so (as soon as "implementing laws" can be amended); MOD has appointed person to implement new policy.

over 25 percent of Nationalrat (Parliament's Lower House) MPs are women

petition drive to force discussion in Parliament of women's rights successful in spring 1997: gathered 645,000 signatures - consciousness-raising effect

(demands: make equal rights for women a constitutional law;
give federal subsidies only to those companies
pursuing equal opportunity programs;
pass law stipulating AS 15,000 (approx. \$1,250) per
month as minimum income for men and women;
provide more child care centers;
grant right for parents to work part-time until
child reaches school age, etc.)

high-profile example of tradition of discrimination:
world-famous Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra had no female musicians until last spring, when the ban on women in the orchestra was lifted after strong protests (particularly from critics in the U.S.)

Minister for Women's Affairs: Barbara Prammer

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CHILDREN:

-- CHILD BENEFITS: DESPITE BUDGET CUTS, BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN REMAIN GENEROUS: THE GOVERNMENT PAYS APPROXIMATELY \$1,400 FOR EACH CHILD, PROVIDED IT UNDERGOES ROUTINE HEALTH CHECKS DURING THE FIRST 4 YEARS; MONTHLY ALLOWANCES FOR INFANTS ARE US \$100 PER MONTH -- US \$140 FOR CHILDREN AGED 10 AND OLDER; ALLOWANCES EXPIRE AT THE AGE OF 27 (FOR DEPENDENT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS).

-- PARENTS ARE ENTITLED TO UP TO 2 YEARS OF MATERNITY LEAVE; THEY RECEIVE BETWEEN \$ 500-700/MONTH FOR TWO YEARS.

-- WOMEN'S GROUPS COMPLAIN ABOUT THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT CHILDCARE FACILITIES AS A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO EMPLOYMENT. DESPITE A GOVERNMENT PLEDGE TO BUILD MORE CHILDCARE CENTERS, THE SITUATION REMAINS UNSATISFACTORY FOR MANY FAMILIES.

-- AUSTRIA HAS SIGNED ALMOST ALL PERTINENT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON CHILDREN; IN SOME ASPECTS, NATIONAL LEGISLATION GOES BEYOND THEM.

--CHILD LABOR IS NOT AN ISSUE IN AUSTRIA; EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IS STRICTLY REGULATED AND MONITORED BY LABOR INSPECTORS AS WELL AS BY OTHER AUTHORITIES.

-- THERE IS NO PATTERN OF SOCIETAL ABUSE AGAINST CHILDREN. WHEN OCCASIONAL INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE ARE DISCOVERED, OFFENDERS ARE PUNISHED AND THE CRIMES ARE WIDELY REPORTED BY THE MEDIA.

-- EACH OF AUSTRIA'S NINE "LÄNDER" (STATES) HAS AN "OMBUDSPERSON FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS" WHOSE MAIN FUNCTION IS TO RESOLVE VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS OF CHILDREN.

-- INVESTIGATIONS INTO A SUSPECTED SLOVAK-AUSTRIAN PORNOGRAPHY RING IN 1996 LED TO FURTHER TIGHTENING OF AUSTRIA'S PORNOGRAPHY LAW, MAKING POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY VIDEOS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

-- TYPICALLY, U.S.-ORIGIN ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTS ARE EAGERLY CONSUMED BY AUSTRIAN CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS, ALBEIT WITH SOME DELAY; DISNEY PRODUCTIONS ARRIVE HALF A YEAR LATE. COMMON TOYS INCLUDE U.S. BRANDS OF DOLLS, ACTION FIGURES, ETC. DESPITE THE FACT THAT BASKETBALL IS RARELY PLAYED IN AUSTRIA, U.S. BASKETBALL TEAMS SUCH AS THE CHICAGO BULLS OR THE UTAH JAZZ ENJOY IMMENSE POPULARITY AMONG SCHOOL-AGED KIDS.

EDUCATION

-- AUSTRIANS ARE VERY PROUD OF THEIR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, WHICH RANKS AMONG THE 10-15 BEST SYSTEMS WORLDWIDE. IN A RECENT LONG-TERM OECD STUDY, AUSTRIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLCHILDREN'S SCORES WERE AMONG THOSE OF THE TEN BEST COUNTRIES. ENGLISH AND FRENCH ARE COMMONLY TAUGHT FROM AGES 6 ONWARD. INTEGRATION/CO-EDUCATION OF HANDICAPPED SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN IS MANDATORY.

-- AUSTRIA'S GENEROUS PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM PROVIDES FOR FREE TEXTBOOKS, FREE TRANSPORT TO AND FROM A SCHOOL, AND FREE UNIVERSITIES; NEEDY STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GENEROUS GOVERNMENT-PAID LIVING SUBSIDIES; AS A RESULT, DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS ARE MINIMAL.

-- COMPARED TO THE U.S., HIGH SCHOOL IS GENERALLY MORE DEMANDING IN AUSTRIA; AT AGE 14 EACH STUDENT CHOOSES THE NEXT SCHOOL FOCUSING ON HIS/HER SPECIAL AREAS OF INTEREST (LIBERAL ARTS, LANGUAGES, TECHNOLOGY, MUSIC, ETC.) FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS. HOWEVER, ONLY 13 PERCENT OF 18-26 YEAR-OLDS ARE ENROLLED IN UNIVERSITIES (DESPITE THE FACT THAT ENTRANCE EXAMS ARE NOT REQUIRED). ONLY 3.7 PERCENT OF POPULATION HAS A UNIVERSITY DEGREE. MANY AUSTRIANS ATTEND U.S. UNIVERSITIES FOR POST-GRADUATE STUDIES.

-- VOCATIONAL EDUCATION: AUSTRIA PRIDES ITSELF ON THE SO-CALLED "DUAL SYSTEM" WHEREBY APPRENTICES WORK IN COMPANIES AND ATTEND VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SIMULTANEOUSLY. THE APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM -- AND THE VARIOUS TECHNICAL SCHOOLS/COLLEGES -- HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN PRODUCING SKILLED WORKERS FOR AUSTRIA'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES. SCORES OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS HAVE COME TO STUDY THIS "DUAL SYSTEM."

-- RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IS A COMPULSORY SUBJECT FOR ALL SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN; ONLY RELIGIONS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED MAY BE TAUGHT. THE GOVERNMENT REIMBURSES (RECOGNIZED) CHURCHES FOR TEACHING EXPENSES.

-- SCHOOLING FOR MIGRANT WORKERS/BILINGUAL SCHOOLS: THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES FOR EXTRA TUITION IN GERMAN FOR CHILDREN OF MIGRANT WORKERS; THEY ALSO RECEIVE SPECIAL TUITION IN THEIR MOTHER TONGUE AND IN THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF THEIR HOME COUNTRIES. PUBLIC BILINGUAL SCHOOLS EXIST IN THOSE AREAS OF AUSTRIA WITH A SIGNIFICANT SLOVENE- OR CROATIAN-SPEAKING MINORITY.

-- IN 1976, AUSTRIA DONATED AN "INSTITUTE FOR AUSTRIAN STUDIES," ESTABLISHED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, AS WELL AS A FELLOWSHIP FOR AUSTRIAN AND EUROPEAN STUDIES AT STANFORD -- AS A BICENTENNIAL GIFT; THE "SCHUMPETER FELLOWSHIP" (NAMED AFTER AN AUSTRIAN ECONOMIST) AT HARVARD IS ANOTHER FAMOUS FELLOWSHIP. THE UNIVERSITY OF INNSBRUCK HAS A DECADE-LONG PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS. MOST RECENTLY, AUSTRIA CONCLUDED A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE "NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH" IN NYC. THE "SALZBURG SEMINAR" -- FOUNDED BY THREE HARVARD UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN 1947 -- IS THE MOST FAMOUS U.S.

UCATIONAL INSTITUTE IN AUSTRIA.

Themes to Highlight and/or Areas of National Pride

Marshall Plan

This is the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan. In the Austrian mind, the Marshall Plan is one of the fundamental building blocks on which the postwar friendship between our two countries developed. Austria received more aid per capita than any other country. The "counterpart funds" left over from the Marshall Plan continue to benefit the Austrian economy even today.

Vienna as an International City

Vienna is a UN city. UN organizations headquartered here include the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations Drug Control Program (UNDCP), and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Other international organizations with Vienna headquarters are the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe (OSCE), Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), International Institute for Applied Science Applications (IASA), Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization and the Wassenaar Arrangement (for control of proliferation of sensitive military equipment and technology).

Vienna as Site of Historic Meetings

Vienna has been an historic international gathering place and conference site (from 1815 Congress of Vienna onwards; recent meetings: 1993 Conference on Human Rights; 1986 CSCE follow-up meeting; Carter/Brezhnev 1977 summit; Kennedy/Krushchev 1961 summit).

Austria as Bridge Between East and West

Throughout the Cold War Austria saw itself serving as an East-West "bridge"; now it is seeking to take advantage of history and geography to play a role as a transportation (rail, road, airline) hub; Austrians point to their Cold War experience as a bridge, as well as to their Habsburg past and the lingering connections to the lands of that empire, as giving them special know-how in dealing with Eastern Europe.

Austria and the Environment

Austrians are among the most environmentally-aware people anywhere. Air pollution from truck traffic passing through the country, the decline of their forests, Chernobyl and fear of a Chernobyl-like disaster at Soviet-designed plants in neighboring countries make the environment a front-page issue in Austria. Austria has extensive programs and plays a leading role in the EU on these themes. It has stringent recycling laws - much tougher than in the U.S.; strict emissions laws; far-reaching zoning and land-use regulations, one result of which is the extensive green belt surrounding half of Vienna (the famous "Wienerwald" or Vienna Woods).

Austria's Cultural Heritage

Austria has often been described as a "cultural superpower". Its Salzburg Festival, Wiener Festwochen (Vienna cultural festival), Vienna State Opera, and Vienna Choirboys (founded 1498), are world famous. The extraordinary flowering of painting/music/architecture/scientific thought/psychology that took place around 1900 in Vienna means that much of the thought and style of the modern world has been influenced by Austrian culture.

Land of Refuge

In the wake of the 1956 Hungarian uprising, Austria took in the lion's share of the refugees. Vienna was also the conduit for the Soviet Jews emigrating in the 70's and 80's. Austria has had a leading role in hosting Bosnian refugees - 63,000 according to official figures, plus an estimated 20,000 undocumented Bosnians -- altogether around 20 % of the total Bosnian refugee population). In contrast to the situation in the rest of Western Europe, where Bosnian refugees have been largely excluded from the normal life of the country, these refugees have been given an opportunity to work in Austria. They are not stuck in ghettos, but integrated, and many of them are expected to remain permanently -- another contrast to the situation elsewhere.

A High Quality of Life

Prices are high by American standards, but so are wages. A wide social safety net means that poverty has been virtually eliminated. Austria enjoys low crime rates and (still low but rising) unemployment (1996: 4.4% by OECD rate, compared to EU average of 11%) (Nonetheless, recent years have seen a stagnant economy and low rates of job creation. Steps to cut back on social welfare have been taken and more are under discussion. Many are skeptical of the American "job miracle," mistakenly believing most of the new jobs are in fast food or other low-paying positions.)

Austria's Contribution to Peace

Austria has made a significant contribution to UN peacekeeping -- in the Middle East, on Cyprus and elsewhere. Two Austrian soldiers were killed recently on the Golan Heights. Ex-Chancellor Vranitzky is currently the OSCE special envoy/mediator in Albania. He has led intensive and much-applauded efforts to negotiate an end to the fighting and promote fair elections.

Things to Watch Out For

Kurt Waldheim - The former Austrian President and UN Secretary-General has been on our visa Watch List since '86. The decision was required by U.S. legislation that bars entry to former members of the German armed forces whose units were known to have engaged in war crimes during World War II. Waldheim served in the army headquarters of such a unit in the Balkans, a fact he concealed for decades. We put him on the Watch List because of his "proximity to war crimes." We never accused him of personal involvement in such crimes. Many Austrians fail to make that distinction and believe he was unfairly singled out.

Jewish affairs - This is a sensitive issue, further aggravated by the Waldheim affair. Austria is not as advanced in coming to terms with its Nazi past as some other countries and has only in recent years begun to take significant steps in this direction. There is high Austrian sensitivity toward foreign criticism of antisemitic or xenophobic elements in society.

Joerg Haider - Haider is the highly successful rightwing/populist head of the "Freedom Movement" political party which is now drawing more than 20% of the vote nationally. He is viewed by many in the U.S. media as a rightwing extremist. He has recently courted U.S. approval (attending Martin Luther King Day event in America; holding discussions with Jewish leaders, attending Harvard seminars, etc.).

Neutrality vs. NATO - Whether or not Austria should apply for membership is a highly controversial political issue; the GOA is set to make a decision by early 1998. When asked their opinion, American officials stress that this decision is for the Austrians to make.

Anonymous Bank Accounts - Because of our concern that such accounts could be used for money laundering, we have pressed the Austrians to abolish them, so far unsuccessfully.

Atomic energy - Austria has been a "nuclear-free zone" since a referendum in the '70's and is a vehement opponent of nuclear energy; it opposed U.S. companies' bids in recent years to upgrade Soviet-built reactors in neighboring countries, preferring to encourage conversion to other energy sources.

Women in Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra - There were strong protests during a tour in the U.S. last spring against the ban on women in the orchestra; the ban was subsequently lifted.

Sensitivity as a small country - Austrians have no ambition to be a great power, but rather desire to be appreciated for the qualities that once made them the leaders of an empire. Although many wanted to join with Germany in the wake of World War I, today the overwhelming majority guard their sovereignty jealously. They are sensitive to any threat to their political or economic independence; there is an outcry of concern, for example, when Germans buy vacation homes or companies in Austria. They do not appreciate being confused with "Australia".

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Divider Title: **Cultural Sites**

POSSIBLE CULTURAL SITES

- Schoenbrunn Palace: A Habsburg palace of 1441 rooms, Schoenbrunn was designed by the baroque masters the von Erlachs and built between 1691 and 1712. Emperor Leopold I sought a palace whose that would surpass Versailles. Maria Theresa added today's rococo touches. The palace was the scene of some of the lavish balls during the Congress of Vienna; at the age of 6, Mozart performed in the Hall of Mirrors for Maria Theresa. Schoenbrunn once served as Napoleon's headquarters; President Kennedy met Khrushchev here. Dr. Robert Tidmarsh will guide the First Lady on a tour of the palace and its elaborate gardens and provide commentary on the sites rich history.
- Belvedere Palace: Originally the summer home of Prince Eugene of Savoy, the baroque palace (actually two buildings and a connecting reflecting pool and gardens) houses major museums. The upper palace, which the First Lady will visit, is now the Gallery of Austrian and International Art of the 19th and 20th century, inter alia, featuring an extensive Klimt collection. In May 1955, the peace treaty recognizing Austria as a sovereign state was signed in this building by the foreign ministers of the U.S., France, the UK and the Soviet Union. The palace offers a splendid view of the city of Vienna.
- National Library: Dr. Johann Marte, Director General of the Austrian National Library, will give the First Lady a tour of the unique and extensive (2.6 million) book collection in the Library and its "Prunksaal" (Hall of Honor) -- including rare manuscripts and prints. The Prunksaal is the largest Baroque library in Europe and features many fine statues and frescoes by the Baroque painter Daniel Gran.
- Hofburg Schatzkammer: Part of the Imperial Palace, the Schatzkammer holds the treasures of the Habsburg Empires: the imperial crown of the Holy Roman Empire (craft around 962 AD); the crown of the Habsburg Empire (1602), the Burgundian treasure (15th century) and the treasures of the Order of the Golden Fleece. The most unusual pieces include the third century agate bowl and the 96-inch "horn of the unicorn."
- State Opera House/Jazz Performance: On the evening of July 10, the First Lady will attend a performance by the Kronus Quartet, an American group that has emerged as a leading voice for New York. The Quartet, which has received a number of Grammy nominations and a Grammy for Best Contemporary Composition in 1988, is dedicated to experimentation and performs a wide-range of work. The performance will be at the famed Vienna State Opera House.
- Klosterneuberg: Perched above the Danube, 8 miles north of Vienna, stands the vast monastery and fortress of Klosterneuberg, with the stunning Verduner Altar from 1181. The half-day outing to this suburb of Vienna will include a tour of the monastery, which Emperor Karl VI intended to build as a complex as large as the Escorial near Madrid, and a leisurely return through the hills of the Vienna Woods.

By George H.
Sullivan

and
W.
Hamilton

Source: Fodor's 1997 Vienna
Fodor's 1996 Austria

THE CITIZENS OF VIENNA, it has often been said, waltz only from the waist down, whirling around the crowded dance floor while holding their upper bodies motionless and ramrod straight. The sight can be breathtaking in its sweep and splendor, and its elegant coupling of freewheeling exuberance and rigid formality—of license and constraint—is quintessentially Viennese.

Architecture is frozen music, said the German poet Goethe, and the closest that European architecture ever came to embodying the Viennese waltz, appropriately enough, is the Viennese town palace. Built mostly during the 18th century, these Baroque mansions can be found all over the inner city, and they present in stone and stucco the same artful synthesis of license and constraint as the dance that was so often performed inside them. They make Vienna a Baroque city that is, at its best, an architectural waltz.

Today, visitors who tour Vienna can easily feel they're doing so in three-quarter time. As they explore its churches filled with statues of golden saints and pink-cheeked cherubs, wander through its treasure-packed museums, or while away the afternoon in those meccas of mocha—the inevitable cafés—they can begin to feel lapped in lashings of rich, delicious, whipped cream—the beloved and universal *Schlagobers* that garnishes most Viennese pastries. The ambience of the city is predominantly ornate and fluffy; white horses dancing to elegant music; snow frosting the opulent draperies of Empress Maria Theresa's monument, set in the formal patterns of her lovely square; a marble Johann Strauss, playing madly among a grove of green trees; rich decorations, secretly filling the interior courtyards of town houses that present a severe face to the outside world; the transformation of stark Greek legends by the voluptuous music of Richard Strauss; the tangible, geometric impasto of Klimt's paintings; the stately pavane of a mechanical clock. All these will create in the visitor the sensation of a metropolis that likes to be visited and admired—and which is well worth admiring and visiting.

For many centuries, this has been the case. One of the great capitals of Europe, Vienna was long home to the Habsburg rulers of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Today the empire is long gone, but many reminders of the city's imperial heyday remain, carefully preserved by the tradition-loving Viennese. When it comes to the arts, the glories of the past are particularly evergreen, thanks to the cultural legacy created by the many artistic geniuses nourished here.

From the late 18th century on, Vienna's culture—particularly its musical contribution—was famous throughout Europe. Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Strauss, Mahler, and Bruckner all lived in the city, producing music that is still played in concert halls all over the world. And at the tail end of the 19th century the city's artists and architects—Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Oskar Kokoschka, Josef Hoffmann, Otto Wagner, and Adolf Loos among them—brought about an unprecedented artistic revolution, a revolution that swept away the past and set the stage for the radically experimental art of the 20th century.

At the close of World War I the Austro-Hungarian Empire was dismembered, and Vienna lost its cherished status as the seat of imperial power. Its influence was much reduced, and (unlike most of Europe's other great cities) its population began to decline, from around 2 million to the current 1.5 million. Today, however, the city's future looks bright, for with the collapse of the Iron Curtain, Vienna may at long last regain its traditional status as the hub of central Europe.

For many first-time visitors, the city's one major disappointment is the Danube River. The inner city, it turns out, lies not on the river's main stream but on one of its narrow offshoots, known as the Danube Canal. As a result, the sweeping river views expected by most newcomers fail to materialize.

The Romans are to blame, for when Vienna was founded as a Roman military encampment around AD 100, the walled garrison was built not on the Danube's main stream but rather on the largest of the river's eastern branches, where it could be bordered by water on three sides. The wide present-day Danube did not take shape until the late 19th century, when its various branches were rerouted and merged to prevent flooding.

The Romans maintained their camp for some 300 years (the emperor Marcus Aurelius is thought to have died there in AD 180) and finally abandoned it around AD 400. The settlement survived, however, and by the 13th century growth was sufficient to require new city walls to the south. According to legend, the walls were financed by the English: In 1192 the local duke kidnapped King Richard I the Lionhearted, en route from the Third Crusade, and held him prisoner for two years until he was expensively ransomed.

Vienna's third set of walls dates from 1544, when the existing walls were improved and extended. The new fortifications were built by the Habsburg dynasty, who ruled the Austro-Hungarian Empire for an astonishing 640 years, beginning with Rudolf I in 1273 and ending with Karl I in 1918. The walls stood until 1857, when Emperor Franz Josef finally decreed that they be demolished and replaced by the famous Ringstrasse (Ring Street).

During medieval times the city's growth was relatively slow, and its heyday as a European capital did not begin until 1683, after a huge force of invading Turks laid siege to the city for two months and was finally routed by an army of Habsburg allies. Among the supplies that the fleeing Turks left behind were sacks filled with coffee beans. It was these beans, so the story goes, that gave a local entrepreneur the idea of opening the first public coffeehouse. They remain a Viennese institution to this day.

The passing of the Turkish threat produced a Viennese building boom, and the Baroque style was the architectural order of the day. Flamboyant, triumphant, joyous, and extravagantly ostentatious, the new art form—imported from Italy—transformed the city into a vast theater in the 17th and 18th centuries. Life became a dream—the gorgeous dream of the Baroque, with its gilded madonnas and cherubs, its soaring, twisted columns, its painted heavens on the ceilings, its sumptuous domes. In the 19th century, a reaction set in—the Biedermeier epoch, when middle-class industriousness and sober family values set the style. Then came the Strauss era—that lighthearted period that conjures up imperial balls, “Wine, Women, and Song,” and hand-kissing. Today, visitors will find that all these eras have left their mark on Vienna, making it a city possessed of a special grace. It is this grace that gives Vienna the distinctive architectural character that sets the city so memorably apart.

Splendors of the Habsburgs: A Visit to Schönbrunn Palace

Schönbrunn Palace, the huge Habsburg summer palace laid out by Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach in 1696, lies well within the city limits, just a few subway stops west of Karlsplatz on line U4. The vast and elegantly planted gardens are open daily from dawn till dusk, and multilingual guided tours of the palace interior take place daily.

A visit inside the palace is not included in most general sightseeing tours, which offer either a mercilessly tempting drive past or else an impossibly short half hour or so to explore. The four-hour commercial sightseeing tours of Schönbrunn cost several times what you'd pay if you tackled the easy excursion yourself; their advantage is that they get you there and back with less effort. Go on your own if you want time to wander the magnificent grounds.

The most impressive approach to the palace and its gardens is through the front gate, located on Schönbrunner Schloss-Strasse halfway between the Schönbrunn and Hietzing subway stations. The vast main courtyard is ruled by a formal design of impeccable order and rigorous symmetry: Wing nods at wing, facade mirrors facade, and every part stylistically complements every other. The courtyard, however, turns out to be a mere appetizer; the feast lies beyond. The breathtaking view that unfolds on the other side of the palace is one of the finest set pieces in all Europe and one of the supreme achievements of Baroque planning. Formal *allées* (garden promenades) shoot off diagonally, the one on the right toward the zoo, the one on the left toward a rock-mounted obelisk and a fine false Roman ruin. But these, and the woods beyond, are merely a frame for the astonishing composition in the center: the sculpted fountain, the carefully planted screen of trees behind, the sudden almost vertical rise of the grass-covered hill beyond. And at the crest of the hill, topping it all off, sits a Baroque masterpiece: Johann Ferdinand von Hohenberg's incomparable **Gloriette** (now undergoing an extensive restoration). Perfectly scaled for its setting, the Gloriette—a palatial pavilion that once offered royal guests a place to rest and relax on their tours of the palace grounds—holds the whole vast gar-

den composition together, and at the same time crowns the ensemble with a brilliant architectural tiara.

Within the palace, the magisterial state salons are quite up to the splendor of the gardens, but note the contrast between these chambers—the far more modest rooms in which the rulers—particular Franz—lived and spent most of their time. Of the 1,400 rooms, 40 are open to the public on the regular tour, and two are of special note: the Hall of Mirrors, where the six-year-old Mozart performed for the Empress Maria Theresa in 1762, and the Grand Gallery, where the Congress of Vienna (1815) danced at night after carving up Napoléon's collapsed empire during the day. Ask about viewing the ground-floor living quarters (*Bergzimmer*), where the walls are fascinatingly painted with palm trees, exotic animals, and tropical views. As you go through the palace, take an occasional glance out the windows; you'll be rewarded by a better impression of the beautiful patterns of the formal gardens, punctuated by hedgerows and fountains. These window vistas were enjoyed by rulers from Maria Theresa and Napoléon to Franz Josef.

The palace grounds boast a bevy of splendid *divertissements*. Climb to the *Gloriette* for a panoramic view out over the city as well as the palace complex. If you're exploring on your own, seek out the intriguing Roman ruin, now used as a backdrop for outdoor summer opera. The marble "*schöner Brunnen*" (beautiful fountain) with the young girl pouring water from an urn is nearby. The charming *Tiroler House* to the right of the *Gloriette* was a favorite retreat of Empress Elisabeth; it now includes a small restaurant. The *Tiergarten* (zoo)—claimed to be the world's oldest—has retained its original Baroque decor and, today, has acquired world class under director Helmut Pechlaner. Most of the carriages in the *Wagenburg* (Carriage Museum) are still roadworthy and, indeed, *Schönbrunn* dusted off the gilt-and-black royal funeral carriage that you see here for the burial ceremony of Empress Zita in 1989.

On the grounds to the west is the *Palmenhaus*, a huge greenhouse filled with exotic trees and plants. Close by is the *Schmetterlinghaus*, given over to hordes of live butterflies, orchids, and other floral displays.

Last but not least, the most unusual interior of the palace complex, the restored Imperial subway station, known as the *Hofpavillon*, is just outside the palace grounds (at the northwest corner, a few yards east of the *Hietzing* subway station). Designed by Otto Wagner in conjunction with Joseph Olbrich and Leopold Bauer, the *Hofpavillon* was built in 1899 for the exclusive use of the Emperor Franz Josef and his entourage.

An Imperial City: The Hofburg and the Ringstrasse

The Imperial Palace, known as the *Hofburg*, faces *Kohlmarkt* on the opposite side of *Michaelerplatz*. Until 1918 the *Hofburg* was the home of the Habsburgs, rulers of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Today it is a vast smorgasbord of sightseeing attractions; the Imperial Apartments, two Imperial treasuries, six museums, the National Library, and the famous Winter Riding School all vie for attention. The entire complex takes a minimum of a full day to explore in detail; if your time is limited (or if you want to save most of the interior sightseeing for a rainy day), you should omit the Imperial Apartments and all the museums mentioned below except the *Kunsthistorisches* (the Museum of Art History), the new Museum of Court Silver and Tableware, and probably the *Schatzkammer* (Crown Jewels and Court Treasury). An excellent multilingual, full-color booklet describing the palace in detail is for sale at most ticket counters within the complex; it gives a complete list of attractions and maps out the palace's complicated ground plan and building history wing by wing.

Architecturally, the *Hofburg*—like St. Stephen's—is far from refined. It grew up over a period of 700 years (its earliest mention in court documents is 1279, at the very beginning of Habsburg rule), and its spasmodic, haphazard growth kept it from attaining any sort of unified identity. But many of the bits and pieces are fine, and one interior (the National Library) is a tour de force.

Back out on the square, a left turn from the *Augustinerkirche* exit leads to the entrance to the *Hofbibliothek Prunksaal* (the Grand Hall of the National Library), and a greater contrast between two interiors would be hard to imagine. The *Augustinerkirche* is one of the city's most restrained compositions; the National Library is one of its most ornate. Designed by Fischer von Erlach the Elder just before his death in 1723 and completed by his son, the Grand Hall is full-blown High Baroque, with *trompe-l'oeil* ceiling frescoes by Daniel Gran. As usual, the frescoes are elaborately allegorical, the side ceilings are devoted to personifications of the sciences of Peace and War, and the dome is devoted to a complicated symbolic glorification of the Emperor Charles VI, pictured in a medallion as supported by Apollo and Hercules. The library may not be to everyone's taste, but in the end it is the books themselves that come to the rescue. They are as lovingly displayed as the gilding and the frescoes, and they give the hall a warmth and humanity that the rest of the palace decidedly lacks.

Hildebrandt's most important Viennese work is farther along, at *Rennweg 6A*: the *Belvedere Palace*. In fact the *Belvedere* is two palaces with extensive gardens between. Built outside the city fortifications between 1714 and 1722, the complex originally served as the summer palace of Prince Eugene of Savoy; much later it became the home of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination in 1914 precipitated World War I. Though the lower palace is impressive in its own right (it served as Prince Eugene's living quarters), it is the much larger upper palace, used for state receptions, banquets, and balls, that is Hildebrandt's acknowledged masterpiece. Here the four-power (United States, Britain, France, Soviet Union) treaty was signed in 1955, ending 10 years of occupation and restoring Austrian independence against a pledge of neutrality. The vast crowd packing the park below on May 15, 1955 heard the proclamation from the upstairs balcony, "Austria is free!"

Best approached through the gardens, the upper palace displays a remarkable wealth of architectural invention in its facade, avoiding the main design problem common to all palaces because of their excessive size: monotony on the one hand and pomposity on the other. Hildebrandt's decoration here approaches the Rococo, that final style of the Baroque era when traditional classical motifs all but disappeared in a whirlwind of seductive asymmetric fancy. The main interiors of the palace go even further: Columns are transformed into muscle-bound giants, pilasters grow torsos, capitals sprout great piles of symbolic Imperial paraphernalia, and the ceilings are set aswirl with ornately molded stucco. The result is the finest Rococo interior in the city.

Today both the upper and lower palaces are museums devoted to Austrian painting. The *Österreichisches Barockmuseum* (Austrian Museum of Baroque Art) in the lower palace displays Austrian art of the 18th century (including the original figures from Georg Raphael Donner's *Providence Fountain* in the *Neuer Markt*). Next to the Baroque Museum (outside the west end) is the converted *Orangerie*, devoted to works of the medieval period. The main attraction, however, is the upper palace's collection of 19th- and 20th-century Austrian paintings, centering on the work of Vienna's three preeminent early 20th-century artists: Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, and Oskar Kokoschka. Klimt was the oldest, and by the time he helped found the Secession movement, he had forged a highly idiosyncratic painting style that combined realistic and decorative elements in a way that was completely revolutionary. Schiele and Kokoschka went even further, rejecting the decorative appeal of Klimt's glittering abstract designs and producing works that completely ignored conventional ideas of beauty. Today they are considered the fathers of modern art in Vienna. Modern music, too, has roots in the *Belvedere* complex: the composer Anton Bruckner lived and died here in 1896 in a small garden house now marked by a commemorative plaque.

The Inner City: Historic Heart of Vienna

Good way to break the ice on our introduction to Vienna is to get a general picture of its layout as presented to the cruising bird or airplane pilot. There are several beautiful vantage points from which you can look down and over the city—including the terrace of the Upper Belvedere Palace—but the city's preeminent lookout point, offering fine views in all directions, is gained by starting at the **Stephansdom** (St. Stephen's Cathedral) and toiling up the 345 steps of "Old Steffl" (Old Steven, its south tower) to the observation platform. Youth and agility will get you up there in eight to ten minutes; middle age will do the trick in fifteen to twenty. An elevator, and no exertion, will present you with much the same view from the terrace. From atop, you can see that St. Stephen's is the veritable hub of the city's wheel.

Most of Vienna lies roughly within an arc of a circle, with the straight line of the Danube as its chord. Its heart, the *Innere Stadt* (Inner City) or First District—in medieval times, the entire city of Vienna—is bounded by the Ringstrasse (Ring) which forms almost a circle, with a narrow arc cut off by the Danube Canal, diverted from the main river just above Vienna and flowing through the city to rejoin the parent stream just below it. The city spreads out from the cathedral, accented by the series of magnificent buildings erected—beginning in the 1870s, when Vienna reached the zenith of its imperial prosperity—around the Ringstrasse: the Opera House, the National Art Gallery and the National Museum of Natural History, the "New Wing" of the Hofburg, the House of Parliament, the Rathaus, the University, and the Votivkirche.

For more than eight centuries, the enormous bulk of the cathedral has remained the nucleus around which the city has grown. The bird's-eye view can be left until the last day of your visit when the city's landmarks will be more familiar. First day or last, the vistas are memorable, especially if you catch them as the cathedral's famous "Pummerin" (the mer) bell is tolling.

As architecture, St. Stephen's possesses a fierce presence that is blatantly un-Viennese, a stylistic jumble, ranging from 13th-century Romanesque to 15th-century Gothic. Like the exterior, St. Stephen's interior lacks the soaring unity of Europe's greatest Gothic cathedrals, with much of its decoration dating from the later Baroque era.

The wealth of decorative sculpture in St. Stephen's can be demoralizing to the nonspecialist, so if you wish to explore the cathedral in detail, you may want to buy the admirably complete English-language description sold in the small room marked *Schriften und Opferkerzen* (Pamphlets and Votive Candles). One particularly masterly work, however, should be seen by everyone: the stone pulpit attached to the second freestanding pier on the left of the central nave, carved by Anton Pilgram around 1510. The spun-sugar delicacy of its decoration would in itself set the pulpit apart, but even more intriguing are its five sculpted figures. Carved around the outside of the pulpit proper are the four Latin Fathers of the Church (from left to right: Saint Augustine, Saint Gregory, Saint Jerome, and Saint Ambrose), and each is given an individual personality so sharply carved as to suggest satire, perhaps of living models. (The four figures may also have been meant to represent the Four Temperaments of ancient lore: melancholic, phlegmatic, choleric, and sanguine.) There is no satire suggested by the fifth figure, however; below the pulpit's stairs Pilgram sculpted a fine self-portrait, showing himself peering out a half-open window. Note the toads, lizards, and other creatures climbing the spiral rail alongside the steps up to the pulpit. As you walk among the statues and aisles, remember that many notable events occurred here, including the marriage of Mozart in 1782 and his funeral in December 1791.

Stephen's was devastated by fire in the last days of World War II, and extent of the damage may be seen by leaving the cathedral through the south porch, where a set of prereconstruction photographs commemorates the disaster. Restoration was protracted and difficult, but today the cathedral—phoenix-like—once again dominates the center of the city.

Return to Kärntner Strasse, and follow it south to the Ringstrasse. The building on the right, facing the Opernring, is the famous Vienna Opera House. The first of the Ringstrasse projects to be completed (in 1869), it suffered severe bomb damage during World War II (only the outer walls, the front facade, and the main staircase area behind it survived). Though it was rebuilt, it remains curiously dated, unable to belie its 1950s look, for the cost of fully restoring the 19th-century interior decor was prohibitive. Tours of the Opera are given regularly, but starting times vary according to opera rehearsals; the current schedule is posted at the east side entrance under the arcade on the Kärntner Strasse marked guided tours, where the tours begin. Alongside under the arcade is an information office that also sells tickets to the main opera and the Volksoper (Open weekdays 10-one hr before performance begins; Sat. 9-2).

The construction of the Opera is the stuff of legend. When the foundation was laid, the plans for the Opernring were not yet complete, and in the end the avenue turned out to be several feet higher than originally planned. As a result, the Opera lacked the commanding prospect that its architects, Eduard van der Nüll and August Sicard von Sicardsburg, had intended, and even Emperor Franz Josef pronounced the building a bit low to the ground. For the sensitive van der Nüll (and here the story becomes a bit suspect), failing his beloved emperor was the last straw. In disgrace and despair, he committed suicide. Sicardsburg died of grief shortly thereafter. And the emperor, horrified at the deaths, his innocuous remark had caused, limited all his future artistic pronouncements to a single immutable formula: *Es war sehr schön, es hat mich sehr gefreut* ("It was very nice, it pleased me very much").

CULTURAL EVENTS

- Concert: A concert with approximately 80 invited guests will be held in the First Lady's honor at Schloss Mirabell's Marble Hall. The concert will feature Thomas Hampson, America's leading baritone (his recordings include six Grammy nominations), and a piano recital by the young artist Elisabeth Schantl (age 14) from Salzburg.

- Mozart's House: Located on Salzburg's famous and colorful "Getreidegasse," this is the house where Mozart was born in 1756. The child prodigy composed most of his juvenile works here. The First Lady will be able to view many mementos of the composer's life, including musical instruments used by Mozart.

HIKE

The First Lady will take the Untersberg Gondelbahn (cable car) to the peak of the Untersberg mountain near Salzburg and proceed from there on a four-hour mountain hike to the Salzburger Hochthron. From the peak of the Untersberg (6000 feet), there is a splendid panorama of the Salzburg basin, the Salzburg Alps (Watzmann, Steinernes Meer, Staufen mountains), the Wilder Kaiser and the Dachstein mountains. Guether Karnutsch, an expert, English-speaking guide, will accompany the First Lady and provide commentary on the Alpine surroundings. The First Lady and party will stop for refreshments and a local musical recital at the "Zeppezauerhaus," a mountain retreat about 10 minutes off the hiking route. At the end of the hike, return will be made by cable car to the valley and Salzburg.

6 Salzburg

Mozart, Mozart, Mozart! Birthplace of the great 18th-century composer, Salzburg is a world-class music mecca that hosts the world's snobbiest musical festival every summer. But many come to tour this Golden City of High Baroque to the strains of music from the film that made Salzburg a household name. From Winkler Terrace to Nonnberg Convent, it's hard to go exploring without hearing someone hum "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?"

By Delia
Meh-Cohn

ALL SALZBURG IS A STAGE," Count Ferdinand Czernin wrote. "Its beauty, its tradition, its history enshrined in the grey stone of which its buildings are made, its round of music, its crowd of fancy-dressed people, all combine to lift you out of everyday life, to make you forget that somewhere far off, life hides another, drearier, harder, and more unpleasant reality." Shortly after the count's book, *This Salzburg*, was published in 1937, reality arrived, but having survived the Nazis, Salzburg once again became one of the Austria's top drawing cards. Art lovers call it the Golden City of High Baroque; historians classify it the Florence of the North, or the German Rome; and, of course, being the birthplace of Mozart, music lovers know it as the Festival City—home of the world-famous Salzburger Sommerfestspiele (Salzburg Music Festival).

The natural setting is perfect. Salzburg lies on both banks of the Salzach River, at the point where it is pinched between two mountains, the Kapuzinerberg on one shore, the Mönchsberg on the other. In broader view are many beautiful Alpine peaks. Man's contribution is a trove of buildings worthy of such surroundings. Salzburg's rulers pursued construction on a grand scale ever since Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau—the "Medici prince-bishop who preached in stone"—began his regime in the latter part of the 16th century. Astonishingly, they seem to have shared the same artistic bent, with the result that Salzburg's many fine buildings blend into a harmonious whole. Perhaps nowhere else in the world is there so unanimous a flowering of Baroque architecture. Salzburg is a riot of the Baroque, which is quite proper, for Baroque is a riotous style.

While Salzburg is a visual pageant of Baroque motifs, music is the aural element that shapes the life of the city. It is heard everywhere: in the churches, castles, palaces, and, of course, the concert halls. Although the young Mozart was the wonder boy of Europe, Salzburg did him no particular honor in his lifetime. It is making up for it now. Since 1925, the Salzburg Festival honors its native son, whose genius no superlatives can adequately describe, with performances by the world's greatest musicians. To see and hear them, crowds pack the city from the last week in July through the month of August (the city's hotel rooms are solidly booked months in advance of the season). Whether performed in the Festspielhaus (festival hall) or outdoors with opulent Baroque volutes and scrolls of Salzburg's architecture as background, Mozart's music remains the heartbeat of the city.

Only the tourist who visits Salzburg outside of the festival season will have time to explore its other fascinating attractions. Many visitors love to make the town's acquaintance by visiting all the sights featured in *The Sound of Music*, filmed here in 1964. It's hard to take in the Mirabell Gardens, Winkler's Terrace, the Pfedereschwemme fountain, Nonnberg Convent, the Residenzplatz, and all the other filmed locations without imagining Maria and the von Trapp children trilling "Do-Re-Mi." (Like Mozart, the von Trapp family—who escaped the Third Reich by fleeing their beloved country—were little appreciated at home; Austria was the only place in the world where the film failed—it closed after a single week's showing in Vienna.) Whether it's the melodies of Rodgers and Hammerstein or Johannes Chrysostomus Theophilus Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart filling your head, the city of Salzburg is a symphony of both sounds and sights.

The old city, where most of the major sights are concentrated, is a very compact area between the jutting outcrop of the Mönchsberg and the Salzach River. The cathedral and interconnecting squares surrounding it form what used to be the religious center, around which the major churches and the old archbishops' residence are arranged. The rest of the old city belonged to the wealthy burghers: the Getreidegasse, the Alter Markt (old market), the town hall, and the tall, plain burghers' houses (like Mozart's birthplace). The Mönchsberg cliffs emerge unexpectedly behind the old city, crowned to the east by the Hohensalzburg Fortress. Across the river, in the small area between the cliffs of the Kapuzinerberg and the riverbank, is Steingasse, a narrow medieval street where the working people lived. Northwest of the Kapuzinerberg lie Mirabell Palace and its gardens, now an integral part of the city, but formerly a country estate on the outskirts of Salzburg.

Tour 1 covers the architectural and cultural riches of the old city. Tour 2 starts at the fortress and then crosses the river to explore the other bank. Ideally you should take one day for each tour. An alternative, if you enjoy exploring churches and castles, is to stop Tour 1 after the first Time Out and go directly up to the fortress, either on foot or by returning through the cemetery to the funicular railway. Tour 3 is a selection of short excursions from Salzburg.

Tour 1 The Old City: From the Residenz to Mozart's Birthplace

Numbers in the margin correspond to points of interest on the Salzburg map.

To most people, Salzburg today means the city of Mozart. Ever since the film *Amadeus*, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart has been the 18th-century equivalent of a rock star. Born in Salzburg on January 27, 1756, he crammed a prodigious number of compositions into the 35 short years of his life, many of which he spent in Salzburg. The following tour does not take you to all the landmarks of his Salzburg sojourn (he moved to Vienna in 1781)—others are included in Tour 2—but you'll explore the heart of the Baroque Salzburg he set to music. Don't forget to take Mozart tapes along for your Walkman.

- ① The tour begins at **Mozartplatz**; here you will find the main tourist information office, where you can get a city map. The statue of Mozart, erected in 1842, was the first recognition the great composer received from his birth-town since his death as a pauper in Vienna in 1791. As you will notice, the Mozart memorial industry has grown considerably since then. While the statue's pedestal was being constructed, a mosaic with the words "Here Dwells Happiness—May Nothing Evil Enter" was uncovered, from the time when Salzburg was the Roman city of Juvavum.

Walk past the Glockenspiel café into the next square, **Residenzplatz**, the center of the Baroque city laid out around 1600 by Archbishop Wolf Dietrich. An admirer of the Italian Renaissance, Wolf Dietrich hired an Italian architect, Scamozzi, who fervently believed that a perfect city required five squares. A cemetery and 55 old houses were demolished to make way for them, giving the old city its characteristic spacious feel. On the left is the famous carillon tower, the **Glockenspiel**, perched on top of the **Neubau**, Wolf Dietrich's government palace and his first attempt at the Baroque. The carillon was a later addition, brought from

35 bells play classical tunes (usually by Mozart, Haydn, and who) at 7 AM, 11 AM, and 6 PM, with a charming lack of concern for musical accuracy. (You can get a deafening close-up of the action on a tour, at 10:45 and 5:45 in good weather; daily mid-Mar.–Oct.; weekdays Nov.–mid-Mar.) From Easter to October, the bells are immediately followed by a resounding retort from the 200-pipe "bull" organ housed in the Hohensalzburg Fortress. Details of the music are listed on a notice board across the square on the corner of the Residenz building, where, fittingly enough, Mozart composed his first opera.

- ② The **Residenz** was built between 1600 and 1619 as the home of the prince-archbishops. Until the year 987, the prince-archbishop had also served as abbot of St. Peter's monastery, but as successive prelates assumed more secular roles, they developed grander living styles. The Residenz now houses an excellent small art museum, the **Residenzgalerie**, strong in 17th-century Dutch and Flemish art (Rembrandt, Brouwer, Rubens) and paintings of Salzburg. The Rittersaal (Knight's Hall), often used for concerts, can be seen with the rest of the **state rooms** on a guided tour. **Residenzplatz 1**, ☎ 0662/8042-2690. ⚡ AS45 adults, AS35 senior citizens, AS15 children. Art museum: AS45 adults, AS35 senior citizens, AS15 children. Combined tickets: AS70 adults. ☺ Guided tours: July and Aug., daily every 30 min 10–4:30; Sept.–June, weekdays 10, 11, noon, 2, and 3. Art museum: Daily 10–5; closed Wed. Oct.–Mar.

From the Residenzplatz, walk through the arches into **Domplatz**. The cathedral square is a complete concept. It is not difficult to see why Max Reinhardt chose it as the setting for the annual summer production of Hugo von Hofmannsthal's *Jedermann* (Everyman). In the center rises the Virgin's Column, and at one side is what is considered to be the first early Baroque building north of the Alps and one of the finest, the **Dom** (Salzburg Cathedral). Its facade is of marble, its towers reach 250 feet into the air, and it holds 10,000 people. There has been a cathedral on this spot since the 8th century, but the present structure dates from the 17th. Archbishop Wolf Dietrich took advantage of (some say he caused) the old Romanesque-Gothic cathedral's destruction by fire in 1598 to demolish the remains and make plans for a huge new building facing onto the Residenzplatz. But the townspeople revolted against his excesses and in 1612 imprisoned him in the fortress. His successor, Markus Sittikus, and the new court architect, Santino Solari, built the Renaissance-style cathedral, which was consecrated with great ceremony in 1628. The simple gray-and-white interior of the church, a peaceful counterpoint to the usual Baroque splendor, dates from a later renovation. Mozart was christened in the 13th-century font inside the cathedra, where he was organist from 1779 to 1781. Some of his compositions, such as the *Coronation Mass*, were written for the cathedral, and many were performed there for the first time. On Sunday, mass is sung here at 10 AM. The **Domuseum**, beside the main doors, displays the cathedral's treasures, along with an odd collection of "arts and wonders" from the 17th century. ☎ 0662/844189 or 0662/842591-120. ⚡ AS40 adults, AS30 senior citizens, AS5 children. ☺ Mid-May–mid-Oct., Mon.–Sat. 10–5; Sun and holidays 11–5.

- ③ Walk into the Kapitelplatz through the arches across the square and go through two wrought-iron gateways into the eerie but intimate **St. Peter's Cemetery**. Just before you reach the fountain in the center, look to your right: Here lies Harry J. Collins, the only American to be

small recital hall and the Mozart Audio and Video Museum, an archive of thousands of recordings of Mozart works plus related films and video productions, all of which you can see or hear. *Makartplatz 8*, ☎ 0662/844313.

Tour 3 Short Excursions from Salzburg

★ **Lustschloss Hellbrunn**, 6½ kilometers (4 miles) south of Salzburg, was the pleasure palace of the prince-archbishops. It was built in the early 17th century by Santino Solari for Markus Sittikus, after he'd imprisoned his uncle, Wolf Dietrich, in the fortress. The castle has some fascinating rooms, including an octagonal music room and a banquet hall with a trompe-l'oeil ceiling. In the formal Baroque gardens one corner is reserved for the **Wasserspiele**, or trick fountains: Some of the exotic and humorous fountains spurt water from strange places at unexpected times—you will probably get wet. The **Monatsschlösschen**, the old hunting lodge, now contains an excellent folklore museum; the palace deer park now sports a zoo (see What to See and Do with Children, below). You can get to Hellbrunn by Bus 55, by car on Route 159, or by bike or on foot along the beautiful Hellbrunner Allee past several 17th-century princely mansions. The restaurant in the castle serves good food. ☎ 0662/820372. *Guided tour of the castle, trick fountains, and museum.* ➔ AS48 adults, AS24 children; park is free. ☉ Apr. and Oct., daily 9–4:30; May–Sept., daily 9–5; evening tours July–Aug., hourly 6–10.

Oberndorf, a little village 21 kilometers (13 miles) north of Salzburg, has just one claim to fame; it was where, on Christmas Eve, 1818, the organist and schoolteacher Franz Gruber composed *Silent Night* to a lyric by the local priest, Josef Mohr. The church where the masterpiece was created was demolished and replaced in 1936 by a tiny memorial chapel containing a copy of the original composition (the original is in the Carolino-Augusteum Museum in Salzburg); stained-glass windows representing Gruber and Mohr; and a nativity scene, donated by the Noppinger Brewery (one of the best places in town to eat). The local **Heimatsmuseum** opposite the chapel, about a 10-minute walk from the center along the riverbank, documents the history of the carol. You can get to Oberndorf by the local train (opposite the main train station) or by car on Oberndorferstrasse. *Heimatsmuseum, Stille-Nacht-Platz 7*, ☎ 06272/7569. ➔ AS35 adults, AS20 children. ☉ Daily 9–noon and 1–5; closed Feb. *Memorial chapel: daily 8–5.*

You can take Bus 55 from Salzburg to the **Untersberg** and ascend the mountain by a daringly constructed aerial cable car. And you might visit the spa town of Berchtesgaden/Königsee, over the border in Germany, and the Eagle's Nest, Hitler's retreat on top of a nearby mountain.

What to See and Do with Children

Hellbrunn (see Tour 3) is probably the top attraction for children. Apart from the trick fountains, it has a well-designed zoo featuring free-flying vultures and Alpine creatures that largely roam unhindered, contained by moats. *Schloss Hellbrunn*, ☎ 0662/820176. ➔ AS60 adults, AS25 children. ☉ Apr.–Sept., daily 8:30–6; Oct.–Mar., daily 8:30–4.

Unfortunately, there are no boat rides on the Salzach River, but a **Fiaker ride** might make up for it (see Getting Around, below). And in

around the Christmas markets. *Residenzplatz*, ☎ 0662/844772. AS35c per *Fiaker* (4 people) for 20–25 min.

The **funicular** up to the fortress (see Tour 2) is a must for children, and the fortress itself has plenty of diversions: cannon, armor, and ancient torture instruments, as well as eerie narrow passages and long spiral staircases.

If you want to give older children a treat, try an evening at the puppet opera in the **Marionettentheater** (see Tour 2). Ushers will provide cushions to boost smaller children up to good viewing height.

SHOPPING

For a small city, Salzburg has a wide range of stores. The specialties are traditional clothing, like lederhosen and loden coats; jewelry; glassware; handicrafts; confectionery; dolls in native costume; Christmas decorations; sports equipment; silk flowers; and *Gewürzsträussl*, a bundle of whole spices bunched and arranged to look like a bouquet of flowers.

Stores are open weekdays 8–6 and Saturday 8–noon. Many stores stay open until 5 on the first Saturday of the month and on Saturday during the festival and before Christmas. Some stores stay open until 8 on Thursday or Friday. Only shops in the railway station are open on Sunday.

Shopping Streets

The most fashionable specialty stores and gift shops will be found along Getreidegasse, Judengasse, and around Residenzplatz. Linzer Gasse, across the river, is less crowded and good for more practical items. There are also interesting antiques shops and jewelry workshops in the medieval buildings along Steingasse.

Specialty Stores

Antiques

Along Gstättengasse you'll find, among others, **Kirchmayer** (No. 3, ☎ 0662/842219), **Peter Paul Burges** (No. 23, ☎ 0662/848115), **Schöppl** (No. 5, ☎ 0662/842154), and **Marianne Reuter** (No. 9, ☎ 0662/842136). Check shops along the Bürgerspitalgasse as well. For an amazing assortment of secondhand curiosities, try **Trödlerstube** (Linzer Gasse 50, ☎ 0662/871453). An annual antiques fair takes place from Palm Sunday to Easter Monday in the state rooms of the Residenz.

Confectionery

If you're looking for the kind of *Mozart Kugeln* (chocolate marzipan confections) you can't buy at home, try the two stores that claim to have discovered them: **Konditorei Schatz** (Getreidegasse 3, passageway, ☎ 0662/842792) and **Konditorei Fürst** (Brodgasse 13, ☎ 0662/843759–0).

Galleries

Salzburg is a good place to buy modern paintings, and there are several galleries on Sigmund-Haffner-Gasse. One of the best known, which also has an exhibition gallery plus an intimate coffee bar, is **Galerie Welz** (Sigmund-Haffner-Gasse 16, ☎ 0662/841771–0).

July–Sept. daily 8–7. Tours every ½ hr, Nov.–Mar., daily 10–4:30; Apr.–June, Sept.–Oct., daily 9:30–5; July–Aug., daily 9–5:30.

- 27 Leave the fortress by the footpath but turn right toward the **Nonnberg Convent** rather than taking the steps into town. The convent was founded around 700 by St. Rupert, and his niece, St. Erentrudis, was the first abbess. It's more famous these days as Maria's convent—both the one in *The Sound of Music* and that of the real Maria. She returned to marry her Captain von Trapp here in the Gothic church, which dates from the late 1400s but contains 12th-century frescoes from the earlier Romanesque building. Each evening in May at 6:45, the nuns sing a 15-minute service called *Maiandacht*. Their beautiful voices can be heard also at midnight mass on December 24.

Return along the path to the first set of steps, walk down them into Kaigasse, and continue on to Mozartplatz. From here you can cross the Salzach River over the footbridge, Mozartsteg. Cross the road and walk west a minute or two along Imbergstrasse until you see a bookstore on the corner. Here a little street leads into **Steingasse**. This narrow medieval street, walled in on one side by the bare cliffs of the Kapuzinerberg, backed right onto the riverfront before the Salzach was controlled. While the burghers lived on the other side of the river, this was where the tradespeople lived: dyers, tanners, potters, and so on. Nowadays it's a fascinating mixture of artists' workshops, unfashionable antiques shops, and trendy nightclubs, but with its high (and now fashionable) houses the street still manages to convey an idea of how life used to be in the Middle Ages. Walk through the **Steintor** gate into the oldest section of the street; here on summer afternoons the light can be particularly striking. No. 23 on the right still has deep, slanted peep-windows for guarding the gate.

A little farther up the street, at Steingasse 9, is the house where Josef Mohr, who wrote the words to "Silent Night," was born in 1792. Climb the adjacent stone stairway, which leads up the Kapuzinerberg, through a maze of medieval doorways. At the top of the first flight of steps is a tiny, newly renovated chapel, **St. Johann am Imberg**, built in 1681.

- 28 Farther up you'll see a signpost and gate to the **Hettwer Bastion**, part of the old city walls, which is one of the most spectacular viewpoints in Salzburg. Continue up the path to the simple **Kapuziner-Kloster**, the monastery where Pope John Paul II stayed on a visit to Salzburg in 1988. From here, follow the winding road down past the Stations of the Cross along either side. This road is called Stefan-Zweig Weg, for the Austrian Jewish writer who lived on this mountain until 1935, when he realized that Hitler would soon be crossing the border.

TIME OUT A few steps to your left beyond the end of Steingasse brings you to **Platzl**, at Dreifaltigkeitsgasse 3, open from 7 AM offering snacks, pastries and a decent noontime menu.

Turn right at the bottom of the road into Linzer Gasse, the New Town's answer to the Getreidegasse, less chic but less crowded. Continue up this street until you come to St. Sebastian's church on the left. Shortly before the church is an archway that leads behind the church into **St. Sebastian's Cemetery**, one of the most peaceful spots in Salzburg. Archbishop Wolf Dietrich commissioned the cemetery at the end of the 16th century to replace the old cathedral graveyard, which he planned to demolish. It was built in the style of an Italian *campo*

here, including the physician and philosopher Paracelsus (by the church door); Mozart's wife, Constanze; and his father, Leopold (by the central path leading to the mausoleum). ☉ Daily, dawn–6. If gate is closed, try going through church or back entry on Paris-Lodron-Str.

When you leave the cemetery, walk north through a passageway until you reach Paris-Lodron-Strasse. To the left as you walk west down this street is the **Loreto Church** (1633). At Mirabellplatz, cross the road to the **Mirabell Gardens** (where Julie Andrews and her 7 charges do-remi-ed); look for the small entrance that takes you into the orangery. Before you explore the gardens, you may wish to visit the museum, opposite the orangery, which features a collection of late 17th- and 18th-century paintings, sketches, and models, illustrating the development of the extravagant Baroque vision of life. **Orangeriegarten**, ☎ 0662/877432. ➔ AS40 adults, AS20 senior citizens. ☉ Tues.–Sat. 9–noon and 2–5, Sun. and holidays 9–noon.

The Baroque gardens were laid out partly by Fischer von Erlach. The most famous section is the Dwarf's Garden with its statues of the 12 Danubian dwarfs, the real-life models of which were presented to the bishop by the landgrave of Götting. Wolf Dietrich built the gardens in 1606 as a setting for the "Taj Mahal of Salzburg," the sumptuous

★ 27 **Mirabell Palace**, constructed for his mistress, Salome Alt, and their 10 children; it was originally called *Altenau* in her honor. In the palace itself, now the city hall, you'll find the Angel Staircase, romantically draped with sleepy cupids, leading to the Marble Hall, which is used for weddings and concerts. Outdoor concerts are held at the palace and gardens, May through August, Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. No phone. ➔ Free. ☉ Weekdays except holidays 8–6.

- 28 Turn left out of the park on the busy Schwarzstrasse. Along this road you will find the **Mozarteum**, the Academy of Music and Performing Arts and the home of the enormous Mozart archive. The **Zauberflötenhäuschen**, the little summerhouse in which Mozart is said to have composed his opera *The Magic Flute*, is in the Mozarteum garden, having been dismantled and transported here from its original location in Vienna in 1877 (it moved several times before finding its final resting place). Schwarzstr. 26, ☎ 0662/88940–0.

- 29 Next door is the **Marionettentheater**, an outstanding puppet theater that specializes in opera performances. The theater company travels all over the world, but it will be in Salzburg around Christmas, during the late-January Mozart Week, Easter, and from May to September (schedule subject to change). The repertoire is heavy on Mozart operas, which seem particularly suited to the skilled puppetry; a delightful production of *Così fan Tutte* captures the humor of the work better than most stage versions. Schwarzstr. 24, ☎ 0662/872406–0. ➔ Tickets: AS250–AS400. ☉ Box office: Mon.–Sat. 9–1 and 2 hrs before performances.

- Turn left at the corner, around the **Landestheater** (1775), and continue into Makartplatz, which is dominated at the far end by Fischer von Erlach's first architectural work in Salzburg, the **Dreifaltigkeitskirche** (Church of the Holy Trinity), built 1694–1707. It was patterned after a church by Borromini in Rome and prefigures Fischer von Erlach's Karlskirche in Vienna. Across from the Hotel Bristol is **Mozart's Residence**, where he lived with his family from 1773 until his abrupt departure from Salzburg in 1781, following a dispute with the archbishop.

cut into the cliffs. (From here you can walk to the fortress along the top of the Mönchsberg in about 20 minutes.)

The festival hall complex is made up of three theaters: the small hall, originally built in 1937 and known today as the Mozart Stage; the large hall, built into the solid rock of the Mönchsberg in 1960 and, because of its width, known as the Wagner Stage; and an open-air theater, the old summer riding school, which was cut into the cliffs around 1600 and adapted for the festival when it began in 1926. The theaters are linked by tunnel to an enormous parking space hidden inside the hill and are decorated with works of modern art. If you want to see the inside of the performance halls, you'll have to go to a concert. *Hofstallgasse 1*, ☎ 0662/8045.

From Hofstallgasse, you can either walk directly up to Herbert-von-Karajan-Platz or, preferably, walk around by Universitätsplatz to take a look at one of Fischer von Erlach's Baroque masterpieces, the **Kollegienkirche**, built 1696–1707. Despite its relatively small area, the interior has a liberating feeling of space and light, unusual for this style of architecture.

In Herbert-von-Karajan-Platz is another point at which building and cliff meet: **Pferdeschwemme**, a royal horse trough, decorated with wild and romantic horse paintings. To the left is **Neutor**, the impressive road tunnel blasted through the Mönchsberg in 1764. Looking back toward Universitätsplatz you'll see the famous hotel and restaurant the **Goldener Hirsch**, its two buildings painted pink and blue.

The arcaded Renaissance court on your left once housed the city's hospital; now part of the space is given over to the **Spielzeugmuseum**, a small but delightful museum of toys and teddy bears (see What to See and Do with Children, below).

Pass by the tiny Gothic church of **St. Blasius**, built in 1350, which has a special entrance for patients from the old hospital next door. Follow the road on through the **Gstättentor**, a street lined with 15th-century houses clinging to the cliffs. At Neumayr-Platz you'll find the **Mönchsberg elevator**, which takes you up through solid rock to Café Winkler; turn right out of the lift onto Winkler Terrace. *Gstättengasse 13*. ☎ Round-trip fare: AS25 adults, AS13 children. ☺ Tues.–Sun. 9 AM–11 PM, Mon. 9 AM–7 PM.

TIME OUT At the top, follow the signs and path south to **Bürgerwehr-Einkehr**, a popular café-restaurant open May–mid-October with a magnificent view of the churches and the fortress from its outdoor garden.

After you descend from the heights, turn left into the short street leading to Museumsplatz. The **Carolino Augusteum museum** includes remnants of Salzburg's Roman ruins, an outstanding collection of old musical instruments, and generally interesting seasonal exhibits. *Museumsplatz 1*, ☎ 0662/843145. ☎ AS40 adults, AS15 children; Combined ticket with toy museum: AS60 adults, AS20 children. ☺ Tues. 9 AM–8 PM, Wed.–Sun. 9–5.

Walk back toward the Blasius church, which stands at the beginning of the Old City's major shopping street, **Getreidegasse**. The name means "grain street," and in summer it's as closely packed with people as a corn cob is with kernels. You can always escape for a while through one of the numerous passageways—some with flower-bedecked arcaded

Exploring

- ★ ⑪ Getreidegasse 9 is **Mozart's Birthplace**, now a museum. The third floor, where the Mozart family lived until 1773, is furnished much as it was then. Mozart's first violin (even at age four, he outplayed visiting court musicians) and piano are on display, along with portraits of the family, letters, and other belongings. The newly reorganized museum complex spills over into the stairways as well as other floors and has been arranged to allow visitors a better look at the exhibits. *Getreidegasse 9*, ☎ 0662/844313. ☎ AS62 adults, AS47 senior citizens, AS17 children. ☺ Sept.–June, daily 9–6; July–Aug., daily 9–7.
- ⑫ If you continue down Getreidegasse, you will pass the **Rathaus** (town hall) on your left, a remarkably insignificant building in the Salzburg skyline, no doubt reflecting the historical weakness of the burghers vis-à-vis the Church. A little farther on, to the right, is the **Alter Markt**, the old marketplace and the center of secular life over the past few centuries. The square is lined with sober 17th-century middle-class houses. Look in at the old royal pharmacy, the **Hofapotheke**, still functioning today, with its incredibly ornate black-and-gold Rococo interior built in 1760 and a curious apothecarial smell. Across the square, next to the famous **Tomaselli** café, is the smallest house in Salzburg, now an optician's. The slanting roof is decorated with a dragon gargyle. In the center of the square, surrounded by flower stalls, the marble **St. Florian's Fountain** was dedicated in 1734 to the patron saint of fire-fighters. From here you can head back to Mozartplatz. Sweeten your return with a few **Mozart Kugeln**—the omnipresent candy balls of pistachio-flavored marzipan rolled in nougat cream and dipped in dark chocolate.

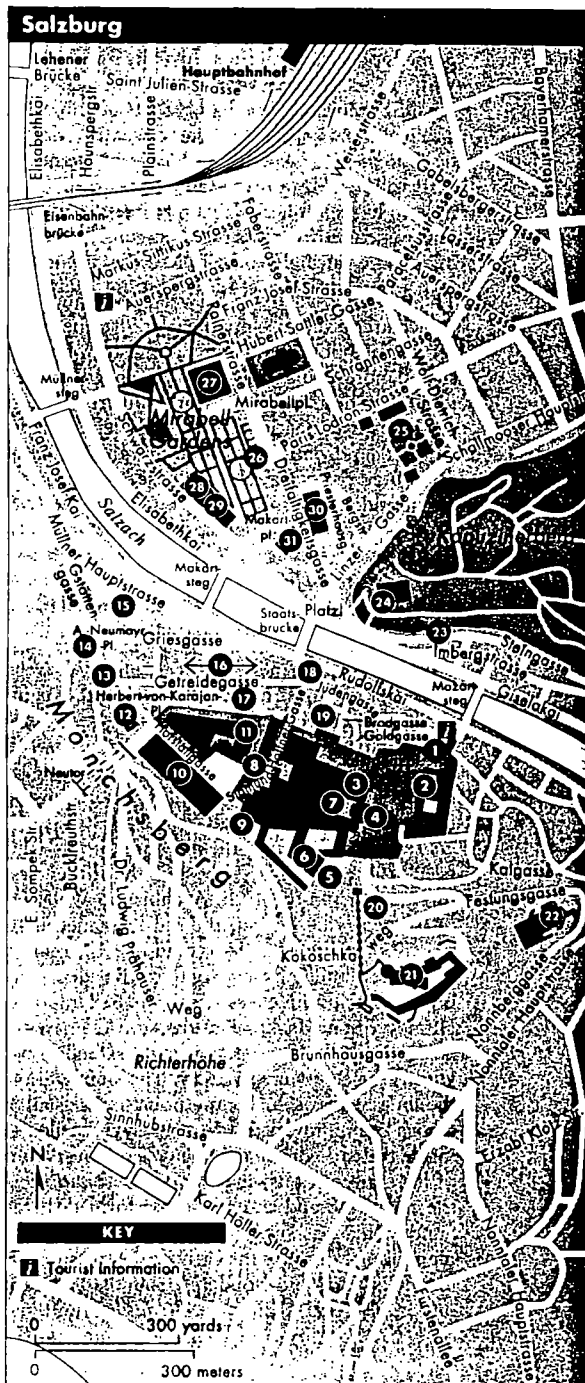
Tour 2

The Fortress and the New Town

Ranging from the "acropolis" of the city—the medieval Fortress Hohensalzburg—to the celebrated Salzburg Marionette Theater, this tour captures the city in all its charm. Along the way, we stop at other Mozart landmarks, including the Zauberflötenhäuschen, which is the mouthful used to describe the little summerhouse where Wolfi finished composing *The Magic Flute*. We begin at the entrance to the **funicular railway** (Festungsbahn) by St. Peter's Cemetery. If it is not running, you can walk up the zigzag path that begins a little farther up Festungsgasse; it's steep in parts but gives a better impression of the majesty of the fortress. *Festungsgasse 4*, ☎ 0662/842682. ☎ Round-trip: AS32 adults, AS16 children; one way: AS22 adults, AS11 children. ☺ Every 10 min; Oct.–Apr. daily 9–5; May–Sept. daily 8 AM–9 PM. Closed mid-Nov.–early Dec. and most of Jan. Note that descent on foot is possible only if you have a ticket for the fortress.

- ★ ① The **Fortress Hohensalzburg**, founded in 1077, is the largest preserved medieval fortress in central Europe. It was originally built by Salzburg's Archbishop Gebhard, who had thrown his support behind the pope in the political struggle against the Holy Roman Emperor. Over the centuries, the archbishops gradually enlarged the castle and used it first as a residence and then as a siege-proof haven against invaders and the rebellions of their own subjects. Don't miss the 50-minute guided tour, which takes you inside to the state rooms and torture chamber and up 100 tiny steps to the lookout post with a sweeping view of Salzburg and the mountains. Lines can be long, so come early. *Mönchsberg 34*, ☎ 0662/8042–2123. ☎ Fortress and 50-min guided tour: AS60 adults, AS55 senior citizens, AS35 children; Fortress only: AS30 adults,

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buried in St. Peter's. He was in charge of the liberation of Salzburg in 1945 and subsequently married an Austrian woman who is buried with him. In crypt XXXI is the grave of Santino Solari, architect of the cathedral; in XXXIX that of Sigmund Haffner, for whom Mozart's *Haffner* symphony is named. The final communal crypt contains the body of Mozart's sister, Nannerl, and the torso of Joseph Haydn's brother, Michael (his head is inside an urn in St. Peter's church). This grave leads to the **catacombs** built into the cliffs; two tiny chapels are hewn out of the rock, dating from the 3rd century when Christianized Romans held secret masses here. ☎ 0662/844578-0. ➡ AS12 adults, AS8 senior citizens and children. ☉ Guided tours: May–Sept., hourly 10–5; Oct.–Apr., 11, noon, 1:30, 2:30, and 3:30. Check times on notice board.

- ★ 6 **St. Peter's Abbey** is the most luxurious church in Salzburg. This is where Mozart's Mass in C Minor premiered in 1783; the composer's *Requiem* is performed every year on the anniversary of his death. The abbey is the final burial place of St. Rupert, who founded a monastery here in 696 and so created the new bishopric and city of Salzburg on the ruins of Roman Juvavum. The porch has beautiful Romanesque vaulted arches from the original structure built in the 12th century, but the interior was decorated in the characteristically voluptuous late-Baroque style when additions were made in the 1770s. Note the side chapel by the entrance, with the unusual crèche portraying the flight into Egypt and murder of all first-born male infants.

- ★ 7 As you leave the church, look up to your right: Rising above the monastery buildings is the thin Gothic spire of the **Franciscan Church**. Leave the courtyard in this direction, cross the road, and enter the church by the side entrance, which will bring you directly into the semicircular Gothic apse crowned by an ornate red marble and gilt altar designed by Austria's most famous architect of the Baroque, Fischer von Erlach. Mass—frequently one of Mozart's—is sung here on Sunday at 9 AM.

Go down the aisle and leave the church by the front entrance, which opens on Sigmund-Haffner Gasse. Opposite is the back entrance to the

- 8 **Rupertinum**, Salzburg's museum of 20th-century art, with permanent and changing shows. ☎ 0662/8042-2336. ➡ AS40 adults, AS20 senior citizens. ☉ Sept.–mid-July, Tues. 10–5, Wed. 10–9, Thurs.–Sun. 10–5; mid-July–Aug., Tues. 10–6, Wed. 10–9, Thurs.–Sun. 10–6.

TIME OUT You don't have to visit the gallery to eat in the **Rupertinum café**, which serves excellent food and drinks daily from 10 AM to 11 PM. Here you get a slice of Salzburg's art scene and a worm's-eye view of the elegant arcaded mansion in which the museum is housed.

- 9 Turn left around the corner into **Toscaninihof**, the square cut into the dramatic Mönchsberg cliffs. On the left through the archway is the school for Benedictine monks built in 1926. If you are interested in 20th-century expressionist art, you must see Jakob Adhart's wooden crucifix from 1925. The crucified figure bends painfully forward, his body crying out with anguish. ☉ Weekdays 8–11 and 2–5.

- 10 The wall on the other side of the Toscaninihof, with its harp-shape organ pipes, is part of the **Festspielhaus** (festival hall). The carved steps going up the Mönchsberg are named for Clemens Holzmeister, architect of the festival halls. If you climb them, you get an intimate view of the Salzburg churches at the level of their spires, and if you climb a little

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Divider Title: **Events in Austria**

ARRIVAL IN VIENNA, JULY 10

The First Lady will be greeted at Vienna/Schwechat airport upon deplaning by Austrian Foreign Ministry State Secretary Benita Ferrero-Waldner; (TBC) Dr. Krista Schuessel, spouse of Austrian Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schuessel; and (TBC) Deputy Chief of Austrian Protocol Dr. Philipp Hoyos. The heads of the three U.S. diplomatic missions in Vienna -- Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt, Ambassador to UN Organizations in Vienna John Ritch, and Head of Delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Sam Brown -- and their spouses will also welcome the First Lady. Photo Op. Written arrival statement released.

DEPARTURE:

The First Lady will be met at Salzburg airport by Salzburg Mayor Dr. Josef Dechant and with no formal ceremony seen off by the mayor. Photo op. Written departure statement released.

-SALZBURG PROGRAM-

ARRIVAL IN SALZBURG, JULY 13

The First Lady will be met at planeside upon arrival by the Governor of the Province of Salzburg, Dr. Franz Schausberger (Austrian People's Party). Photo Op. (Written arrival statement?) After introductions and protocol greetings, the First Lady will proceed by car to the Hotel Oesterrichischer Hof.

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Divider Title: **Refugee Roundtable**

REFUGEE ROUNDTABLE

To underscore strong interest in the fate of Bosnian refugees -- while recognizing Austrian efforts on their behalf -- the First Lady will participate in a small roundtable discussion featuring Bosnian women, Austrian officials and NGO reps. At a venue still to be determined, the event is sponsored by the Center for Democracy, a recent initiative of the governments of the U.S., Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and will spotlight the Center's work to promote democracy and multi-cultural dialogue in the Balkans and Eastern Europe. Media coverage of discussion.

Talking Points:

-- Commend Austria for opening its doors to some 90,000 displaced persons from the war. The private sector "Nachbar in Not" initiative, providing humanitarian aid to Bosnia, also an example of Austrian generosity.

-- Important to press for vigorous implementation of all aspects of the Dayton Accords to create an environment in Bosnia facilitating refugees return: from support for the Hague War Crimes Tribunal to voluntary contributions ensure the success of the Bosnian Property Commission.

-- Role of women in rebuilding Bosnian society pivotal, as recognized in the Bosnian Women's Initiative launched by the President a year ago at the Lyon G-7 Summit.

Center for Democracy in Vienna

The governments of Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina and the United States of America, recognizing the importance of dialogue and research in the development of democratic institutions in Central Europe and the Balkans, including Bosnia-Herzegovina, signed a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the establishment of a Center for Democracy at the Vienna Amerika Haus on December 9, 1996.

The purpose of the Center is the promotion of better understanding between the peoples of Central Europe and the Balkans, including Bosnia-Herzegovina, and their counterparts in Austria, the United States, and the rest of Europe through the development of programs, projects, conferences, symposia and research activities in various fields.

The Government of Austria has expressed a willingness to support projects proposed by the Center over a three year period to commence in January 1997. The Government of the United States of America has agreed to provide space for the Center at the Vienna Amerika Haus. The Amerika Haus will make available its staff, offices, conference and exhibition space, and access to Amerika Haus research and reference capabilities.

To the extent permitted under Austrian law, the Center will raise and accept contributions, donations and bequests from private and public sources, and use these for the development of Center activities.

The President of the Center is Prof. Ejup Ganic. Vice-President Ganic and Ambassador Hunt are the Center's co-founders. The Center has a Board of Trustees consisting of five members: two from Austria, one from Bosnia-Herzegovina, and two from the United States of America. The Austrian members are the Secretary General of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Rohan, and Prof. Wolfgang Benedek of Graz University; the Bosnian member is Bosnian Federation Vice-President Prof. Ejup Ganic; the American members are U.S. Ambassador Swanee Hunt and the Director of the United States Information Agency, Dr. Joseph Duffey.

The opening ceremony for the Center for Democracy was held on Friday, January 17, 1997.

Program events, Center for Democracy in Vienna

Center for Democracy Location: Amerika Haus, Friedrich Schmidtplatz 2, 1010 Wien, Austria FAX: 43-1-406 52 60

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Briefing Note on Austria

Asylum seekers and refugees in Austria

Since 1945, two million refugees, mainly from the former East Bloc, have sought asylum in Austria, two thirds of whom have been resettled to third countries, mainly USA, Canada, Australia and Western European countries. At present, in addition to those naturalized, some 19,000 recognized refugees live in Austria.

Since 1992, some 80,000 Bosnian "war" refugees have benefitted from residence permits as "guest workers" or temporary protection, many of whom remain in the country. Currently, some 11,000 are still being assisted under a joint federal and provincial governments care and maintenance programme. According to an announcement of the Minister of the Interior their temporary stay was extended to August 1998. As far as Bosnian war refugees are concerned, Austria is very liberal compared to other countries. Especially the integration of children is a real success story. Many of them already finished their 4th form (level in language classes), speak very good German and are well integrated in the social environment.

Austria is the first European country which grants asylum for women based sexual violence. Austria has also introduced a system whereby female asylum seekers are interviewed by women immigration officers.

The number of new asylum-seekers has decreased drastically from 27,000 in 1991 to 7,000 in 1996. In the first three months of 1997, some 1,400 asylum-seekers have been registered.

UNHCR in Austria

The UNHCR Office in Austria was opened in 1951, and is the oldest UN Office in Austria. UN assistance to refugees in Austria, however, dates back to the creation of the United Nations 50 years ago. UNHCR's Regional Office in Vienna covers the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia.

Currently, UNHCR's Regional Office has fifteen staff members.

Austria is party to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees and has been member of UNHCR's Executive Committee since 1958.

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Austria's overall contribution to UNHCR is much lower, in percentage, than its assessed contribution to the United Nations. Between 1993-1996, the contributions amounted to USD 5.4 million. In 1997, the contributions announced so far by Austria are USD 412,844, earmarked for the general programmes and an additional USD 68,000 for UNHCR's programme in the Great Lakes Region.

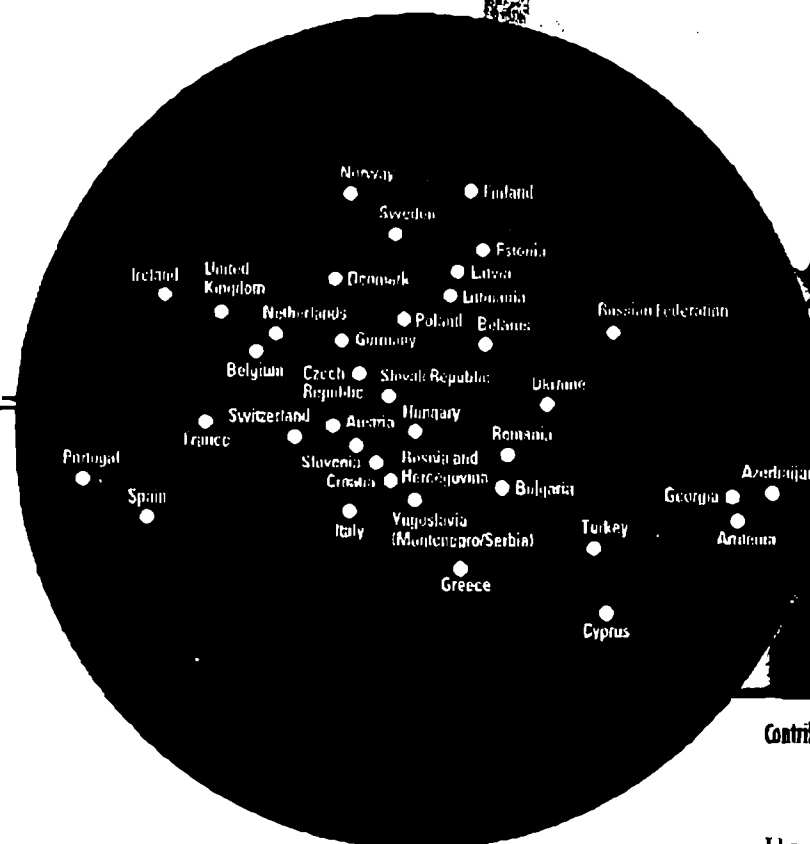
UNHCR welcomes the Austrian policy of granting temporary protection and of supporting the voluntary repatriation of Bosnians.

In addition to the mandatory role to supervise the application of the international refugee instruments, the Office promotes repatriation, the integration of refugees, and institution-building activities in neighbouring States which only recently acceded to the refugee instruments.

Current Issues

A new Asylum Law has been adopted by the Parliament in June 1997. This law which incorporates many suggestions by UNHCR is an improvement over the old Asylum Law; UNHCR is therefore hopeful that beginning next year the asylum procedures will be improved. Of particular interest to UNHCR is the second independent instance which, if well staffed, will greatly enhance the credibility of the Austrian Asylum procedures.

UNHCR RO Vienna, July 1997



Contributors: Steve Edminster, Alex Mahoney, Katie Hope, Tom Argent, Bill Frellick

Armenia

At the end of 1996, an estimated 150,000 refugees were living in Armenia. Of these, 22,000 were from the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, and nearly all of the remainder from elsewhere in Azerbaijan. Since the May 1994 cease-fire between ethnic Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan government forces, 35,000 refugees have returned from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh. The Armenian government reported that there were 1,239 such returnees in 1996. There were also an estimated 50,000 internally displaced persons in Armenia. UNHCR recorded no new refugee arrivals or internal displacements in 1996.

During the year, 90,000 ethnic Armenians from Azerbaijan left Armenia for other countries, according to the Armenian government. The overwhelming majority went to Russia.

Although no formal asylum procedure existed in 1996, an ad-hoc committee within the State Department for Refugees considered asylum requests. There were 109 people in Armenia awaiting a decision on asylum at the end of 1996. Of that number, 94 were from Iran, 14 from Iraq, and one from Sudan. No asylum applications were adjudicated during the year. In addition, 952 people from the Abkhazia region of Georgia and the Chechnya region of the Russian Federation "found refuge" in Armenia in 1996, according to the government.

Although the Republic of Armenia acceded to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention in 1993, it has not established the legal framework necessary to implement it.

However, the Armenian parliament is considering a draft Law on Refugees that would establish asylum procedures in accordance with international standards. UNHCR is closely involved in the law's development and in efforts to ensure its passage, which could occur in 1997.

The Armenian National Assembly passed a Law on Citizenship in October 1995 that will eventually allow all refugees who are permanent residents of Armenia to apply for citizenship. There is a three-year residence requirement from which ethnic Armenians are exempt. As of the end of 1996, the law was not in effect because procedures for implementing it had yet to be published.

Approximately 20,000 refugees remain in temporary accommodations such as dormitories, hotels, resorts, and makeshift shelters. Another 42,000 refugees live in houses in villages abandoned by Azeris during the 1988-94 conflict. The rest live in private accommodations. In 1996, UNHCR and other international organizations and governments provided aid such as food, irrigation and utility repairs, and housing to the most vulnerable among the refugee population.

Human Rights Watch reported in 1996 that the Armenian Ministry of Defense illegally drafted refugees from Azerbaijan, including Nagorno-Karabakh, into the military. ■

Austria

A total of 6,991 asylum seekers filed applications in Austria during 1996, an 18 percent increase over the 5,920 persons seeking asylum the previous year. However, these figures represent a substantial decrease from the 16,238 asylum seekers entering Austria in 1992, the year a restrictive asy-

EUROPE

law entered into force. During 1996, the largest number of asylum seekers came from Iraq (22.7 percent), followed by the present Yugoslavia (14.7 percent). Significant numbers of asylum seekers also came from Afghanistan, Iran, and Turkey during the year.

Of the 9,090 persons whose cases were adjudicated during 1996, 716 individuals, or 7.9 percent of the total, were granted asylum, a substantial decrease from 1995's approval rate of 12.5 percent. Some 8,032 persons (88.3 percent) were denied asylum, and an additional 342 individuals (3.8 percent) withdrew their applications. A breakdown of the approval rates by nationality was unavailable for 1996. The applications of about 4,000 asylum seekers remained pending at year's end.

The Asylum Procedure On several occasions during the past two years, the Austrian government has announced its intention to revise the aliens and asylum laws, but no legislation had been passed by the end of 1996. In the absence of any legal changes, the asylum procedure continued to be governed by the 1991 Asylum Act, in force since June 1, 1992. The 1992 Aliens Act, which provides guidelines for the entry, residence, detention, and expulsion of foreigners, also has direct relevance to the situation of asylum seekers in Austria. While the Asylum and Aliens Acts have succeeded in significantly reducing the flow of asylum seekers into Austria, they have been criticized for failing to meet international standards of refugee protection.

According to Article 2 of the Asylum Act, a refugee shall not be granted asylum in Austria if he or she was already safe from persecution in another country. Austria considers third countries safe if they have signed the UN Refugee Convention, honor the *nonrefoulement* principle, have an asylum procedure, and have a UNHCR office. All countries sharing a border with Austria meet these requirements, according to the Austrian interior ministry. Although these and other countries are presumed to offer due process and protection to asylum seekers and refugees, the Austrian government says that admissibility to its asylum procedure and the return of persons to safe third countries are decided on an individual basis.

Criticism of Procedure Critics contend that the wording of the safe third country law has contributed to poor decision making. The Austrian authorities only review whether asylum seekers were safe *at the time* they were transiting third countries. By focusing exclusively on past conditions, the authorities fail to address more relevant questions about whether asylum seekers would be admitted to the asylum procedure in the third country and afforded protection when returned there. If the law were amended to apply to present conditions of safety, critics of the current law say that the authorities would be required to look far more specifically at an asylum seeker's

actual prospects for filing an asylum application and for securing effective protection in the third country.

Critics of the Austrian safe third country law have also expressed concern over the authorities' application of the general criteria for deciding whether a country is safe. In an October 1994 report, UNHCR said that "analysis of the administrative practice reveals that mere transit through or a simple, short-term sojourn in such countries as...Turkey, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, or Iran will as a general rule lead to the rejection of an asylum application."

Humanitarian organizations expressed similar concerns regarding Austrian practices during a USCR site visit in April 1996. One cited a case involving 12 Iranian nationals deported from Germany to Austria on safe third country grounds in February. Although the German authorities informed their Austrian counterparts that people in the group had asked for asylum in Germany, the Austrian authorities reportedly did not follow up on these requests. Instead they arranged the group's deportation to Ukraine, despite Ukraine's not having signed the 1951 Refugee Convention. This was only averted when one in the group intentionally cut himself with a knife badly enough to require a doctor, leading the Austrian Airlines pilot to refuse to take the deportees against their will. The wounded person was hospitalized, and all were then permitted to file asylum applications.

Only claimants arriving directly from the country of persecution are permitted to enter Austria legally and are granted temporary residence permits, provided they file asylum applications within seven days of arrival. Although the Austrian interior ministry contends that cases in which asylum seekers merely transited third countries should be considered as direct travel to Austria, in practice asylum seekers reportedly have been denied access to the territory and asylum procedure because they spent some hours in the transit area of another country's airport. Asylum seekers arriving overland are also routinely denied entry to Austria, even when their travel from the state of persecution to Austria has been uninterrupted.

As a result of these strict admissibility requirements, some 90 percent of all asylum applicants in Austria have entered the country illegally. They therefore have been subject to the provisions of the Aliens Act and hence the authority of the Aliens Police. According to humanitarian observers, however, there are no clear administrative criteria or instructions to clarify how the provisions of the Aliens Act apply to this vast majority of asylum applicants. This has meant that efforts to implement the Aliens Act (enforcement of orders to detain and deport) often have been made irrespective of a person's oral request to seek asylum or without regard to the status of an application already filed. For those who have managed to file asylum applications with the Federal Asylum Office, the fact that they were awaiting decisions

U.S. COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES

Ad Refugee Survey 1997

on their cases has not entitled them to legal status to remain in Austria. While the Aliens Police generally have permitted applicants to remain while awaiting first-instance decisions of the Federal Asylum Office, no uniform practice exists concerning the right to remain for second-instance decisions and court appeals.

The lack of secure legal status for most asylum seekers in Austria has meant that on average at least 11 percent of all applicants were detained while their applications were decided in 1996. This figure was reported to be considerably higher, however, in the federal state of Burgenland that borders on Hungary. There, the majority of applicants reportedly have spent the determination procedure in detention pending deportation.

Accommodation and support for asylum seekers in Austria also continued to be problematic during 1996. Since the 1991 Asylum Act entered into force, the number of asylum applicants denied government assistance during the asylum procedure has increased markedly. According to a legal advisor to asylum seekers and refugees in Austria, the lack of support, together with the poor prospects for many to obtain legal status, have led many asylum seekers to leave Austria for other countries. In December 1995, the Catholic and Protestant Churches reported that the decrease in government assistance has also led to a growing population of homeless asylum seekers.

On May 20, 1996, USCR wrote to the Austrian ambassador to the United States regarding statistics published by the interior ministry indicating that 1,787 persons awaiting deportation went on hunger strike in 1995, and that 33 detainees attempted suicide. USCR expressed disquiet over reports of mistreatment of asylum seekers and overcrowding in some detention facilities. "The high number of hunger strikers and suicide attempts," USCR said, raised concern that Austria lacked "adequate measures to establish that prospective deportees did not face serious danger upon return to their home countries."

(Mounting criticism of both laws and their implementation from UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations is credited with bringing a revision of current asylum law to the legislative agenda in 1997. In early March, draft revisions of the Aliens and Asylum Acts were under preparation for publication and expert evaluation.)

Readmission Agreements Austria has signed readmission agreements with the Benelux countries, former Czechoslovakia (implemented by both the Czech Republic and Slovakia), France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Poland, Switzerland, Slovenia, and Tunisia. These agreements do not refer to asylum seekers and refugees but to foreigners in general. Austria also has signed a bilateral protocol with Romania that applies solely to the return of nationals of both states.

On April 28, 1995, Austria signed the Schengen Agreement, which it expects to implement by July 1997. When Austria begins its implementation, the Schengen Agreement, rather than the older bilateral readmission agreements, will regulate the transfer of asylum seekers between Austria and other member states.

To prepare for the Schengen Agreement's implementation, Austria agreed in 1996 to establish closer police cooperation on its borders with Germany and Italy. On November 14, Interior Minister Casper Einem announced that, beginning in January 1997, the army would increase its surveillance of Austria's borders with the Czech and Slovak Republics. The Schengen Agreement requires its signatories to increase border surveillance at the treaty area's external borders to prepare for the suppression of border checks between member states.

Bosnians In May 1996, Interior Minister Einem announced that Bosnians granted temporary protection in Austria would be permitted to remain until August 1997. An estimated 7,000 Bosnian refugees repatriated voluntarily from Austria during 1996. At the end of the year, about 11,400 Bosnians remained in Austria with temporary protected status. In addition, about 62,000 Bosnians holding Austrian residence permits (not necessarily permanent) remained in the country. No concrete repatriation plans for Bosnians residing in Austria had been agreed upon at year's end. ■

Azerbaijan

In 1996, there were more than 250,000 refugees and 550,000 internally displaced persons in Azerbaijan. According to the Azerbaijan government, the refugees included 196,845 ethnic Azerbaijanis from Armenia and 51,649 Meskhetian Turks from Uzbekistan.

In 1996, UNHCR registered 163 asylum seekers and refugees, including 85 from Afghanistan and 25 from Iran. Although Azerbaijan is a signatory to the UN Refugee Convention and Protocol, it does not have a status determination procedure for asylum seekers originating from outside the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Many of the internally displaced continued to live in very poor conditions, in accommodations ranging from boarding houses, sanitariums, and student hostels to railroad cars, schools, and unused factories. Approximately 55,000 people are in camps, many of which are administered by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The government warned that conditions faced by refugees and internally displaced persons in Azerbaijan were critical in 1996. According to government statistics, hepatitis cases had increased 144 percent since January 1993. It said that one third of all refugee and displaced

BOSNIA
July 1, 1997

Plavsic Detention/RS Power Struggle

- We have seen reports that Republika Srpska President Biljana Plavsic was detained briefly over the weekend upon her return from a trip to London. We raised the issue with the FRY Government.
- Plavsic has been seeking to suspend Republika Srpska Interior Minister Kijac, who is in charge of the RS Special Police. The fundamental issue here is the performance of the RS and its police force the failure to meet their obligations under Dayton.
- Special Representative Gelbard and the interagency team are in Bosnia and have met with Plavsic, Krajisnik and other to stress U.S. concerns that Republika Srpska is in serious non-compliance with Dayton regarding the need to restructure and reform the police forces along democratic lines.
- If there is a split within the RS Government, we expect it to be resolved peacefully and constitutionally and in accordance with Dayton.

Radovan Karadzic

- We are concerned with reports that President Plavsic has said that Radovan Karadzic is playing a role in governing Republika Srpska, in violation of the agreement reached with the RS last year.
- Karadzic was removed from office and remains banned from any public or political role as agreed by Republika Srpska. We continue to monitor the situation and will insist that Republika Srpska live up to their agreement. We remain concerned about his potential influence and will not be satisfied until he is brought to justice in the Hague.
- The OSCE recently ruled that neither Karadzic nor other indicted war criminals are eligible to vote in the RS.

Buyer-Skelton Amendment for Date Certain Withdrawal from Bosnia

- President's senior advisors have recommended a veto if such a measure were to remain in the Authorization bill after the House-Senate Conference. Even though we have no plans to extend the SFOR mandate past June 1998, requiring a withdrawal from Bosnia by a date certain interferes with the President's foreign policy prerogatives and is counterproductive.
- A withdrawal by a date certain – with no regard for the situation on the ground and progress to be made on civilian implementation – would call into question our commitment to implementation of the Dayton Accords, our reliability as a NATO ally, and our commitment to

[Handwritten signature]

peace and stability in Europe. To our troops on the ground and those who have served in Bosnia, this legislation would question the purpose and value of their service and sacrifice.

- As the President has emphasized, our focus should be on the hard work that needs to be done in the next year on civilian implementation. U.S. political and economic engagement in Bosnia will remain essential after SFOR's mission is done, and we can only succeed if the parties and the international community remain assured of U.S. leadership and commitment.

World Bank and IFC Loans to Croatia

- We have secured a delay in consideration of a \$30 million World Bank loan to Croatia and are consulting with allies and other World Bank board members about the loan. During that time we hope to win support for a longer delay in order to better evaluate Croatian behavior on key aspects of Dayton implementation. We have made clear to the Croatians that U.S. support for multilateral lending and assistance will be conditioned on Croatian cooperation on Dayton implementation issues.
- The U.S. did not object to the \$13 million International Finance Corporation loan to Croatia (considered on June 9) because of the recent positive actions taken by the Croatian Government in this regard, including opening the Brcko bridge and commitments on inter-ethnic reconciliation, including full implementation of the amnesty law.
- We made clear to the Croatians that we expect follow-through on these and other Dayton obligations commitments, such as better cooperation on war criminals, in advance of other IFI votes on Croatia. Since Croatia has not met these expectations, we have serious concerns about proceeding with this loan at this time.

Senate Appropriations Committee Foreign Ops Bill

- We support the goals of the legislative proposal. However, we cannot support the language as written.
- U.S. is deeply committed to bringing war criminals to justice. Those indicted must be turned over to the International Tribunal to stand trial. As President Clinton and his counterparts said in Denver, those who fail to cooperate on war criminals and other aspects of the Dayton Agreement will not have full access to economic or other assistance.
- However, the proposal as written undermines our leverage and flexibility needed to compel Bosniaks, Croats and Serbs to fulfill their Dayton obligations. The proposed legislation as written would be ineffective and virtually impossible to implement.
- We will work with interested senators to find more appropriate ways to advance our mutual goal.

Croatian Elections

- We are concerned that the recent elections in Croatia were not democratic and fair. Clearly, Croatia still has a way to go before it can be considered a democracy.
- Croatia will continue to have only limited access to international assistance and international institutions until it demonstrates a commitment to democracy and fully cooperation with the efforts toward peace and reconciliation in Eastern Slavonia and Bosnia.

War Criminals

- We continue to remain deeply concerned with the slow progress on war crimes front in Bosnia. The recent start of the trial of Tihomir Blaskic by the International Criminal Tribunal is another small step toward justice in Bosnia, a key ingredient to long-term peace. We will not be satisfied, however, until all indicted war criminals stand trial at the Hague.
- We continue to press the parties to fulfill their obligations to turn over indicted war criminals. We are also examining a variety of ways we can help the Tribunal to bring indicted war criminals to justice. We have made no decisions on how to assist the Tribunal. We are reviewing many different options.

If asked whether we can withdraw in mid-98 without apprehending war criminals

- We are trying to reinvigorate implementation of Dayton across the board so that conditions for self-sustaining peace can be established before end of SFOR's mission.
- Bringing indicted war criminals to justice is one of our chief priorities among the many challenges we face. We are increasing pressure on the parties to comply with their obligation under Dayton to cooperate with the Tribunal.

Bosnia Implementation Plan

- At the President's direction, we conducted this Spring an extensive policy review and developed a Bosnia implementation plan aimed at reinvigorating U.S. and international efforts to bring self-sustaining peace to Bosnia. A key conclusion of our review is that Dayton remains the only viable framework for long-term peace.
- Secretary Albright briefed our re-energized approach to our Contact Group partners and the parties at the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board Ministerial on May 30. She followed up on her recent travel to the region by further pressing the parties hard on their obligations. The President also raised these issues with his counterparts at the Summit of the Eight this past weekend.
- Both Allies and the parties welcomed our renewed efforts to ensure timely, concrete progress on implementation. The Summit of the Eight leaders released a statement reinforcing to the parties the need for improved performance in areas such as war crimes, public security, refugee returns and joint institutions.
- Dayton's continuing success is evident in the substantial progress we have made since we began the implementation effort: stopping the fighting, separating the warring factions, holding successful national elections, creating joint institutions, making great strides in

economic reconstruction, and gradual momentum on freedom of movement and return of refugees and displaced persons.

- The implementation plan is a detailed step-by-step road map aimed at creating a self-sustaining peace beyond June 1998, establishing courses of action and benchmarks in all priority implementation areas.
- Priority areas are:
 - bringing war criminals to justice;
 - improving indigenous public security capabilities to maintain law and order;
 - preventing a resumption of fighting after SFOR departs by promoting military balance through completion of train and equip program and arms reductions;
 - advancing development of democratic, self-sustaining joint institutions and promoting the rule of law;
 - securing consistent progress on the return of refugees and displaced persons and the ability of all Bosnians to move freely throughout the country; and
 - enhancing economic reconstruction, inter-entity commerce and accelerated distribution of economic assistance to all areas of Bosnia;
- The plan calls for a strategy to develop and apply greater incentives and other forms of leverage to give the parties a stake in implementing Dayton and to overcome their differing visions of Bosnia's future. We will link cooperation with Dayton with all aspects of our implementation effort using economic, political and every other form of leverage we have available.
- Implementation of Dayton and bringing long term peace and reconciliation to Bosnia remains a long term process and much work remains to be done. Nevertheless, we should take heart in all that we have accomplished and re-focus our efforts in order to finish the job.

Train and Equip Program

- The international Train and Equip program is successfully helping to establish a stable military balance in Bosnia, which is one of the keys to establishing a lasting peace in the region. The recently announced delivery order of 116 refurbished howitzers and 21 heavy equipment transporters from U.S. Army excess stocks to Bosnia is part of the ongoing program to meet the defense requirements of the Federation, as identified shortly after Dayton, and within the parameters of the Bosnia arms control agreements.
- The T&E program continues to facilitate concrete progress in the formation of joint Federation defense structures that will be critical to strengthening the Bosniak-Croat Federation. The latest step forward in this regard, announced in Sarajevo last week, are the agreements between Presidents Izetbegovic and Zubak on a joint Federation Military Strategy and on key commands.

15TH STORY of Level 2 printed in FULL format.

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THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

November 22, 1996, Friday, HOME FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 1A

LENGTH: 1541 words

HEADLINE: Bosnia women uniting for survival, support Occupational training,
counseling help refugees

BYLINE: David Tarrant, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

DATELINE: TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina

BODY:

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina - In the refugee centers where Senada Velagic lived for several months, many war widows pass the time sewing or weaving carpets.

But Ms. Velagic hopes to support herself with a more modern occupation. The 19-year-old refugee from Srebrenica has enrolled in a computer training class.

Bosfam, a local women's cooperative, opened a computer training center two weeks ago with 10 personal computers donated by IBM.

Bosfam works with widows and children of about 8,000 Muslim men believed to have been slaughtered by Bosnian Serbs after they overran Srebrenica in July 1995.

It's our wish to make one big family to help each other. You have to know that there are a lot of women who have no one left in their families," says Beba Hadzic, program manager for Bosfam, which stands for Bosnian Family.

Like their country, the women of Bosnia are caught between a shattered past and an uncertain future. To cope, many women are turning to each other for support.

Dozens of grass-roots women's groups have sprouted in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the past year, since the end of the 3 1/2-year war. Some, like Bosfam, provide services ranging from psychological counseling to occupational training. Others are overtly political and call for transformation of Bosnia's traditionally patriarchal society and equal rights for women.

This fledgling women's movement has attracted international attention from governments, businesses and foundations. In July, President Clinton pledged \$ 5 million for the Bosnian Women's Initiative, a funding vehicle for spurring economic development.

The women's organizations, working alongside international relief agencies, have begun to respond to Bosnia's staggering refugee crisis. More than half of Bosnia's population, which was about 4.3 million before the war, has been uprooted by the war, according to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

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The country's shredded social fabric has left women and families particularly vulnerable. In Tuzla, a city in Muslim-controlled Bosnia, about 200,000 refugees have almost doubled the city's prewar population. Except for a tiny fraction, all are Muslims; almost two-thirds are women.

The refugees cannot be easily stereotyped, says Mrs. Hadzic, who was a school administrator in Srebrenica before the war. They range from college-educated professionals to villagers with little education.

"We have women who wear kerchiefs and who only make carpets and sweaters and women who work on computers. That's Bosnia," Mrs. Hadzic says.

Work is considered an essential part of psychological recovery. Bosfam works with many women from farming communities around Srebrenica who had never worked outside the home. These women knew how to make traditional rugs and samplers to decorate their homes, "but they never thought about selling carpets or making them to support their families," says Mrs. Hadzic. "This is a major social change for these women."

On a recent Saturday morning, a dozen women work in a dimly lit storefront in downtown Tuzla.

Among them is Nura Habibovic, who sits stoically on a small stool in front of a loom, which holds a half-completed carpet.

Beside her, a battered cardboard box holds several balls of colored yarn. After her husband died 12 years ago, Mrs. Habibovic supported herself and four children on his pension.

"I had everything, a house, a washing machine, a car," said Mrs. Habibovic. "I lost everything. Actually, I don't have anything now."

With her children grown, she lives alone in a small one-room apartment in Tuzla. She averages about \$ 100 a month making carpets.

She doesn't consider herself a businesswoman; work is therapeutic, she says. "It's easier for me to work and make carpets. At least for a moment, I don't have to remember. A lot of my cousins died during the war."

A few blocks away, at the computer center, the women are younger, better educated and more ambitious. They wear jeans with T-shirts or ball caps printed with an IBM logo. But they share similar tales of loss and deprivation.

Ms. Velagic was forced to leave behind her father and two male cousins in Srebrenica, when the Serbs separated the men from the women and children. She fears they were killed.

Since arriving in Tuzla, Ms. Velagic has volunteered as a counselor at Bosfam, working with elderly widows. She is among the first group of 10 students in the computer class and hopes her computer skills eventually will land her a good job. "These days, everyone is asking you if you know how to work on computers."

Prospects appear more bleak for women living in the Serb section of Bosnia. The Bosnian economy was shattered by the war.

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But international humanitarian aid has been slower to arrive to the Bosnian Serbs, who bore the brunt of the world's scorn during the war.

One of the few refugee groups in the region is Duga, or Women Helping Victims of the War. Located in Banja Luka, where an estimated 100,000 refugees live in squalid, overcrowded centers, Duga concentrates on psychological counseling.

In a community center on a quiet residential street, Jelica Cegar sits with five other women refugees and a Duga social worker.

Mrs. Cegar was living in Kupres when her home was shelled during fighting around the central Bosnian city. Her 2-year-old son was killed in her arms. The former bookkeeper has no hope of ever working again.

"I am 100 percent impaired," she said, her face and hands showing the scars of the horrible burns she suffered. Mrs. Cegar lives with her husband and 7-year-old son and attends group counseling sessions organized by Duga. But she considers her life beyond mending. "I don't have any hopes. I just live for my second child. I want him to grow up in peace."

Despair is laced with anger at a nearby refugee center, an overcrowded, dingy school housing 78 refugees, including 36 children. "People are coming to hear our stories, but nothing happens after that," said Mira Dosenovic, a municipal judge forced to flee Sanski Most, when the city fell to Croat and Bosnian government troops in 1995.

The refugees get bread and milk for breakfast. Lunch consists of cabbage or beans. Once a month, they get meat - usually salami.

rumors swirl that the centers will close, and the Serb refugees will be driven to their homes in Sanski Most. "Anyone who goes back there is beaten or killed," Mrs. Dosenovic says. "There's no place for us to go."

In some cases, such desperation has spurred women to organize themselves. In February, the Women of Srebrenica, a group representing 20,000 Muslim women, stormed the International Red Cross in Tuzla to protest the lack of information about their missing relatives.

In July, about 6,000 women gathered at the Tuzla Sports Center to commemorate the first anniversary of the fall of Srebrenica.

Many carried banners embroidered with the names of missing relatives and heard speeches from women dignitaries, including Queen Noor of Jordan and the U.S. ambassador to Austria, Dallas heiress Swanee Hunt.

Ms. Hunt, who spearheaded the Bosnian Women's Initiative, said that private political and social associations did not exist in prewar, socialist Yugoslavia.

Such groups can become the building blocks of an evolving democracy, Ms. Hunt said, during a recent tour of women's groups in Bosnia. "The whole idea of nongovernmental organizations, which are so common in America, is foreign to this society."

Zena 21, a Sarajevo-based women's association that produces a monthly fashion and political magazine, was one of the main organizers of a multi-ethnic

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women's conference in June, titled:

"Transforming Ourselves, Transforming Our Society." The conference led to the
ing of a women's political party, said Nurdzihana Dozic, president of the
a ciation.

Women represent 54 percent of the electorate in Bosnia and up to 70 percent
in some areas of the country, Ms. Dozic said. But, traditionally, women have
had only a marginal role in politics.

". . . Earlier this year , there were 20 political parties in Bosnia, and
women did little more than arrange the flowers at the meetings. There were no
women in high positions," Ms. Dozic said.

After the women's political party was founded, however, "the climate quickly
changed, and now everybody wants to have women in their parties."

Ejup Ganic, the Bosnian vice president, said he welcomes the increased
involvement of women in the postwar government. "Women suffered more than men
during the war. Now we are restructuring society, and maybe this is an
opportunity for women to take what they deserve."

However, Muslim leader Haris Silajdzic, the former Bosnian prime minister and
head of the leading opposition party, is less than optimistic about the
prospects for women in government.

"The genius and talent of women is not being used to the full extent. We
have an educated population of women here. But they remain in the shadow."

deed, only one woman candidate won a seat in Parliament during national
e cions in September. But even that toehold offers hope.

"Women are here to stay in politics," Ms. Dozic said. "They made that very
important first step, and there is no way back."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO(S): (1. - 3. Special to The Dallas Morning News: Associated
Press) 1. Above: A refugee from Srebrenica learns how to use a donated personal
computer earlier this month. 2. Left: These women are living in a refugee camp
north of Tuzla. 3. Below: U.S. Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt (right) visits
the refugee camp Nov. 1.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: November 23, 1996

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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Divider Title: **Speech at Vital Voices Conference**

July 4, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

Subject: *Vital Voices: Women in Democracy*
From: Brenda Costello and Rebecca May

Vital Voices: Women in Democracy

You will give the keynote address on the final day of the first *Vital Voices: Women in Democracy* conference. This three-day event in Vienna is designed to join together 150 women from the government, media, and private sectors of Central and Eastern Europe with 150 women leaders from the United States and the European Union. Other scheduled speakers include Sandra Day O'Connor, Louise Arbour, Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia, Kazimiera Prunskiene, former Lithuanian Prime Minister, Dr. Jaroslava Moserová, Vice President of the Czech Senate, Secretary Alexis Herman, Susana Agnelli, former Prime Minister of Italy, Vesna Pesic, President of the Civic Alliance in Belgrade, and CNN correspondent Christiane Amanpour. It is hoped that the your appearance and the participation of these other women leaders will emphasize the importance of empowering women as a foreign policy goal.

Vital Voices is an offshoot of the privately-funded Vienna Women's initiative led by Ambassador Swanee Hunt. The steering committee which planned the conference included Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues at the U.S. Department of State Theresa Loar, E.U. Commissioner Emma Bonino, General Secretary for the Austrian People's Party Maria Rauch-Kallat, and Dr. Jaroslava Moserová, Vice President of the Czech Senate.

Vital Voices will help identify and cultivate initiatives and strategies to meet the challenges faced by women in new democracies. The conference will also widen the East-West network of women leaders in support of democracy-building efforts and increase public understanding of the economic, political, and social contributions of women in democracies.

In addition to plenary sessions and daily focus groups, *Vital Voices* features three tracks of action-oriented workshops about power in the courts, influence in the government, and strategies in the marketplace. Approximately 100 delegates will participate in each of the three tracks (see program attached). Within each track, smaller working groups of fifteen ensure that each woman can actively participate and leave the conference with the knowledge and will to make a difference in her home country.

During these small group sessions, participants will discuss the issues presented and develop strategies for concrete action. From this experience, each delegation from a post-communist nation will develop an action plan for its country. A U.S. Embassy

representative will serve as a facilitator for each of the delegations from emerging democracies and help implement strategies after the conference. A report on the results of the convention will be published.

Leaders of the small working groups from the United States include Lisa Caputo, Evelyn Lieberman, Director of Voice of America, Connie Evans, Chicago Women's Self Employment Project, Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky, President of the Women's Campaign Fund and former member of Congress, Madeleine Kunin, US Ambassador to Switzerland, and Bonnie Campbell, Director of Violence Against Women, Department of Justice.

The 19 participating countries from Eastern and Central Europe are Albania, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and the Ukraine. The United States and the European Union will also send delegates. The expenses for delegates from Central and Eastern Europe are being covered by the conference organizers.

A 45-minute documentary featuring four of the delegates from countries in transition will be produced before the conference. This film will be produced in many languages to allow millions to hear the voices of women leaders in the new democracies.

Attachments

- Program for three tracks
- "Women's Vital Voices; The Costs of Exclusion in Eastern Europe," *Foreign Affairs*, by Swanee Hunt, July 1997



Vital Voices: Women in Democracy

July 9-11, 1997

Vienna, Austria

"I have seen in Central Europe and the New Independent States the birth of movements designed to give women a real voice in the construction of new democracies."

U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright

VITAL VOICES: WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY will strengthen the crucial role of women in the dramatic passage to free-market economies and new-style democracies.

VITAL VOICES will bring together women leaders from countries in transition with women leaders from the European Union and the U.S.

VITAL VOICES will be a stimulating experience with three tracks of action-oriented workshops to examine power in the courts, influence in the governments, and strategies in the market place.

VITAL VOICES will present global women leaders to tell about their own lives, and what they have learned.

Participants will:

- ◆ define and explore initiatives to meet the challenges faced by women in the new democracies;
- ◆ widen the East-West network of women leaders in support of democracy-building efforts;
- ◆ increase public understanding about the economic, political and social contributions of women to democratic society, and
- ◆ develop strategies, and improved expertise to implement them.

The conference will convene women from the governmental and private sectors of Central and Eastern Europe, to build networks with women leaders from the United States and European Union. More than three hundred participants will explore ways to strengthen the role of women in developing open, democratic societies. Three tracks of action oriented workshops — Law and Leadership, Politics and Persuasion, Business and Beyond — will include issues such as: exploring women's power in judicial systems, trafficking in women, creating unlikely alliances, governing in a changing society, starting-up micro-enterprises, connecting globally through the Internet, and investing in a free market. These tracks will create a forum for setting strategies, delivering important political messages from women (nationally, regionally, and internationally), and facilitating East-East, East-West, and interdisciplinary networking — that is, building connections across lines of concerns, interests and



expertise, as well as across geographical lines. The conference will stimulate international debate, focused on concrete results for women in the emerging democracies.

Presentations by high level public figures will underscore the priority of empowering women as a foreign policy goal. As U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has asserted, "Democracy without the full participation of women is a contradiction in terms. To reach its full potential, it must include all of its citizens." The conference is part of the US/EU New Transatlantic Agenda creating more "people-to-people" ventures; and it will continue the work launched at the UN women's conference in Beijing, September 1995.

The "Vital Voices" steering committee, chaired by U.S. Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt, includes EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs Emma Bonino; EU Commissioner for Justice and Home Affairs Anita Gradin; Senate Vice-President of the Czech Republic Dr. Jaroslava Moserová; Serbian opposition leader Vesna Pesic; General Secretary of the Austrian People's Party Maria Rauch-Kallat; Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues at the U.S. Department of State Theresa Loar; and Open Society Institute Director of Regional Women's Program Anastasia Posadskaya-Vanderbeck.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton (U.S.) has expressed interest in addressing the conference and former Foreign Minister Susanne Agnelli (Italy), and Opposition Leader Vesna Pesic (Serbia) are among the plenary speakers.

The conference is an outgrowth of Ambassador Hunt's privately-funded Vienna Women's initiative. In addition to the U.S. and EU, the following countries will send delegations: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and the Ukraine.

A report will be published following the event, outlining specific strategies to be pursued by conference participants in their respective countries and a 45-minute film documentary will profile four women leaders in their homelands, leading up to their meeting at the conference. Produced in multiple languages, the film will carry the voices of extraordinary women in the new democracies, to millions worldwide.

Swanee Hunt
May 14, 1997

For more information on the "Vital Voices: Women in Democracy" conference contact:

Susan Gramm, Conference Coordinator
U.S. Embassy to Austria
Boltzmanngasse 16
A-1090 Vienna, Austria

Tel: (Country code 43) 1-31339 2025
Fax: (Country code 43) 1-31339 2908 or 2168

Vital Voices: Women in Democracy

Country Participation

In addition to the U.S. and the E.U., the following countries will be bringing delegations:

1. Albania
2. Belarus
3. Bosnia-Herzegovina
4. Bulgaria
5. Croatia
6. Czech Republic
7. Estonia
8. Hungary
9. Latvia
10. Lithuania
11. Macedonia
12. Moldova
13. Poland
14. Romania
15. Russia
16. Serbia
17. Slovakia
18. Slovenia
19. Ukraine



Preliminary Program

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

9:00 a.m.
until
12:30 p.m.

Registration, Orientation and Welcome
at the Vienna International Centre (VIC)
Conference Room VII

1:00 p.m.
until
2:30 p.m.

Plenary 1 Austria Centre - Hall F

Welcome to Vienna
General Secretary of the Austrian People's Party
Maria Rauch-Kallat (confirmed)

Opening of the Conference
Chair of the Vital Voices Steering Committee and
U.S. Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt (confirmed)

Former Italian Prime Minister
Susanne Agnelli (confirmed)



Coffee break

3:00 p.m.
until
4:30 p.m.

Plenary 1 continued

Former Lithuanian Prime Minister
Kazimiera Prunskiene (confirmed)

Vice-President of the Czech Senate
Dr. Jaroslava Moserová (confirmed)

President, National Bank of Poland
Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz

Break

5:00 p.m.
until
6:00 p.m.

Focus Groups
in VIC Cafeteria

7:00 p.m.
until
10:00 p.m.

Casual American Buffet Dinner and Entertainment at
Ambassador Hunt's residence
Weidlichgasse 1-5, 1130 Vienna

9:00-6:00



Ongoing
Women's
Film
Festival
Room V
7th floor
@ VIC

or



Visit
Cyber
Space
on the
7th
floor
@ VIC

Vital Voices Workshop Leaders**Thursday, July 10, am****TRACK 1*****Politics & Persuasion*****Workshop A:
Expanding Women's
Political Participation****US:****Laura Liswood**, Director,
Women's Leadership Project
(confirmed)**Irene Natividad**, Chair,
Women's Vote '96
(confirmed)**CEE:****Sala Valdete**, Program
Director, Open Society
Foundation for Albania
(confirmed)**Rada Boric**, Women's
Coordinator, Center for
Women War Victims,
Croatia (confirmed)**EU:****Elizabeth Guigou**, Member,
European Parliament, former
Minister for European
Affairs, France (?)**Alice Brown**, Professor,
Department of Political
Science, University of
Edinburgh, UK (?)**TRACK 2*****Law & Leadership*****Workshop A:
Leveraging the Legal
System****US:****Marcia Greenberger**, Co-
President, National Women's
Law Center (confirmed)**Sally Shelton-Colby**,
Assistant Administrator,
USAID (confirmed)**CEE:****Vilja Alcknaite-
Abramikiene**, Chair,
Parliamentary Commission
on Family and Children's
Affairs, Lithuania
(confirmed)**Lyudmila Zavadskaya**,
Deputy Minister of Justice,
Russian Federation
(confirmed)**Meta Zupancic**, Former
Minister of Justice, Liberal
Democratic Party, Slovenia
(?)**EU:****Dr. Lillian Hofmeister**,
Austrian Ministry of Justice
(confirmed)**TRACK 3*****Business & Beyond*****Workshop A:
Business Development****US:****Connie Evans**, Chicago
Women's Self Employment
Project (confirmed)**Mary Yerrick**, President,
Prime Time Solutions Inc.
(confirmed)**CEE:****Anita Mezinska**, Director,
Licpaja Enterprise Support
Center, Latvia (confirmed)**Klelija Balta**, Assistant
Director for Development,
PROMO International,
Bosnia and Herzegovina
(confirmed)**Giedre Purvaneckiene**,
UNDP, Gender in
Development, Lithuania (?)**Ana Maria Sandi**, World
Bank, Romania (?)**EU:****Karen McClellan**, Founder,
First Women East Fund, UK
(confirmed)

6-30-97

5:30 pm

Vital Voices Workshop Leaders

Thursday, July 10, pm

TRACK 1***Politics & Persuasion*****Workshop B:
Political Presentation**

US:
Lisa Caputo, Vice President,
CBS (confirmed)

Evelyn Lichberman,
Director, Voice of America
(confirmed)

CEE:
Sonja Licht, Director for
Serbia and Montenegro,
Open Society Fund, Belgrade
(confirmed)

Marju Lauristin, Professor
of Journalism and Public
Relations, Tartu University,
Estonia (confirmed)

Oksana Kuts, Association
for Women in Media,
Ukraine (confirmed)

EU:
Maria Lazaridou,
Managing Director, "The PR
Team," Greece (?)

TRACK 2***Law & Leadership*****Workshop B:
NGOs as a Force for
Change**

US:
Lael Stegall, Social Change
International (confirmed)

Wendy Luers, Foundation
for a Civil Society
(confirmed)

CEE:
Jana Ryslinkova, Director,
Information Center for
Foundations and NGOs,
Czech Republic (confirmed)

Nzurdihana Dozic, Zena 21,
Editor and President, Bosnia
and Herzegovina (confirmed)

EU:
Katy Tzitzicosta, President,
Society of Interbalkan
Women's Cooperation,
Greece (confirmed)

Lily Boeykens, Immediate
Task Officer and Past
President, International
Women's Council, Belgium
(confirmed)

TRACK 3***Business & Beyond*****Workshop B:
From Credit to Capital
Formation**

US:
Grace Kennan Warncke,
Sovus Business (confirmed)

Karen Shepherd, Executive
Director, European Bank for
Reconstruction and
Development (confirmed)

CEE:
Verica Hadz Markovska,
Director, Privatization
Agency, Macedonia
(confirmed)

Daniela Nikolova Bobeva,
Minister of Trade, Bulgarian
National Bank (?)

Suzanne Olali, Managing
Director, Vepex Consulting,
Hungary (?)

EU:
Roz Crowley, National
President, NETWORK
Ireland (?)

Vital Voices Workshop Leaders**Friday, July 11, am****TRACK 1*****Politics & Persuasion*****Workshop C:
Parliamentary Power**

US:
Marjorie Margolies-
Mezvinsky, President,
 Women's Campaign Fund,
 former member of Congress
 (confirmed)

Madeleine Kunin, US
 Ambassador to Switzerland
 (confirmed)

CEE:
Lyudmilla Gryaznova,
 Deputy from the legal
 (disbanded) Parliament,
 Belarus (confirmed)

Judit Jarai, MTV,
 Panorama, Hungary
 (confirmed)

Urszula Nowakowska,
 Women's Rights Center,
 Poland (?)

EU:
Doris Havik, Member of
 Parliament and Council of
 Europe, Sweden (confirmed)

TRACK 2***Law & Leadership*****Workshop C:
Justice in the Legal System**

US:
Sally Brandel, Deputy
 Director, Office of
 International Criminal
 Justice, Department of State
 (confirmed)

Bonnie Campbell, Director,
 Violence Against Women
 Office, Department of Justice
 (confirmed)

CEE:
Susanna Stanyk, Ministry of
 Family and Youth, Ukraine
 (confirmed)

Dagmara Baraniewska,
 Director Women's Program,
 Stefan Batory Foundation,
 Poland (confirmed)

EU:
Marijke Van Nemeldonck,
 Member European
 Parliament, Chair of
 Committee on Women's
 Rights, France (?)

Christine Von Kohl,
 Consultant, Kulturni Center,
 Vienna, Austria (confirmed)

TRACK 3***Business & Beyond*****Workshop C:
Working Women**

US:
Anne Mosle, Center for
 Policy Alternatives
 (confirmed)

Barbara Shailor, AFL-CIO
 (confirmed)

CEE:
Marina Malysheva,
 Moscow Center for Gender
 Studies, Russian Federation
 (confirmed)

Edit Herczog, Technical
 and Sales Manager, National
 Starch and Chemical,
 Hungary (confirmed)

Karin Menglerova,
 Business owner, Karmar,
 Czech Republic (confirmed)

EU:
Evelyn Serdjenian,
 President, Professional
 Women's Union, France
 (confirmed)

6-30-97

5:30 pm

Vital Voices Workshop Leaders

RAPORTEURS FOR

SUMMARIES TO THE

PLENARY ON FRIDAY

Ruth Mandel, Director,
Eagleton Institute of Politics,
Rutgers University
(confirmed)

Anastasia Posadskaya-
Vanderbeck, Open Society
Institute, Soros Foundation
(confirmed, speaks Russian)

Natalia Petrora, President,
All Ukrainian Committee for
Children's Rights
(confirmed)

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Foreign Affairs

July, 1997 /August, 1997

SECTION: COMMENTS; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 2723 words

HEADLINE: Women's Vital Voices;
The Costs of Exclusion in Eastern Europe

BYLINE: Swanee Hunt; SWANEE HUNT is U.S. Ambassador to Austria.

BODY:

The advent of democracy in the former communist states of Europe brings both much promise and, as we are learning, much peril. n1 For millions, the complexion of life has evolved from red to rose-colored to raw. A monolithic nemesis has been replaced by a perplexing variety of threats to stability in this fragile region, with expressions of democracy frequently drowned out by the noises of intolerance and repression.

n1 For this discussion, Eastern Europe is defined as stretching east to Moscow and from the Baltics to Albania.

In this brave new world, the voices of women are vital to healthy social and political discourse. The dramatically low status of women in post-communist Europe is an issue that goes beyond the well-being of women per se to the fostering of economic development and democracy. American interests require that we help the region's women carve out their rightful place in the mainstream of society.

ON THE MARGINS OF DEMOCRACY

Life under communism was a far cry from the auspicious pronouncements of fair treatment for all comrades. After all, equal access to parliamentary charades, empty shelves, and substandard health services was hardly a boon. With the fall of communism, the trappings of gender parity fell away, exposing discrimination against women that had persisted in the totalitarian state. The transition to capitalism has been difficult for most, but especially for women.

While the particulars of women's status differ from country to country, patterns of marginalization exist: diminished labor market access, increasing vulnerability to crime, loss of family-oriented social benefits, and exceedingly low parliamentary representation. In many countries in transition the feminization of poverty has been striking. In Russia, 87 percent of employed urban residents with incomes under \$ 21 a month are female; above earnings of \$ 315 a month, the figure nose-dives to 32 percent. To an even greater extent than in the West, Eastern European women tend to be clustered in the low-paying professions. But during this period of transition, evermore-blattant gender-biased hiring and promotion practices are becoming deeply entrenched; job advertisements frequently specify "attractive female receptionist" or "male manager." In most of the new democracies, regulations prescribe early retirement for women, locking them into fixed incomes far removed from the free market.

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Under the weight of gender-based layoffs, lower pay, and meager career opportunities, this downward spiral is accelerating. In Russia, women's wages slipped from 70 percent of men's in 1989 to 40 percent in 1995, and in most sectors women are the last hired and first fired. In Slovakia, between 1989 and 1993 women earned just over half what men did -- although more women were university graduates. In Belarus, where the majority of specialists are female, women search for a job three times longer than their male counterparts.

The slower the economic growth, the more severe is women's disadvantage. Employment gaps between women and men are least apparent in Poland and the Czech Republic, which are thriving. In countries experiencing more difficult transitions, the gap is larger. In Ukraine, for example, women constitute 70 percent of the unemployed, and the trend is sharply worsening. The underlying rationale was distilled by Russian Labor Minister Gennady Melikyan in 1993: "Why should we employ women when men are out of work?"

With divorce rates on the rise, the failure to force fathers to pay child support also contributes to the impoverishment of women. Likewise, holes in the government social net of kindergartens, child care, health care, and pensions make life precarious for women, who are usually expected to shoulder 100 percent of family responsibilities. In a reversal of communist demands that women work alongside men in fields and factories, whether they want to or not, women are now being pushed back to hearth and home.

Complicating their situation even further, women in Eastern Europe are disproportionately vulnerable to rising crime. Trafficking in women, which is increasing exponentially, ravages the bodies and spirits of impoverished young women promised jobs in the West only to find themselves controlled by pimps. A distressingly unexceptional case is that of a Polish shipyard clerk recruited for a better-paying job as a waitress in Germany. The recruiter photographed her being raped, then threatened to send the pictures to her devout mother in Gdansk. There has been a tragic surge in such violations since the rending of the Iron Curtain. By 1993 there were an estimated 8,000 Polish prostitutes in Frankfurt alone.

The development of legal protections often taken for granted in the West has languished in many of these countries. In Hungary, there is no law against sexual harassment in the workplace, which a U.N. report describes as "virtually epidemic." In some villages in Serbia-Montenegro, brides are still bought and sold. In Bulgaria, the law demands a witness in order to prosecute a rape case, and no prosecution for spousal abuse is possible unless the wife has been killed or permanently injured. Women in Moldova report that their courts view domestic violence as a "private family issue," yet in neighboring Russia, where an estimated 80 percent of violent crimes take place in the home, 15,000 women are killed by their husbands each year.

Clearly women were not integral to policymaking before the transition to democracy. But as a new chapter of freedom is being written, they ironically find themselves confined to the margins. Although communist parliaments were little more than rubber stamps, women were at least visible, their presence ensured by state-imposed quotas. To some extent, that ruse was itself pernicious. Nevertheless, the pretense of representation has been replaced by today's transparent exclusion. Across the chasm of political upheaval, from 1987 to 1994 the percentage of women in parliament decreased from 28 percent to 6 percent in Albania, from 34 percent to 4 percent in Romania, and from 21

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percent to 11 percent in Hungary. Parliament was 33 percent female in the Soviet Union, but in many of the newly independent states the figure is now under 3 percent. The same downward trend is apparent for women in top ministerial posts: representation in Albania, Romania, and Hungary declined from 6 percent, 12 percent, and 4 percent, respectively, to zero.

AT HALF STRENGTH

Forty-five years ago, U.N. Ambassador Eleanor Roosevelt pointed out to the General Assembly that "too often the great decisions are originated and given form in bodies . . . so completely dominated by [men] that whatever of special value women have to offer is shunted aside without expression."

What women have to offer is nothing less than essential elements of the infrastructure of political stability. n2 Economic disparity, social hardships, breakdown of the rule of law, and weakness in civil structures are all exacerbated by the exclusion of women from the core of society. For example, women in poverty raise children in poverty, children less likely to benefit from good health, good education, and good jobs -- children whose own unstable lives in turn contribute to the instability of their communities.

n2 To describe the role or qualities of women, one must resort to generalities that do serious injustice to the differences among individuals. That said, one should not back away from thinking in gender terms, even though those categories can be misunderstood or misused.

New free-market economies are producing a wide gap between rich and poor citizens, creating class resentments. When women, who generally build small to midlevel companies, are not valued as a resource for filling out the middle class, they cannot fuel their countries' economies as reliable employees and innovative entrepreneurs. Eastern Europe urgently needs the same energy that has driven the U.S. economy: a quarter of the American labor force is now employed by women-owned businesses, which, in 25 years, have increased from 5 percent to 35 percent of all U.S. firms.

Looking outward, the continuing disparity between rich and poor European countries, exacerbated by the disregard of talented and highly educated women in post-communist democracies, also undermines regional stability. Just when their contribution is most needed to strengthen fragile economies, women are stumbling on their way to the marketplace, overburdened with household responsibilities. Women report that, more than ever, they are preoccupied with just getting through the day rather than building the future.

The discounting of women actually contributes to lawlessness, and the reverse is also true: trafficking in women is fueling organized crime, creating a menacing new East-West link as traffickers enjoy an endless market, enormous profits, minimal punishment, and little risk of getting caught. Fledgling democracies are especially vulnerable to and destabilized by such lawlessness. Nor is this violence against women solely an issue of justice; societies cannot honestly support women as builders of the new economies while tolerating a market in which criminals sell them as commodities.

Although there are still serious gender inequities in Western Europe as well, the trend there is toward women's full involvement, based on the democratic principle that lack of representation in political chambers is a fundamental

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flaw. The widening variance in the evolution of women's roles creates a further divide between Eastern and Western Europe at a time when stability through integration is a continental goal.

Finally, extensive sociological studies, neurological research, linguistic analysis, and political polling support the premise that, whether due to nature or nurture, there are differences in the way women and men perceive and behave. Women have coalesced in new alliances -- there were 40 women's groups across Bosnia in the middle of the war -- and they have led in the development of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), the building blocks of any civil society. Eighty-four percent of NGOs in the Czech Republic, for example, are now headed by women. Sometimes women's cooperation has significant political import. In a dramatic crucible, after Bosnian Serb forces seizing Srebrenica in July 1995 massacred thousands of Muslim boys and men, Bosnian Muslim women were asked if they could work with Bosnian Serb women also searching for missing loved ones. The women nodded, then added, "We are all mothers."

PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS

When President Clinton sent Vice President Al Gore to lead the U.S. delegation to the 1994 U.N. population conference in Cairo, he set a new direction for U.S. policy in support of the priorities of women. That theme was reinforced through high-level U.S. leadership both at the 1995 U.N. women's conference in Beijing and afterward, when the White House formed an interagency council, now chaired by the secretary of state, to track implementation of the commitments the United States had made.

With the eyes of the world on the United States, the active global presence of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is probably the most potent contribution to the empowerment of women worldwide. But we are also taking more concrete steps.

For example, understanding that investing in women provides both short-term and long-term gains, the United States is sharpening its focus on women's economic enterprises. The U.S. government can ensure that entrepreneurial education is directed to women, as with recent funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for management training for 5,000 women dairy farmers in Albania and women running former state farms in Russia.

Credit is also critical. With a 98 percent rate of repayment, microloans for women are an extremely efficient way to support women and restore damaged economies. One example is the Bosnian Women's Initiative, launched by President Clinton at the 1996 Group of Seven summit. Bolstering business ventures by women of all three Bosnian ethnic groups, the grant program increases the economic -- and therefore social and political -- role of women. The First Lady has become a strong advocate for microcredit, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development recently sponsored a conference to explore the connection between growth-oriented economies and women-owned businesses.

In terms of crime, an increased American presence in global law enforcement must support the new foreign policy emphasis on women's full participation in society. The U.S. government is focusing on this European slave trade. As part of the effort to combat trafficking in women, the United States was an active observer at a 1996 meeting in Austria whose aim was to harmonize national and international policies and legislation.

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Similarly, as we back such democratic institutions as free media, independent judiciaries, open markets, NGOs, and multiparty elections, our support can help advance women as journalists, judges, investors, entrepreneurs, activists, and elected officials. To that end, a July conference in Vienna under the auspices of the U.S.-EU New Transatlantic Agenda, "Vital Voices: Women in Democracy," will bring together 150 women leaders from post-communist states to develop strategies with 150 women from the West.

Finally, USAID has supported numerous NGOS developing women's leadership in Croatia, Poland, Russia, Albania, and Bosnia. As a corollary, local women leaders must be included in U.S. government events in Eastern Europe where issues are discussed, deals are made, and policies refined. That may mean more creativity in compiling American embassies' Rolodexes, drawing from new sectors where women are key players, such as NGOS, the free media, and independent judiciaries. Similarly, embassies can expand programs to energize promising female political leaders by selecting them for visitors programs to the United States. From decades of experience identifying talented young male leaders, we can project that our early encouragement will reap enormous long-term gains.

While each of these efforts is infinitesimally small compared to the overall activities of the U.S. government, they all represent progressive steps for the foreign policy community. To use Secretary Albright's formulation, "focusing on women is not simply the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do."

RAISING THEIR VOICES

Even in the face of hardship, women in the developing democracies are not playing the role of silent victims. Many have not only survived the transition, but are central to the formation of a civil society.

Over the past century, the nonprofit movement was a training ground for women in the United States; likewise, today's NGOS are providing an opportunity for development of European women leaders. Founded in 1990, the Network of East-West Women links more than 1,500 advocates in over 30 countries. Such projects not only provide important analysis (the Center for Gender Studies in Moscow is a regional leader), but also work directly with women in need. For example, La Strada was formed by women in Poland to offer shelter and information, warning other women of the dangers of the trafficking trade. And in spite of Moldova's economic plight, its Women's Association has 27 chapters that provide charitable assistance as well as technical support to women starting their own businesses.

The disorienting transition has not kept outstanding women leaders from appearing as government ministers and heads of key national and municipal entities. Their numbers are few as they break through a thick glass ceiling impenetrable in the days of totalitarian rule. But once broken, that barrier can never be resealed.

Examples abound of women finding their voices in post-communist Europe, and what they're calling for is nothing less than a just and humane society. Those basic American values are the rich resonance fundamental to a free-market economy and stable democracy. As women echo our own values, it is in the United States' interest to magnify their voices.

GRAPHIC: Picture, Living on the margins: Refugees in Gorazde, 1997, SWANEE HUNT

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: June 30, 1997

UKRAINE
July 2, 1997

Lazarenko Resignation

- **Note President Kuchma accepted Prime Minister Lazarenko's resignation. Such decisions President Kuchma's to make. Do not have information on likely replacement.**
- **Look to President Kuchma and Rada leaders to work together to expedite appointment of team ready to implement reform agenda.**

(If raised -- is this good for anti-corruption campaign?)

- **Have no basis to comment on whether Lazarenko resignation affects anti-corruption efforts. Tackling corruption is high on President Kuchma's agenda; U.S. prepared to support concrete initiatives to promote open, competitive, transparent economy.**

[ASC Press Group, 7/2]

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

Divider Title: **Tab A**

STATUS OF WOMEN UPDATE

EASTERN EUROPE

JULY 1, 1997

ALBANIA

- There are approximately twenty six NGOs in Albania which are devoted to organizing counseling services, seminars, and training for women throughout the country. Many groups are beginning to coordinate with one another. Many NGOs have established branches in cities other than Tirana, the capital. NGOs and international foundations have also strengthened women's NGOs in Albania by providing them with expertise and support.
- Projects are underway to address issues such as domestic violence and issues of women and land ownership. Advocacy groups plan to lobby the Parliament to ensure the passage of favorable legislation based on these and other issues. Parliament has already passed a law on reproductive rights.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

- Women may now take twelve months maternity leave and are required to work no more than four hours per day while their child is under the age of three. Employers cannot force women with underage children to do shift work.

BULGARIA

- There are approximately thirty women's organizations in Bulgaria. Many of these organizations have close ties to political parties and a professional agenda.
- Zagreb, Pula and Osijek offer twenty-four hour hotline services for the psychological and medical care of abused women. Many cities have established centers for the psychological and medical care of abused women.
- Many local institutions and voluntary agencies and organizations offer abused women social, medical assistance and other forms of support. These centers also treat women suffering from traumatic war experiences. Family crisis associations also offer assistance to abused women.

CROATIA

- A national Coordination Council of Women's Organizations called "Hrvatska Zena", (Croatian Woman) has attempted to make itself a stronger advocacy group. The organization was established during the communist era from small independent advocacy groups which were active in the capital and smaller cities. It is a nationwide organization.

ESTONIA

- Estonia's participation in the UN Fourth World Conference on Women has resulted in greater discussion about the role of women in that country. Female Social Affairs Minister Siiri Oviir's unsuccessful bid for presidency also resulted in greater discussion of the status and role of women in society.

HUNGARY

- The Government has created an Office of Women's Issues in the Ministry of Labor in order to better address women's concerns.

LATVIA

- The National Human Rights Organization and the Interior Ministry have begun to work together to provide assistance to victims of domestic abuse and offer special training to law enforcement personnel.
- Women's advocacy groups have grown in size and number. They lobby for increased social benefits for women, they assist women in searches for employment, and aid victims of domestic violence. They are also active in opposing military recruit hazing.

LITHUANIA

- The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the women's organization, Focus, have designated over \$100,000.00 for the establishment of a crisis center for women in Vilnius. The center will offer women professional counseling, medical aid, and support. Caritas, a religious, charitable, organization, has also opened a six room shelter in Vilnius.

MOLDOVA

- A women's crisis group combats spousal abuse and the underreporting of domestic violence.

POLAND

- A crisis hotline for abused women in Poland fielded 1,000 calls during 1996.

THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

- After the UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, the government created a Coordinating Committee for Women's Affairs which discusses women's issues and Beijing Conference follow-up. The committee includes government officials and NGO representatives.
- The Democratic Union of Women in Slovakia (DUZS) and the Alliance of Women in Slovakia monitor the observance of women's rights that are guaranteed in the Constitution and internationally accepted documents. The DUZS has supported the establishment of a parliamentary committee on women and the family.

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Romania: Women's Issues

Women enjoy equal rights under Romanian law. They are found in all skilled professions and are assured equal salary for equal work. In practice, however, authorities do not focus a great deal of attention or resources on women's issues.

There are recent signs that the government is trying to change this situation. Following the Beijing Conference, the Ministry of Labor established a department responsible for the advancement of women's concerns and family policies. The new department organizes programs for women, proposes new laws, and monitors Romanian legislation to prevent gender bias. Resources are targeted to train women for skilled professions, especially in rural areas, and to address programs for single mothers. This department is planning a follow-up regional conference to the Beijing Conference, to be held in Bucharest September 2-4, 1996. Romania has ratified the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Key Issues:

- Women currently occupy few top positions in either the private sector or government. They hold only 2.9 percent of the seats in Parliament, no cabinet posts, and number only 1.1 percent of the mayorships.
- Unemployment for women is higher than for men. Resentment at the policy of forced equality during the communist era (not in fact practiced), traditional patriarchal attitudes, and present economic difficulties have contributed to this.
- Human rights groups and women's groups credibly affirm that cultural patriarchal attitudes and present economic difficulties have made domestic violence a problem in Romania.
- Certain laws need expeditious reform. Rape is difficult to prove barring a medical certificate and a witness. In addition, a rapist will not be punished if he agrees to marry the victim.
- There are currently no functioning crisis centers, shelters, or hot lines for female victims of violent crime or domestic violence. The Ministry of Labor plans an assistance center which will provide judicial and medical assistance for abused women in cooperation with the police.

Romania's Position at the Beijing Conference on Women

A Romanian delegation participated actively in the Beijing Conference. The government is now planning to host, in cooperation with the U.N., a follow-up conference for East and Central European countries to assess implementation of provisions contained in Beijing Conference documents. The follow-up conference will be held in Bucharest on September 2-4, 1996.

Key Points:

- The Romanian government in principle addresses women's human rights as an integral part of universal human rights.
- Structural changes initiated after 1989 have brought declining living standards and higher unemployment, especially for women. As a result, social protection has become a major element in the government's reform program.
- Access of women to education and health care is not restricted in Romania. Women employers now represent about 28 percent of the private sector.
- Priority goals of the Romanian government in women's issues include: (1) reducing women's unemployment and ensuring them appropriate employment; (2) changing social attitudes; (3) helping vulnerable categories of women; and (4) upgrading women to decision-making positions.

Poland: Women's Status and Issues

While women are not subject to blatant discrimination nor ill-treatment, various inequities in the law and in practice exist. In particular, the health care system has neglected women's concerns such as breast cancer and maternity conditions and the government has not focused attention on women's societal problems like domestic violence and workplace discrimination. Poland has ratified the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Women's organizations can be typed as a) derived from pre-1989 "official" (i.e., communist-linked); b) "Catholic/conservative"; c) liberal/secular. The latter group is both the closest counterpart to Western notions of feminist organizations and the smallest. A few women are very prominent in politics, media and government, e.g., the National Bank President. President Kwasniewski's chief advisor on social and women's issues is a former Solidarity activist and anti-clerical activist.

Specific problems women face in Poland include:

- Domestic Violence: government statistics do not differentiate between male and female victims of violence, and the government has no program to investigate it.
- Increase in Trafficking in Women: Increasing numbers of Polish women are induced, often under false pretenses, to work as prostitutes in Western Europe.
- Harassment or Discrimination in the Workplace: Few register complaints because of the lack of specific provisions in the Labor Code that provide for redress.
- Discriminatory Job Advertisements: Ads frequently indicate gender preference and age, often discriminating against women.
- Exclusion and Unemployment: Women remain banned from working in 90 occupations in 18 fields and account for 55.2 percent of all those unemployed as of July 1995.
- Glass Ceiling: Few women hold high government positions (only one out of 17 government ministers is a woman).
- Rigid Roles: While both the husband and wife usually must work to make ends meet, women are still expected to do most of the domestic work, stay home for child rearing and care for sick family members.

TO: Melanne Vermeer ✓
Dan Fried

Memorandum

FVI,
Marilyn C

To: Marilyn DiGiacobbe
CC: Tom Albert
From: John J. Pikarski, Jr.
Date: June 13, 1996
Subject: First Lady's Trip to Poland

As a supplement to my recommendations for the First Lady's trip to Poland, I am including a list of issues important to the women of Poland. I understand that the First Lady will be making a major policy statement while in Poland. However, I felt that she might also be interested in addressing areas that affect women.

First and foremost, preventive health care is unheard of in Poland. Women do not have mamograms to detect early breast cancers. Many women are extremely fearful of mamograms because of misinformation. They are afraid that mamograms are extremely painful and can cause cancer. Poland has the highest rate of breast cancer in all of Europe. A highly visible breast cancer awareness campaign is necessary in Poland. This is an issue that needs to be brought out into the open. It is not discussed publicly because it is viewed as a topic which is taboo. Irena Kozminska, the wife of the Polish Ambassador, is trying to begin such a program by collecting funds here to be used in Poland. Additionally, it is an issue with which Lisa Rey, the wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Poland, has also been trying to address.

Another major problem regarding preventive health care, is the failure to have children immunized against childhood diseases. Measles, mumps, etc. are treated when they occur but proactive steps are not taken to prevent such childhood maladies. Parents need to be made aware of the fact that such diseases are preventable.

Poland, unfortunately, has a high incidence of alcohol abuse. In this postcommunist era, the problem is being addressed. However, women have a particularly difficult time admitting to alcoholism and seeking help. Alcohol abuse, for a woman, carries a stigma. A woman would be held in disdain by society and berated by family if she did admit to this disease. Consequently, many women will not acknowledge alcohol abuse and the disease continues untreated.

A by product of alcohol abuse in Poland is spousal abuse. Since the concept of social support systems in Poland is relatively new, women generally have no where to turn for help. Additionally, most battered or abused women would not consider leaving a husband because of this. Social norms still dictate that the husband was exercising his marital prerogatives.

Effective parenting skills are not widely practiced in Poland. During the communist era, life was extremely difficult. Besides working long hours, women waited in interminable lines for food for the family before going home to prepare the meal. There was little time or energy left to interact with a child. A common form of discipline is a hard slap in the face or harsh reprimand. This is not viewed as abuse but as a parent's right to discipline a child. Constructive forms of discipline have never been taught. Women, and indeed couples, need to be educated as to effective parenting skills to break the chain of this destructive discipline. This topic may be of interest to Mrs. Clinton in light of her recent book *It Takes a Village*.

Although not solely related to women, the topic of volunteerism should be addressed. Volunteering is a concept which is unknown. The communist bureaucracy did not foster volunteerism. All needs were taken care of by the government. There were no nongovernmental organizations. In democratic Poland, as social service agencies and organizations begin to form, volunteerism is crucial but still alien. The need for it is not yet understood. However, volunteerism is essential if social service agencies are to flourish.



Women in Poland

Issued July 1995

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
Population Division
International Programs Center

WID/95-1

This is the first in the series, Profiles of the World's Women. These profiles present issues related to the status of women in different countries of the world. Funding for this series is provided by the Office of Women in Development, USAID.

As with most countries in Eastern Europe, women in Poland have played an exceptional role in the economy, as well as maintaining their traditional responsibility for the home and family. Women in Poland... have low levels of fertility...are responsible for the home... have high levels of education relative to men...make a large contribution to the labor force...are suffering more than men from unemployment... earn less than men.

With the transition to a market economy, Poland is changing rapidly. These changes have both positive and negative effects on the status of women. With the privatization of the economy, women are beginning to

own and run businesses. On the other hand, the transition to a market economy has brought about unemployment from which women are suffering disproportionately.

Although Polish women have high rates of labor force participation, there is a high degree of sex segregation in the labor force with women dominating fields with lower prestige and lower pay. Another negative result of the transition is that benefits which women previously enjoyed under communism, such as subsidized child care and paid maternity leave, are no longer guaranteed. Under the communist regime, Polish women had equal

access to education and today young Polish women have higher levels of educational attainment than young Polish men.

Population Trends....

Poland has approximately 39 million people, 51 percent of whom are women. Poland's population grew at around 1 percent per year from 1970 to 1984. In the mid 1980s, the rate of growth began to decline, and it is now at a level of 0.2 percent per year. One reason for the decrease in the growth rate is the steady decline in fertility, especially since the late 1980s.

The Velvet Revolution

As in all of the countries in the former Soviet Bloc, Poland has been undergoing dramatic political and economic changes since the late 1980s. In 1989, the Communist government in Poland was voted out of office and Solidarity came into power. With the change in government came the beginning of the transition from a centrally planned economy to a free market economy. Since 1989, the Polish economy has undergone major changes: prices were decontrolled; firms were privatized; and unemployment has become a serious problem.

In 1994, the total fertility rate reached an all time low for Poland of 1.8.

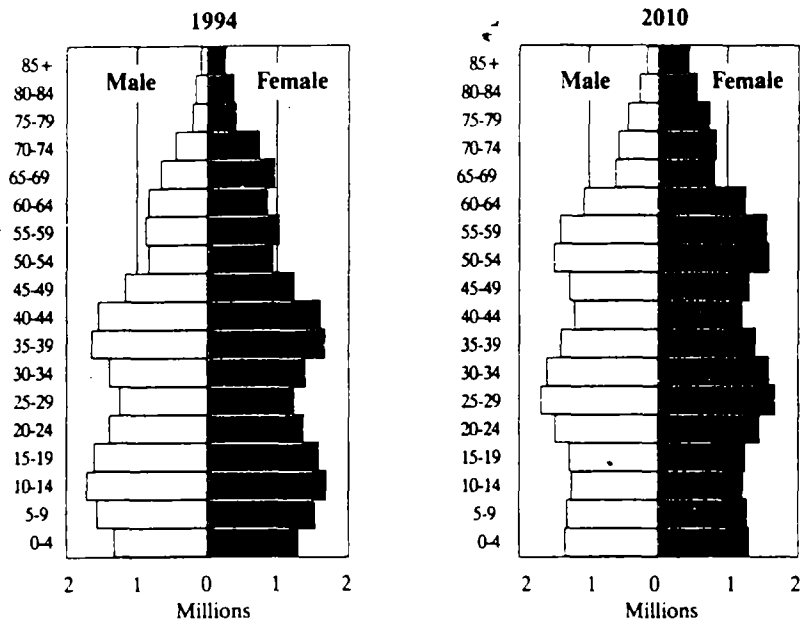
Currently, life expectancy in Poland is 76 years for women and 68 years for men. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, there was a stagnation in male life expectancy in Poland, as well as in many other Eastern European countries and former Soviet republics, which many researchers link with life-style behaviors (e.g., excessive use of alcohol and tobacco). This stagnation in male life expectancy has caused Poland to have one of the widest sex differentials in life expectancy in the world, approximately 8.5 years in 1994.

Like most developed countries, men slightly outnumber women in the young ages and only in the middle and older age groups do women outnumber men.

The age structure of Poland's population clearly shows the effects of World War II (figure 1). The cohorts aged 50 to 54 in 1994, born during World War II when fertility was dramatically reduced, are smaller than average. The cohorts aged 35 to 49 represent the increase in fertility that occurred after the war. The echo effect of these post-war cohorts also can be seen in the population pyramid in the ages 10 to 19 (the children of the post-war cohorts). The blips and bulges of these cohorts will continue to move up the age pyramid in the future.

Another population characteristic that is evident in the age pyramid is that, like the other countries of Eastern Europe, Poland's population is aging. In 1994, 13 percent of the population was past the legal retirement ages (60 for women and 65 for men).

Figure 1.
Population of Poland, by Age and Sex



By 2010, this proportion will increase to 16 percent.

Marital Status....

Marital status either directly or indirectly affects many aspects of well-being for both sexes. In Poland, women marry on average at age 23 and men at age 26. At the younger adult ages, the majority of both sexes are married while at the older ages relatively more elderly men than elderly women are married. Well over half (59 percent) of the women aged 65 and over were widowed in 1988 compared with 18 percent of men. This difference is the result of both higher male mortality rates at most ages and women tending to marry men a few years older than themselves. One result of the differing marital status of elderly men and women is that elderly women are much more likely to live alone than are elderly men (Fratczak, 1992).

More women are currently divorced than men (divorced men are more likely to remarry than are divorced

women). However, divorce is not as prevalent in Poland as it is in many of the other former communist countries, such as Russia. This difference is most likely associated with Poland being a traditionally Catholic country (over 90 percent of the population is Catholic).

Typically, in a divorce women receive custody of the children. In 1991, women were granted sole custody of the children in over 70 percent of the divorce cases involving children under age 18. In contrast, men received sole custody in less than 4 percent of the cases (the remaining 26 percent of cases involved joint custody). This pattern of single mothers being responsible for the care of the children is also reflected in the data on family type. In 1988, 14 percent of all families consisted of a single mother with children while single fathers with children accounted for only 2 percent of all families.

One of the reasons for concern about single-parent families is they are much

more likely to live in poverty than two-parent families. A 1992 survey found that 28 percent of single-parent households had incomes below the minimum sustenance level compared with 15 percent of two-parent households.

Family Planning....

Recently, fertility regulation is becoming more restrictive in Poland. Data from surveys show that fewer than half of Polish women used some form of contraceptive method, and only 17 percent of women used a modern method (David and Titkow, 1994). Until recently, abortion was one of the main forms of birth control in Poland (primarily due to lack of availability of modern methods). However, this changed when a new abortion law which strictly limits access to abortions was passed in 1993.

This new law could have serious consequences for the health of women and for the level of fertility. The number of officially reported abortions already has decreased dramatically from 11,640 in 1992

to 777 in 1993 (Rich, 1994). There also have been reports of deaths due to complications from self-induced abortions.

Education....

Educational attainment is generally one of the key indicators of the status of women, and in Poland women have been making dramatic progress in this area. However, it is important to understand the organization of the Polish educational system before interpreting the data. After the completion of primary school there are three different options: 1) basic vocational (incomplete secondary); 2) vocational secondary; and 3) general secondary school (figure 2). Forty-six percent of the primary school graduates go on to basic vocational schools where they receive training for a trade but not a secondary school diploma. Graduates of these schools can either directly enter the work-force or go on to general or vocational secondary school to work toward a secondary school diploma. Men are much more likely to have only basic vocational education than are women, 32 percent and 16 percent respectively in 1988 (figure 3). Only graduates of the other two choices after primary school, vocational secondary and general secondary, are considered to have a completed secondary education. Thus, while only 32 percent of the population aged 15 and over in 1988 had a completed secondary education, over half (56 percent) had at least basic vocational education (incomplete secondary).

After completing secondary school, one can either enter the workforce or continue his/her education by going directly to college or by attending a "post-secondary" school (similar to community colleges in the United

States). Women are much more likely to attend the "post-secondary" schools than are men. Women accounted for 79 percent of the people with this level of education in 1988.

The educational level of Polish women is low compared to other developed countries. Only 35 percent of Polish women aged 15 and over had completed secondary school compared with 74 percent of American women in the same age category. Polish women also compared poorly to other Eastern bloc countries (57 percent of Russian women aged 15 and over had completed secondary school). Even if those with basic vocational education (incomplete secondary) are included, Polish women still compare poorly (only 51 percent of those aged 15 and over have at least this level).

Although the educational level of Polish women is relatively low, there has been improvement over time (figure 4). Well over half of women

Figure 2.
Organization of the
Educational System

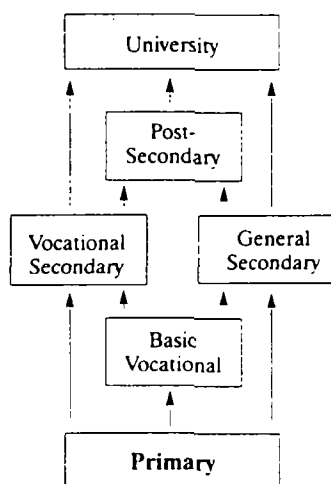


Figure 3.
Percent of the Population
Aged 15 and Older by Highest
Level of Education: 1988

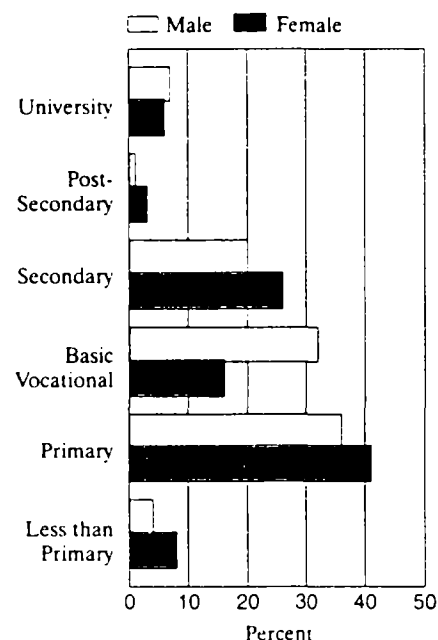
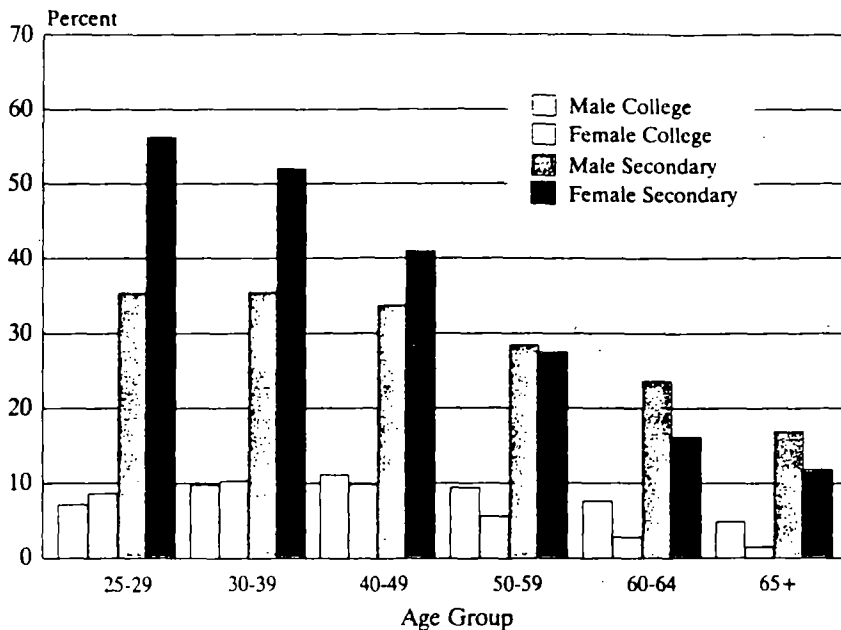


Figure 4.
Percent of the Population With Completed
Educational Level: 1988



aged 25 to 29 had at least completed secondary school compared with only 12 percent of women aged 65 and over. There has also been an increase in the proportion of women with a college degree. Ten percent of women aged 30 to 39 had a college degree in 1988 compared with less than 2 percent of women aged 65 and over.

One consequence of the gains in education for Polish women is that for the younger adult age groups, women actually have higher levels of education than men. It should be noted that the low levels of secondary education for men can be explained by the fact that men are much more likely to attend the basic vocational schools than are women. However, even if basic vocational education is included in the gender comparison, at the youngest ages, women still fare well compared with men (for those age 25 to 29, 85 percent of the men and 86 percent of the women had at least a basic vocational education).

These relatively high levels of educational attainment for younger women are a result of equal access to education for both sexes during the communist era. Since at least the late 1950s, girls have accounted for approximately half of the students enrolled in primary school (in the 1992-93 school year girls accounted for 48 percent of the students). Women are also well represented at the higher levels of education. In 1950, women made up 35 percent of the students enrolled in universities and this proportion has increased steadily over time, so that by 1992-93 women accounted for over half (52 percent) of all college students in Poland.

There is little evidence of sex segregation by field of study at the college level. Women account for approximately half of all college students in all major fields of study with the exception of engineering, in which they make up only 17 percent of the students.

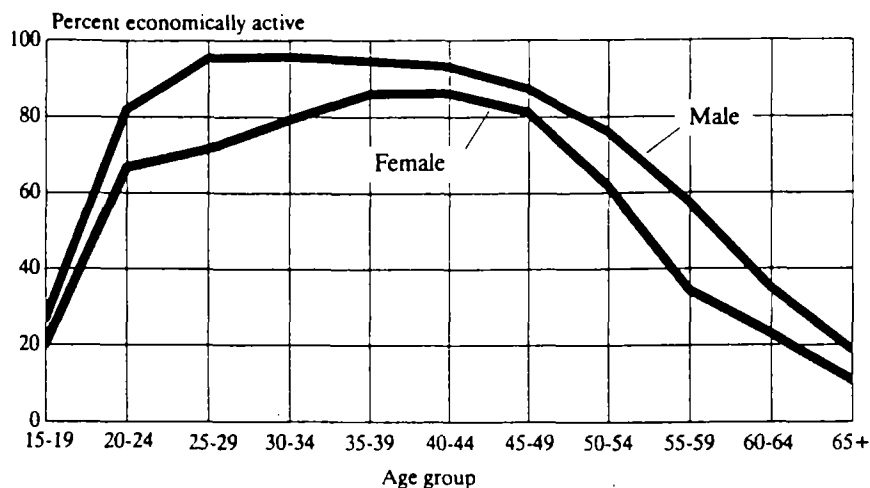
While women account for over half of all university students, they are not as well represented in the faculty. For the 1992-93 academic year, women accounted for 36 percent of all teaching staff at universities and only 17 percent of full professors. In this respect Poland is very similar to the United States, where for the 1992-93 academic year women accounted for only 16 percent of full professors and 33 percent of all teaching staff at universities.

Labor Force Participation....

One of the legacies of the communist era in Poland is that women have relatively high rates of labor force participation. They constituted nearly half (46 percent) of the labor force in 1992. Their participation rates for most age groups were not far below those of men (figure 5). Although Poland's female labor force participation rates are somewhat lower than those in some other East European countries (e.g., Bulgaria) and former Soviet republics (e.g., Russia), compared with the rest of the world these rates of participation are high.

High labor force participation is not a recent phenomenon. As far back as 1960 women accounted for 44 percent of the labor force. There has, however, been a shift in the age pattern of female labor force participation over time. Participation rates for both the younger (20 to 29) and older (55 and over) age groups were lower in 1988 than in 1970. The decrease in participation rates at the younger ages could be related to both an increase in female education and delayed entry into the labor force because of childbearing. At older ages, liberalizations in disability and retirement policies have led to an

Figure 5.
Labor Force Participation Rates: 1992



increase in early exits from the labor force.

Despite these high rates of female labor force participation, the labor force in Poland is still sex segregated with women dominating occupations such as health care and teaching at the primary and secondary level, and men more heavily involved in industry and construction (figure 6).

One recent claim is that men are beginning to take over areas—such as finance—that were traditionally

dominated by women but are now becoming more important in a market economy. There is some evidence that this is occurring. In 1988, women accounted for 86 percent of the full time workers in the finance sector. By 1993, their share had dropped to 80 percent.

A trend that has had a negative impact on female labor force participation in Poland is the reduction in the number of spaces in child care centers. Since 1991, the number of spaces in day care centers

has decreased by approximately 50 percent. Thus, working mothers are having an increasingly difficult time finding day care for their children.

One positive aspect of the transition to a market economy is that more women are starting their own businesses. In 1989, 290,000 women owned their own business. This number increased to 621,000 in 1992. Another way to look at these numbers is that in 1989, 3.7 percent of all working women owned their own business and this increased to 8.7 percent by 1992.

Unemployment....

One of the negative aspects of the transition toward a market economy is that unemployment, which was virtually nonexistent prior to 1990, has now become a problem. Women have been disproportionately affected by unemployment. In the beginning of 1990, women accounted for only 41 percent of the registered unemployed but their share of the total quickly increased to over half by the end of 1990. Women still account for over half of the nearly 3 million people who are unemployed in Poland.

Although unemployment has become worse over time for both sexes (figure 7), there is some evidence that the gender gap is narrowing. In August of 1993, the gender unemployment bias ratio (the female unemployment rate divided by the male multiplied by 100) was at its highest, 130 (i.e., the unemployment rate for women was approximately 30 percent higher than that of men). The ratio has since declined to just 113 in February 1994 (see table 1).

Not only have women suffered higher unemployment rates than men (notwithstanding recent trends), but

Figure 6.
Employment by Branch of the Economy and Sex: 1994

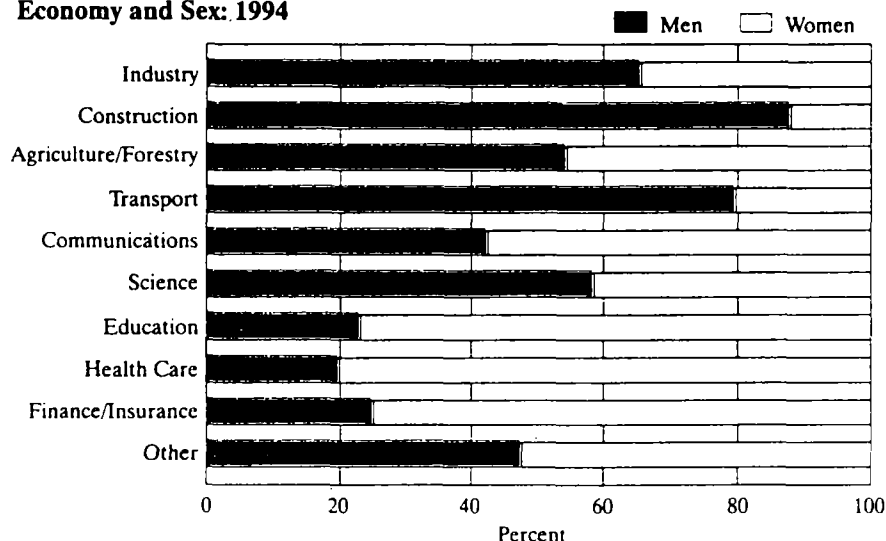
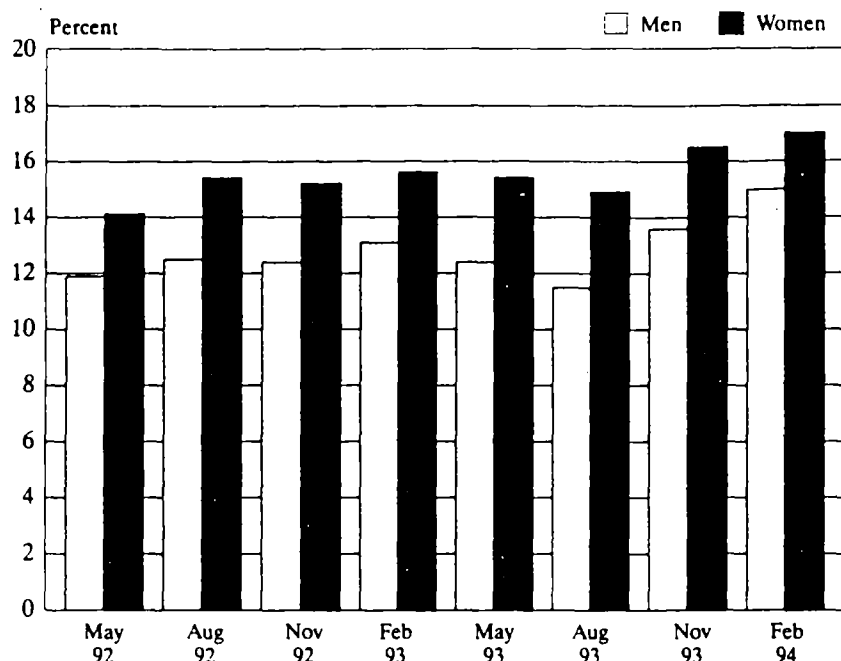


Figure 7.
Unemployment Rates



the duration of unemployment is slightly longer for women than for men. In March 1994, 49 percent of the 1.5 million unemployed women had been unemployed for over a year whereas only 40 percent of their male counterparts had been unemployed this long. One of the reasons for this difference in unemployment duration is that there are more job openings for men than there are for women (e.g., between 1991-92, job openings for women accounted for between 23 and 34 percent of total vacancies).

Income....

Although the Polish constitution guarantees men and women equal pay for equal work, women typically earn less than men. Women tend to work in lower paying fields, and within fields, men tend to have the higher level jobs. For example, women constitute 83 percent of health care workers, yet they account for only 54 percent of the doctors. This difference in levels of jobs by sex is reflected in

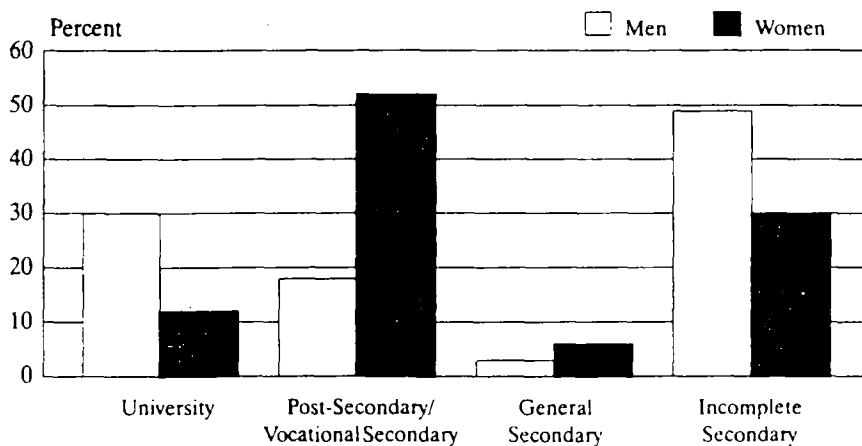
incomes. Almost 9 percent of the men who work in the health care field are in the highest income category compared with just over 1 percent of the women. The discrepancy becomes even greater when only the wages of non-manual (white collar) workers are considered. For white collar workers in the health care field, 18 percent of the men are in the highest income

category compared with less than 2 percent of the women.

Part of the discrepancy in income can be explained by differences in educational attainment (figure 8). For instance, 30 percent of men in the health care field have at least a college education compared with just 12 percent of the women. Women are more likely to have a "post-secondary" or vocational secondary level education rather than a college degree (52 percent of the female health care workers have either a "post-secondary" or vocational secondary degree). This level of education is likely to train women to be nurses or doctor's assistants rather than doctors.

Even when men do not have higher levels of education they often have higher wages. Men and women have different returns from education in terms of income. While the level of education has a more direct relationship for women-the higher the education the higher the income-this is not necessarily true for men. Men with basic vocational education (incomplete secondary) often obtain fairly high paying jobs

Figure 8.
Educational Attainment of Employees
in the Health Care Field: 1992



such as skilled repairmen whereas women with this level of education tend to be in lower paying unskilled jobs.

Another reason that women have lower incomes than men is that women are less likely than men to be employed in the private sector which typically has higher pay than the state sector. A recent survey of private enterprises found not only that women were less likely to work for these enterprises but that private enterprises had discriminatory hiring policies.

Women In Politics....

One way in which women can affect their status is to have a voice in the political process. Under communism women were guaranteed a certain share of positions in the Sejm (the Polish legislature). They accounted for over 20 percent of the Sejm from 1976 through 1989. With the fall of communism and the rise of free elections, women lost seats in the Sejm. In the 1991-1993 governmental session, women held only 10 percent of the seats in the Sejm and only 8 percent of the seats in the newly formed Senate. However, in the latest election in 1993, the proportion of women in both the Sejm and the Senate increased to 13 percent. This increase is likely a reaction to the restrictive new abortion law that was passed in 1993.

Women also make up a small proportion of the members of the local County Councils although this differs by area. In urban areas women were better represented, accounting for 16 percent of the council members compared with just 9 percent in rural areas. Warsaw had the highest proportion of women in its council, 26 percent in 1993.

Women are not well represented in the different governmental ministries. However, women that are involved in the government now may have more political power than the past female members of the Sejm. Past candidates were chosen by the Communist Party and did not necessarily have much decision making power. The women who are involved in the government today are more active than their predecessors (Kuratowska, 1992).

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This report was written by Victoria A. Velkoff. Profile users are invited to send their comments to the Chief, International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

Table 1.
Labor Force Characteristics

Age	Male				Female			
	1970	1978	1988	1992	1970	1978	1988	1992
Percent in labor force								
15-19	31.5	29.3	22.0	26.6	25.6	21.4	16.7	20.0
20-24	85.7	82.7	79.0	81.6	73.3	68.4	64.0	66.4
25-29	96.3	96.2	94.3	95.3	75.1	75.1	70.0	71.3
30-34	97.1	97.1	96.1	95.5	77.7	79.5	76.7	79.0
35-39	96.8	96.2	95.6	94.3	79.8	81.9	83.0	85.9
40-44	96.1	94.8	94.1	92.9	80.0	82.7	85.5	86.0
45-49	95.1	92.1	89.6	87.0	79.2	78.5	81.2	80.9
50-54	94.0	87.1	82.4	75.7	75.9	71.6	71.1	61.5
55-59	90.9	81.5	72.0	57.0	68.1	57.9	50.6	34.0
60-64	83.0	62.4	53.6	34.6	51.1	37.4	34.3	22.7
65+	56.4	34.9	32.5	18.4	33.0	19.4	19.0	10.5

Date	Male	Female	Ratio	Date	Male	Female	Ratio
Unemployment rates and gender unemployment bias ratio							
May 1992	11.9	14.1	118.5	May 1993	12.4	15.4	124.2
August 1992	12.5	15.4	123.2	August 1993	11.5	14.9	129.6
November 1992	12.4	15.2	122.6	November 1993	13.6	16.5	121.3
February 1993	13.1	15.6	119.1	February 1994	15.0	17.0	113.3

Table 2.
Population
[in thousands]

Age	1970	1978	1988	1994	2000
Total	32,642	35,061	37,879	38,551	39,238
Males					
All ages	15,854	17,080	18,464	18,767	19,094
0-4	1,281	1,588	1,574	1,325	1,258
5-9	1,399	1,389	1,723	1,571	1,290
10-14	1,730	1,303	1,613	1,721	1,501
15-19	1,772	1,517	1,391	1,617	1,716
20-24	1,499	1,743	1,265	1,394	1,629
25-29	949	1,651	1,444	1,249	1,431
30-34	1,076	1,210	1,694	1,397	1,237
35-39	1,127	960	1,585	1,654	1,324
40-44	1,097	1,060	1,157	1,559	1,591
45-49	915	1,096	898	1,168	1,541
50-54	587	953	961	834	1,226
55-59	674	744	957	874	759
60-64	676	468	785	834	777
65-69	498	576	567	661	702
70-74	307	428	308	447	544
75-79	155	243	303	207	332
80-84	73	101	158	166	131
85+	30	43	68	87	105
Females					
All ages	16,789	17,982	19,414	19,783	20,144
0-4	1,225	1,518	1,508	1,259	1,195
5-9	1,334	1,326	1,650	1,500	1,227
10-14	1,659	1,244	1,541	1,650	1,430
15-19	1,706	1,427	1,323	1,549	1,648
20-24	1,459	1,676	1,208	1,336	1,567
25-29	939	1,606	1,400	1,201	1,379
30-34	1,079	1,197	1,657	1,364	1,191
35-39	1,130	968	1,573	1,634	1,301
40-44	1,158	1,083	1,171	1,572	1,589
45-49	1,071	1,132	935	1,208	1,580
50-54	694	1,101	1,033	903	1,298
55-59	827	908	1,067	997	858
60-64	824	615	1,008	1,007	945
65-69	665	775	793	930	924
70-74	490	632	487	713	835
75-79	286	431	529	380	619
80-84	155	222	327	351	279
85+	77	114	187	231	278

Table 3.
Demographic Indicators

Date	Growth rate (per- cent)	Total fer- tility rate	Life expectancy at birth		Infant mor- tality
			Male	Female	
1960	1.3	2.98	64.8	70.5	54.80
1970	0.8	2.20	66.8	73.8	33.40
1980	0.9	2.28	66.9	75.4	21.30
1990	0.4	2.04	66.5	75.5	15.77
1994	0.2	1.83	67.9	76.4	12.57

Table 4.
Educational Attainment
[In percent]

Age	1970		1978		1988	
	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male
Completed secondary level and above						
25-29	23.7	29.2	31.8	46.7	35.4	56.0
30-39	22.7	22.8	31.3	38.3	35.5	51.8
40-49	19.0	11.7	26.6	25.2	33.7	40.7
50-59	12.9	8.7	20.7	13.5	28.5	27.2
60-64*	9.6	6.6	15.0	11.0	23.7	15.9
65+	(X)	(X)	11.9	8.5	16.9	11.6
Completed higher education						
25-29	5.7	4.9	7.7	8.1	7.2	8.7
30-39	6.5	3.5	9.4	7.6	9.8	10.3
40-49	6.0	2.2	8.4	4.7	11.2	9.9
50-59	3.6	1.1	6.3	2.2	9.4	5.7
60-64*	2.8	0.7	3.9	1.3	7.6	2.8
65+	(X)	(X)	3.3	1.0	4.9	1.5

* Data for 1970 refer to the age group 60 and over.

X Not applicable.

Table 5.
Women in Politics

Legislative body/period	Total deputies	Female deputies	Percent female deputies
Sejm			
1985-1989	460	93	20
1989-1991	460	62	13
1991-1993	460	44	10
1993-1997	460	60	13
Senate			
1989-1991	99	6	6
1991-1993	100	8	8
1993-1997	100	13	13

POLAND: Beijing Conference Position

Preparations for the Beijing Women's Conference catalyzed a heated debate in Poland between so-called "feminist" nongovernmental organizations, and "Catholic" groups, centering on abortion and women's role in society. Various events occurred both in anticipation and as follow-up to the Beijing Conference:

- Pre-Beijing reports issued by the Government and women's NGO's cited as problems sexual harassment, discriminatory practices, and the strict anti-abortion law.
- Catholic groups claim discrimination against women is not a problem in Poland; their report called for more pro-family government policies, i.e. solving housing problems, reforming the health care insurance system and protecting women's health.
- The government sent a 14-person delegation to Beijing. Senator Zofia Kuratowska (a former Solidarity activist and intellectual leader) boycotted to protest the violation of human rights in China. Kuratowska observed to us that: "Hilary Clinton based her decision on going to China on the freeing of Mr. Wu, an American citizen. We can't forget, however, that the prisons are full of Chinese citizens."
- During the Conference, nineteen Polish women protested in Huairou both against forced sterilization in China and against strict anti-abortion laws in Poland.

Czech Republic: Women's Status and Issues

Women are equal under the law and in principle receive the same pay for the same job. However, although the gap is narrowing, women's median wages still lag significantly behind those of men. Women are concentrated in professions in which the median salary is low: medicine, teaching, and white-collar clerical jobs. At the same time, women have made deep inroads into the private sector since 1989, and the number of women in agricultural work has fallen by 50 percent over the last decade. Women have steadily represented roughly half of the labor force over the same period. Unemployment among women is low at around 4 percent (2.5 percent for men). They enjoy equal property, inheritance, and other legal rights with men. The Czech Republic has ratified the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

There are no legal restrictions on women's participation in politics, although few participate in practice. There are 29 women deputies in the newly-elected, 200-member Parliament. The Attorney General is the highest-ranking woman in government. The Mayor of Brno, the Czech Republic's second-largest city, is also a woman. The government eschews the idea of affirmative action for any group, including women, and "feminism" is broadly perceived as an extremist philosophy. Under socialism, women felt political pressure to work outside the home, and today many say they would rather stay home with their families than work. Under the State Social Safety Net, women receive a modest birth stipend and a family stipend with each child.

The extent of violence against women is unknown and public debate about it is rare. A handful of women's groups are attempting to bring the issue to the attention of the public. The existence of any discussion at all is a marked change since before 1989. Official police statistics show a decline in rape cases since 1989, but the reliability of these statistics is uncertain. The government compiles no statistics on domestic violence. There are state-supported shelters in most major cities and towns that accept women, although "women's shelters" are all but unknown here. According to non-governmental organizations, the situation has improved in recent years, but there are still not enough spaces to meet demand.

Prostitution is legal, although there have been attempts to regulate the practice. The law does not explicitly protect women against trafficking and sexual exploitation. Police have found evidence of trafficking in women in clubs in several cities and have closed several "erotic salons."

Czech Republic: Population and Family Planning

While abortions were the most common form of birth control during communism, now contraceptives are more typical for married and unmarried couples. The population level is gradually declining to slightly less than replacement as two wage-earning families become more common. The birth rate in 1995 was the lowest since records began to be kept over 200 years ago.

A severe housing shortage and inadequate living space inhibit families from having more than one or two children. Also, women in Czech society are breaking down traditional "do for and serve their husband" roles, thus adding pressure to limit family size. USAID has supported family planning programs, including development of Czech organizations and training in the U.S.

Czech Republic: Beijing Conference Position

The official Czech delegation to the September 1995 Beijing Conference did not cut a striking figure, either in China or at home. The domestic Czech press devoted scant coverage to the conference, and almost none to the substantive issues addressed there. Deputy Minister of Labor Jirina Vonkova headed the Czech delegation. She was joined by two women parliamentarians from a junior coalition party, the Czech Ambassador to China and four advisors from the government. Contact between Czech NGO representatives and their government officials was minimal, owing in part to the geographical distance between the NGO conference and the "official" conference but also to cool relations at home.

According to Ms. Vonkova, access to education and basic freedoms are ultimately the most important issues facing women, and Czech women enjoy both. The official delegation to the Beijing Conference therefore sought to present the Czech Republic as a country where women had all the equality they wanted. The government has undertaken no initiatives on women's issues as a result of the Beijing Conference.

Slovakia: Women's Issues

Women in Slovakia are equal under the law. They enjoy the same property, inheritance, and other legal rights as men. Women are well represented in the judicial and administrative professions, but are underrepresented in other public service areas. Labor law prohibits women from engaging in certain types of work considered dangerous to their health.

Women still face wage discrepancies in the workplace. According to a second quarter 1995 statistical survey, average hourly wages of women are 22.3 percent lower as compared to men. A February 1995 report prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the U.N. Conference on Women stated that for the period 1988-1993, "gross earnings of men are 71% higher than those of women."

Violence, particularly sexual violence against women, also remains a serious and underreported problem. Experts say that in 1993, the latest year studied, there were 47,000 acts of violence or intolerance (defined as physical, sexual, emotional, and economic) against women. Physical and sexual violence accounted for almost half of all reported cases and most unreported cases, experts estimate. They note that although police (in 1993) reported a drop of 19 percent in officially reported cases of sexual violence, counseling centers registered a 60 percent increase in such cases.

Prostitution is not an illegal act. However, the Code prohibits activities related to prostitution, such as renting apartments for conducting prostitution, spreading contagious diseases, or trafficking in women for the purpose of prostitution.

The Democratic Union of Women of Slovakia (DUZS) and Alliance of Women in Slovakia (AZS) monitor observance of the rights of women and their families in light of internationally accepted documents and the Constitution. The DUZS has pushed to establish a parliamentary committee on women and the family and to obtain quick passage of a law on the family.

Key Issues:

- Slovak women cited "insufficient resources to provide for everyday family needs," as their number one concern. (Ninety percent of women consider the role of mother to be most important to them, followed by the role of wife.)
- Women's health and the health of family members; more day care and preschool programs; growing discrimination against middle-aged and older women in employment.

Slovakia: Beijing Conference Position

Slovakia was an active participant at the August 1995 Beijing Conference on Women. In advance of the conference, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) produced a report on the status of women in the country. Slovakia was also the initiator of a number of proposals which became part of the action platform during pre-conference discussions of the Commission on The Status of Women in New York in April-May 1995.

Slovakia supported the language in the action platform, as adopted by the conference. In terms of concrete arrangements on realizing the aims of the platform, the government in February 1996 created a Coordinating Committee for the Problems of Women. Under the direction of the Ministry of Labor/Social Affairs, the Committee is responsible for questions dealing with the status of women in all spheres of society. Also, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in conjunction with the UNDP, is currently in the process of establishing a gender center, which will serve as a database for available services for women and for analysis of their problems. Finally, in cooperation with UNDP, the government has created a two-year project ("Slovak Women on the Move") which seeks both to inform the public on the Beijing Conference and to influence positively the approach of Slovak society to the problems of women.

The government regards the following items in the platform as the most compelling for Slovak women:

- Development of actively employed women.
- Accessibility of economic resources in business.
- Increasing the number of women in decision-making bodies.
- More effective legislation dealing with acts of violence against women.

Hungary: Women's Issues - One Step Forward, Two Steps Back

Women's issues have drawn increased attention here since the changes of 1989-90. During the communist era, although women were ideologically "equal," in practice they had very limited access to decision-making circles. Only a small number of committed people demanded a greater role for women in society. During the last six years, deep transformations have taken place across Hungarian society. The Hungarian government has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

New democratic institutions have emerged to give women and other groups a voice in the public dialogue. Along with the benefits, however, have come severe hardships. Everyone has to work longer and harder to keep up with inflation, but the burden has been greater on women, since they are still expected to run the household and raise the children.

While there is visible progress in participatory democracy for women, female representation in parliament, and in political decision-making in general, is still rather low. Women remain a distinct minority in government bodies at all levels. For example, only 8% of the Mayors elected in 1994 were women.

Embassy Budapest has supported Hungarian women in gaining equality. USIS has provided international exchange programs, access to U.S. organizations offering training, special grants to Hungarian women's groups, and U.S. consultants. USAID and the State Department have also played a constructive role in shining light on women's issues and providing assistance.

Key Issues:

- Equal employment and promotion opportunities.
- Women typically receive lower pay than men for similar work.
- A high concentration of women in low-paying professional fields, such as teaching and nursing.
- High divorce rate has led to high number of single-parent households headed by women.
- Domestic abuse, affecting both women and children.
- Need for increased representation in decision-making, both political and economic.

Hungary: Beijing Conference Position

At the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing last September, Hungary generally supported the stance of the U.S. and European delegations. Hungarian representatives assisted in the effort to remove the brackets around controversial language on reproductive rights and to block third world attempts to substitute more conservative language.

Then Labor Minister Mrs. Magda Kovacs Kosa, head of the Hungarian delegation, focused on the position of working women. She warned that continued economic stagnation combined with cuts in social welfare benefits could cause a fraying of the social fabric. In Mrs. Kosa's view, this would result in women being forced out of the workforce at a time of declining government assistance to mothers and rising costs for raising children.

Following the conference, the Hungarian government designated the Minister of Labor to direct GOH policy on women's issues. A Women's Secretariat was created within the Labor Ministry to coordinate women's issues within the government and cultivate ties to relevant non-governmental organizations.

Key Issues:

- The Hungarian Constitution prohibits discrimination but the wording is so general as to be unusable in legal proceedings.
- Effective countermeasures to sexual harassment and discrimination will not be possible unless the new Constitution currently being drafted includes more specific language on women's rights.
- Lawsuits based on issues unrelated to property or business transactions are still very unusual in Hungary.
- With the resignation of Mrs. Kosa as Labor Minister last October, no woman holds a government position with Cabinet rank in Hungary. Women are prominent, however, in Deputy State Secretary ranks and in the judicial system.

Estonia: Status of Women

After Estonia regained its independence, attention began to be paid to gender differences, which did exist under the Soviet system and which have increased in several areas since 1991. Estonian women leaders frequently note, to their chagrin, the gap between women's status (particularly in the economic and political spheres) in Estonian society and in the neighboring Scandinavian countries. Estonia has ratified the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The renewed stress on traditional gender roles is one of the reasons for the continuation of inequality. The return to traditional roles can be interpreted in part as a rejection of Soviet-style gender equality and an effort to re-establish social life as it existed in pre-war Estonia. As in many other Western countries, care of the home and family falls to women, and men tend to predominate in traditionally male-dominated occupations. Women are involved in service jobs, education, health care and social work, comprising over 70% of all employees in these areas. Women constitute fewer than one-third of all legislators and high governmental officials.

In 1992 the share of female legislators in the Estonian Parliament was 13%, and in 1995, 12%. Among the leaders of local municipalities, only 18% are women. There are only a few women among Estonia's ambassadors, and currently there are no women ministers in the governing coalition.

Among Estonia's permanent population, marriage patterns have paralleled the Scandinavian model. Cohabitation has increased since the 1960s, accounting for 60% of first unions among younger cohorts. The frequency of divorces, initiated mostly by women, has been growing steadily; this has led to rising diversity in household structures. In contrast to the general European trend, Estonia remained a country of low fertility rates in the decades after World War II. The extremely high level of abortions, which currently exceeds the number of live births by more than 50%, has given cause for concern in some quarters. In other ways Estonia has followed the Scandinavian pattern. More than four-fifths of the first births are conceived out of wedlock, with half of them also born out of wedlock. The rate for non-marital births is also high for second and third births.

Estonia: Beijing Conference Position

Estonia reported to the Beijing Conference that:

- Changes in the economy had given rise to rapid material differentiation; mounting social stress; fear of unemployment; and a preference for males in the labor market.
- Increased instability in families was caused by social stress; there was a dramatic decline in the birth rate along with increasing numbers of violent deaths and accidents, particularly in young and middle-aged men.

The delegation's stated goals for women in Estonia included:

- Implementation of the "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women."
- Establishment of governmental structures and dissemination of information concerning the human rights of women and men.
- Raising the competitive level of women to ensure their position in the labor market and in public life.
- Seeking government support for advanced training.
- Improving social security for families with dependents.
- Encouraging cooperation between Estonian and international women's organizations.

Estonia has taken the following steps as follow-up to the Conference:

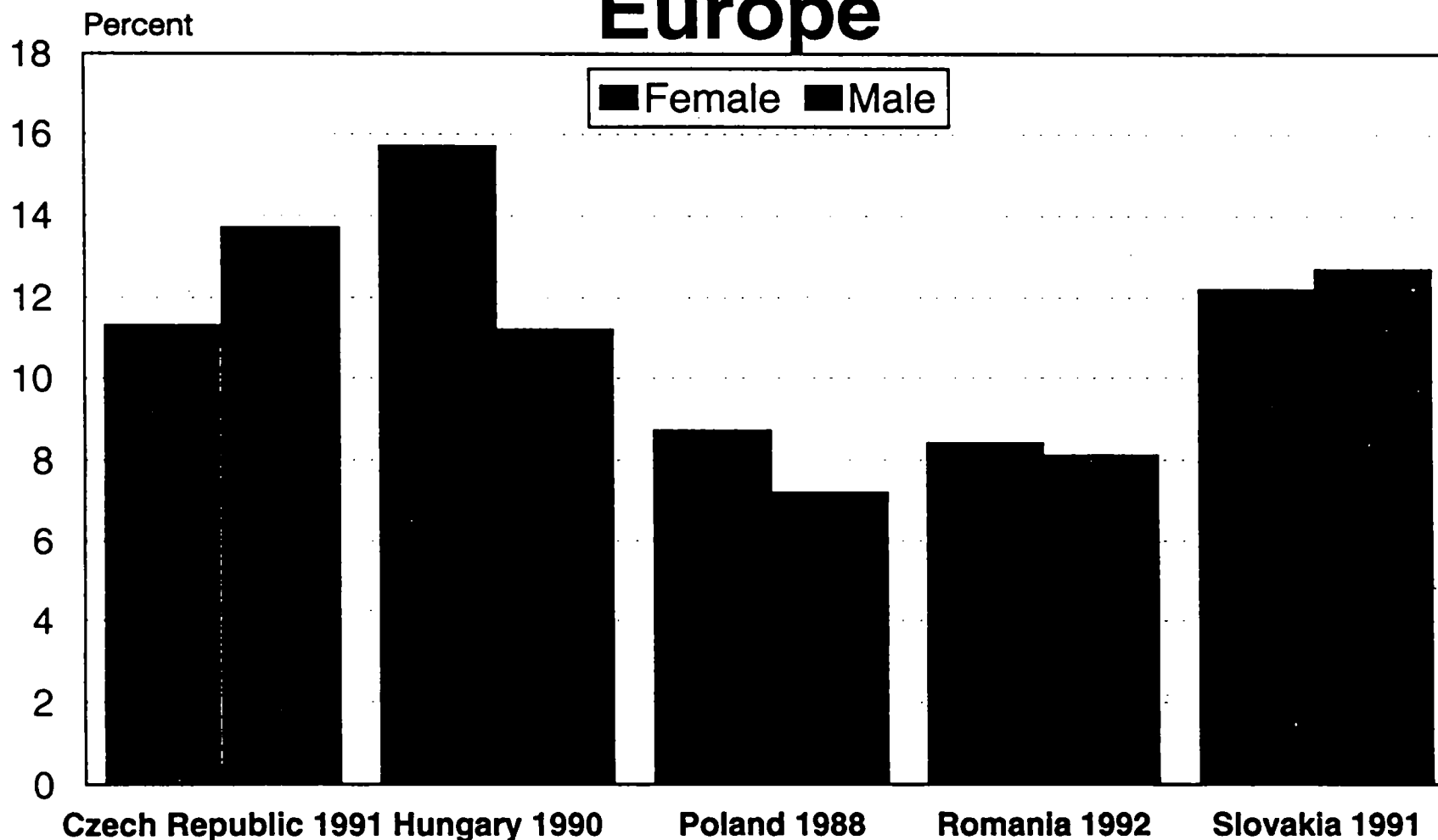
- The Estonian Parliament has signed the ILO convention guaranteeing "equal payment for equal work" for men and women.
- In May 1996 a commission was formed to monitor and report on Estonia's progress in meeting the Conference goals.
- The Ministry of Social Affairs seeks to establish a consultation and information center to conduct sociological studies in Estonia with plans to report findings on the Internet.
- A Women's Studies Center has been established at the Tallinn University of Educational Sciences and a Gender Studies Program, financed by the UNDP, at Tartu University.

The Status of Women in Eastern Europe



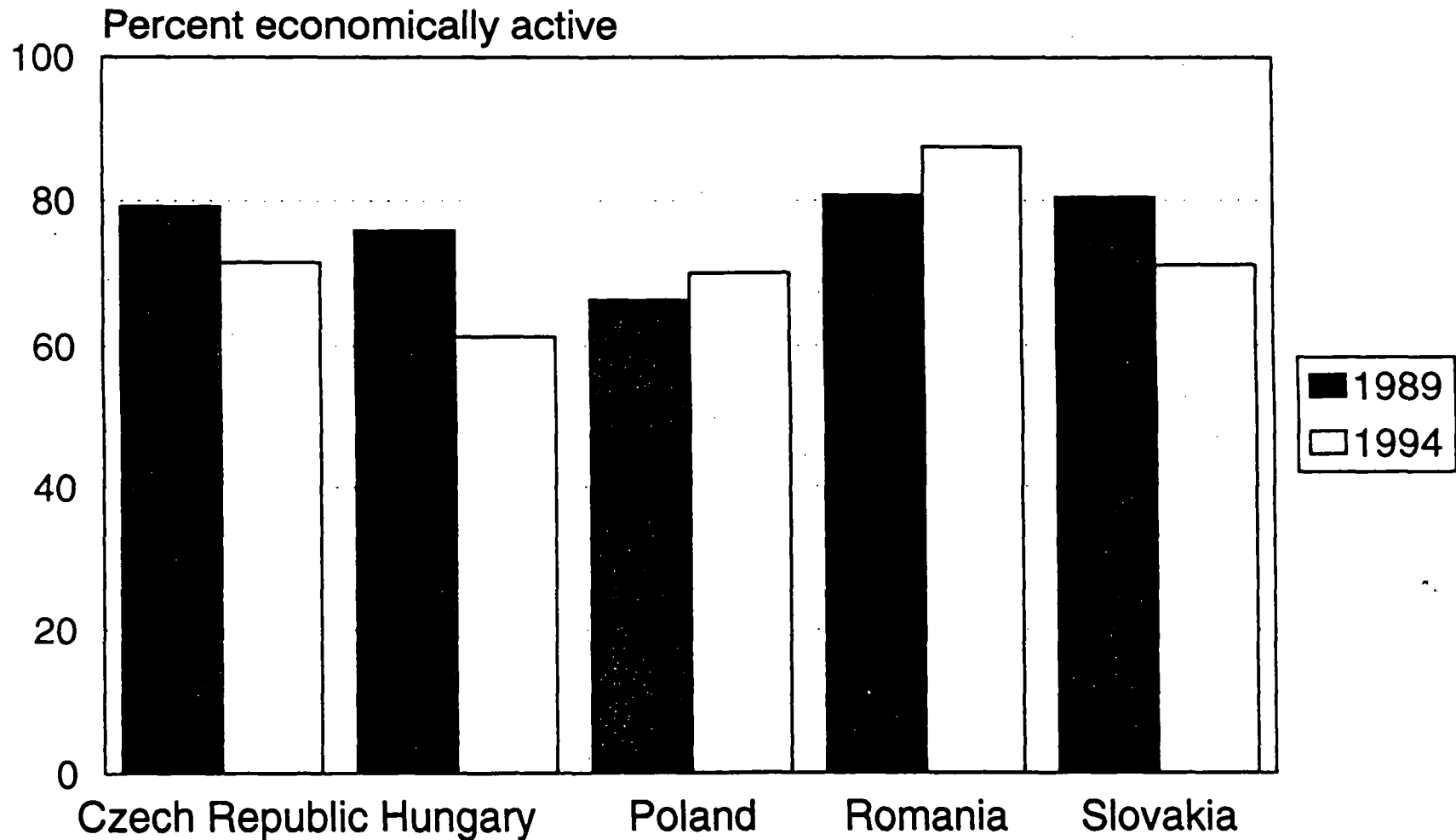
Prepared by:
International Programs Center
Population Division
U.S. Bureau of the Census
June 1996

Figure 1. Percent with College Education for Persons Ages 25 to 29 in Eastern Europe



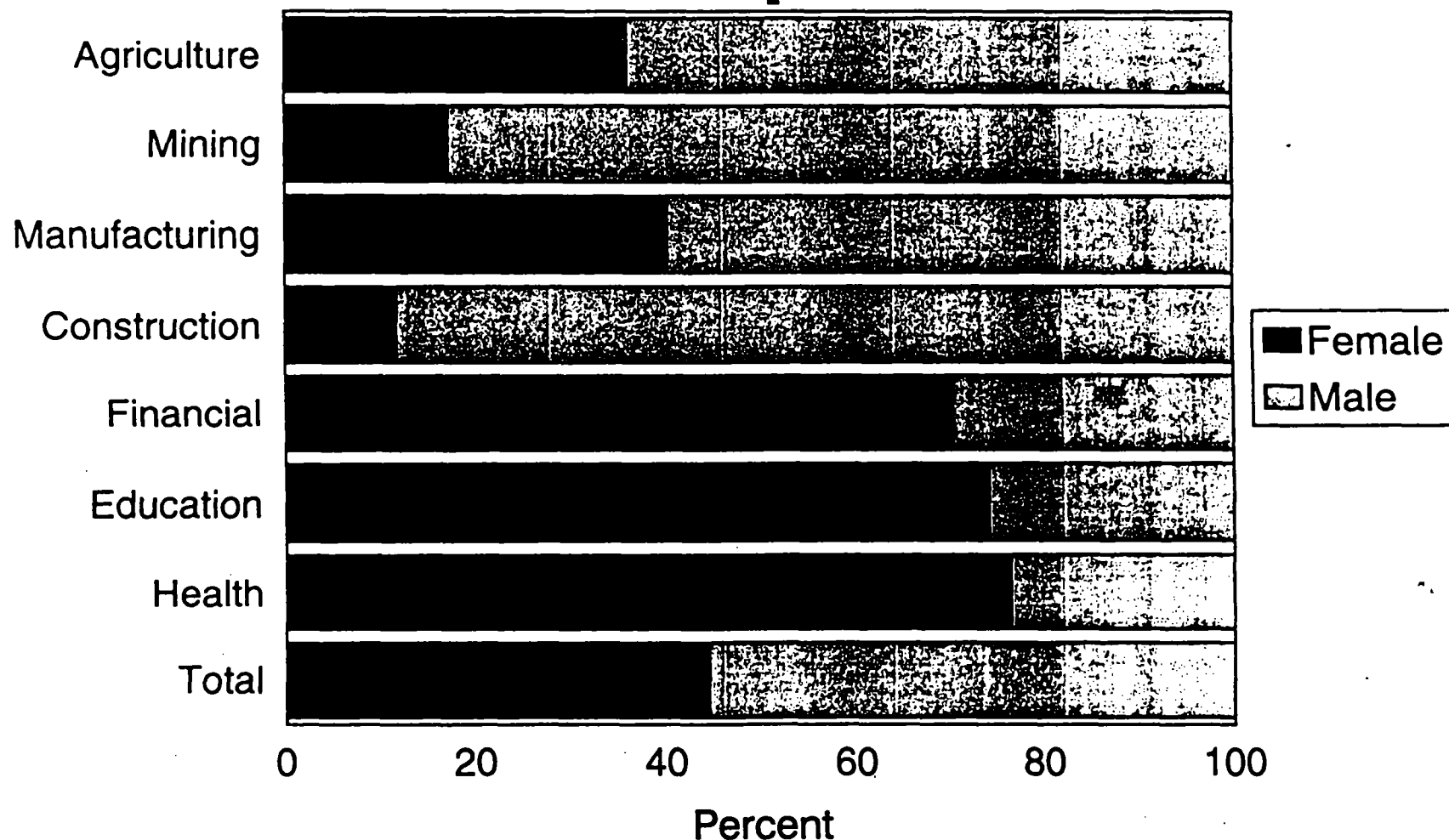
International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 3. Female Labor Force Participation Rates: 1989 and 1994



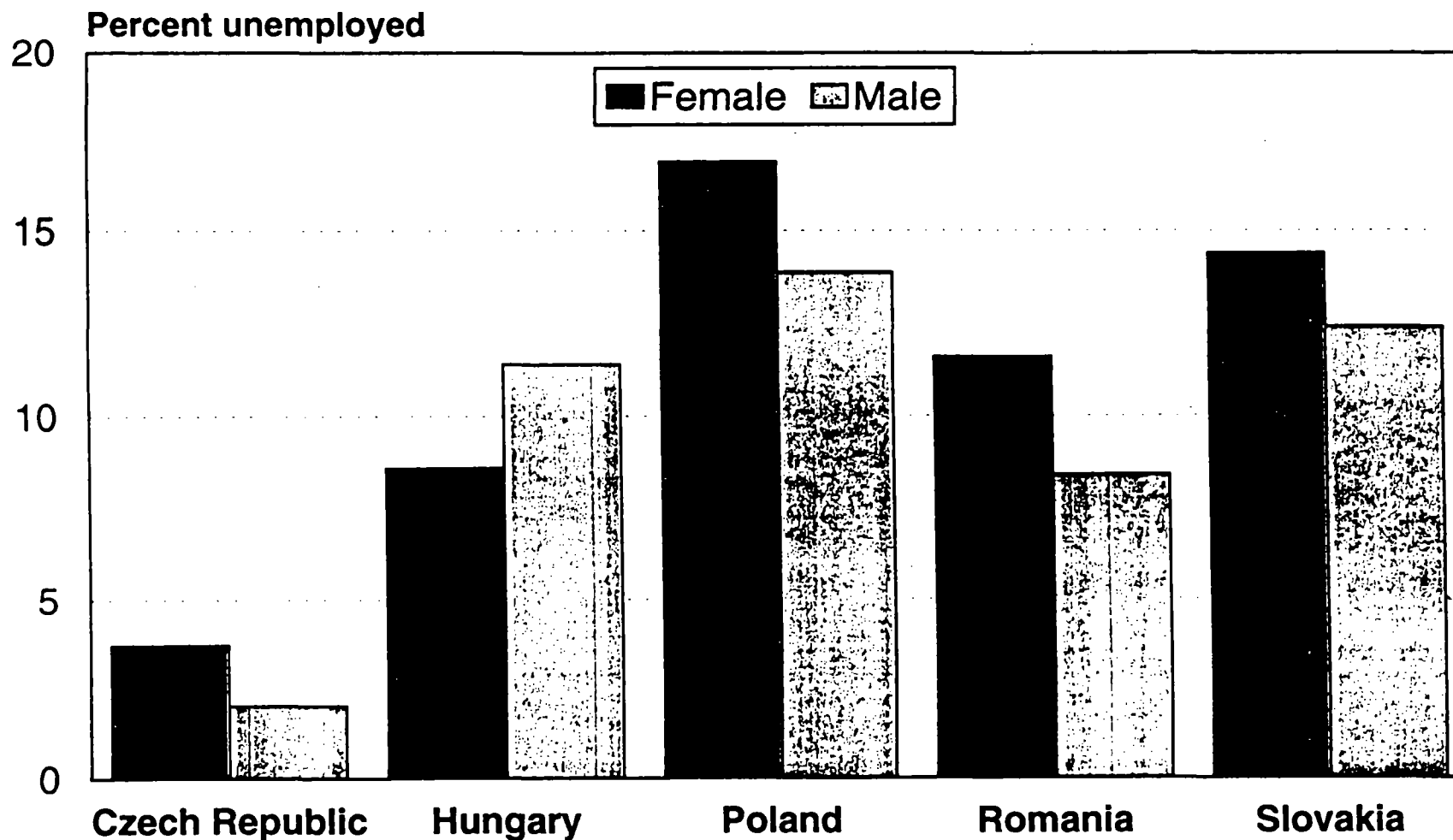
International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 4. Gender Distribution by Selected Branches of the Economy in the Czech Republic: 1994



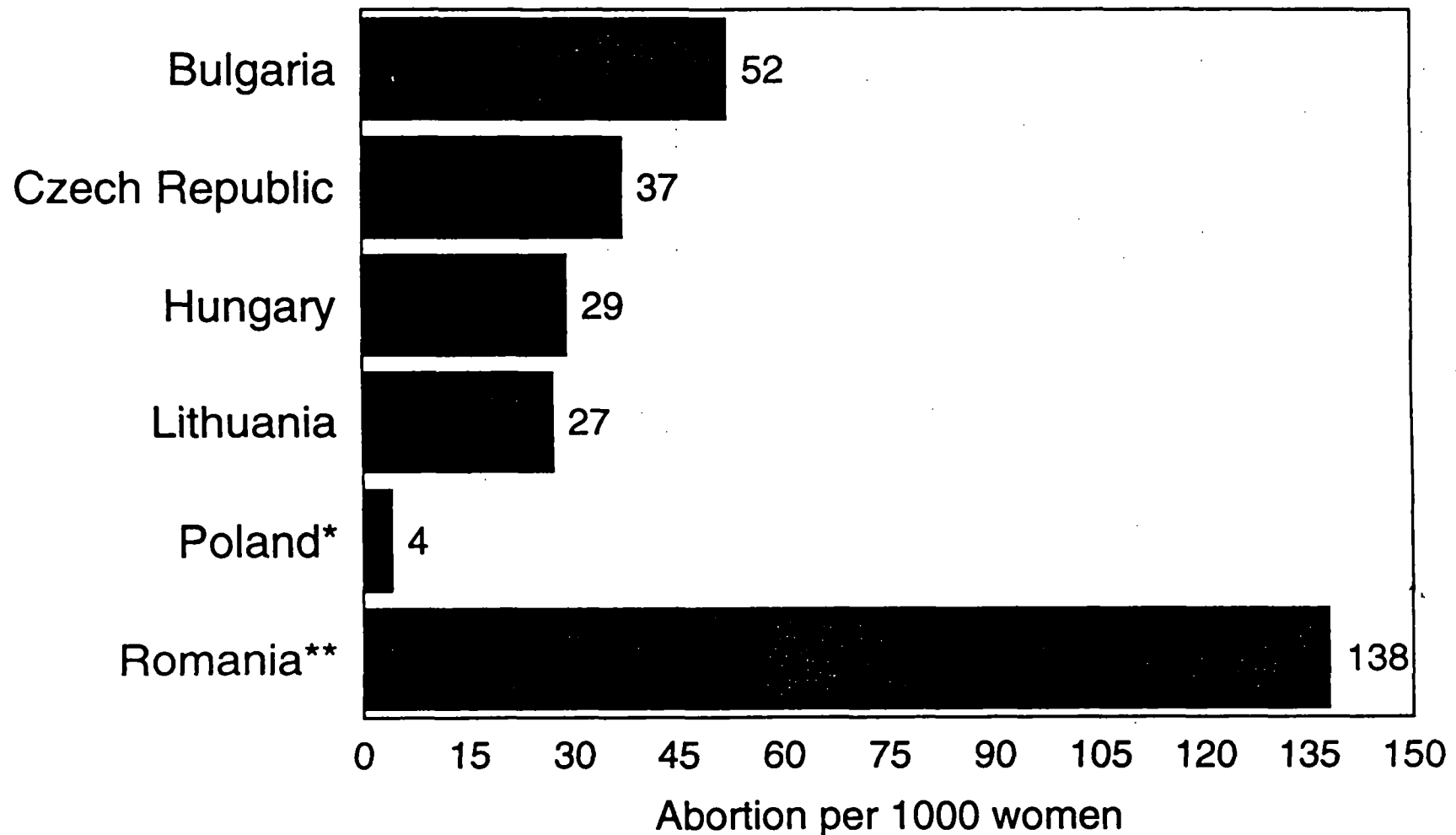
International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 5. Unemployment Rates in Eastern Europe: 1995 Second Quarter



International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 6. Abortions per 1000 Women Ages 15 to 44 in Eastern Europe: 1993

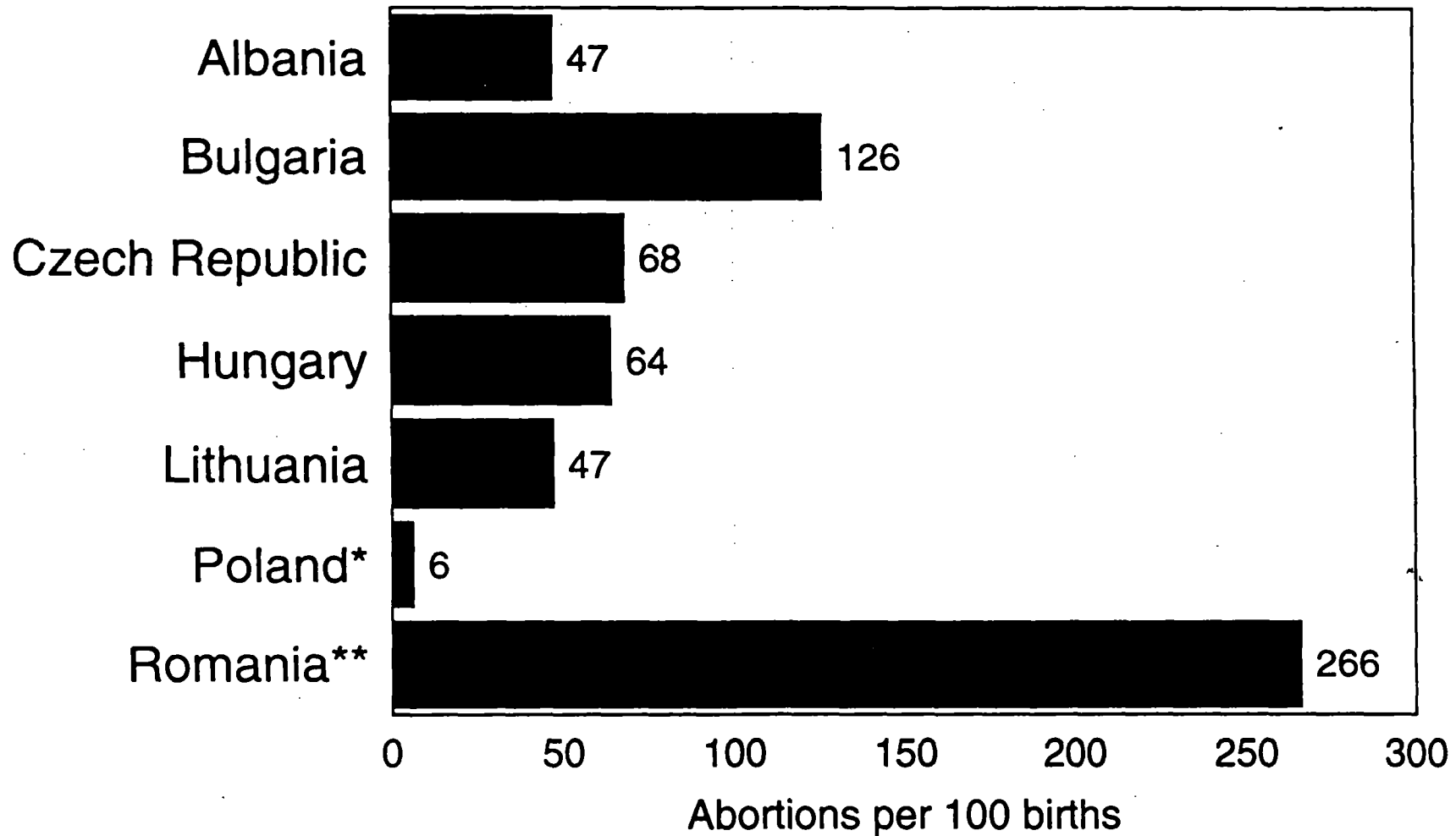


* data for 1991

** data for 1992

International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 7. Abortions per 100 Births in Eastern Europe: 1993

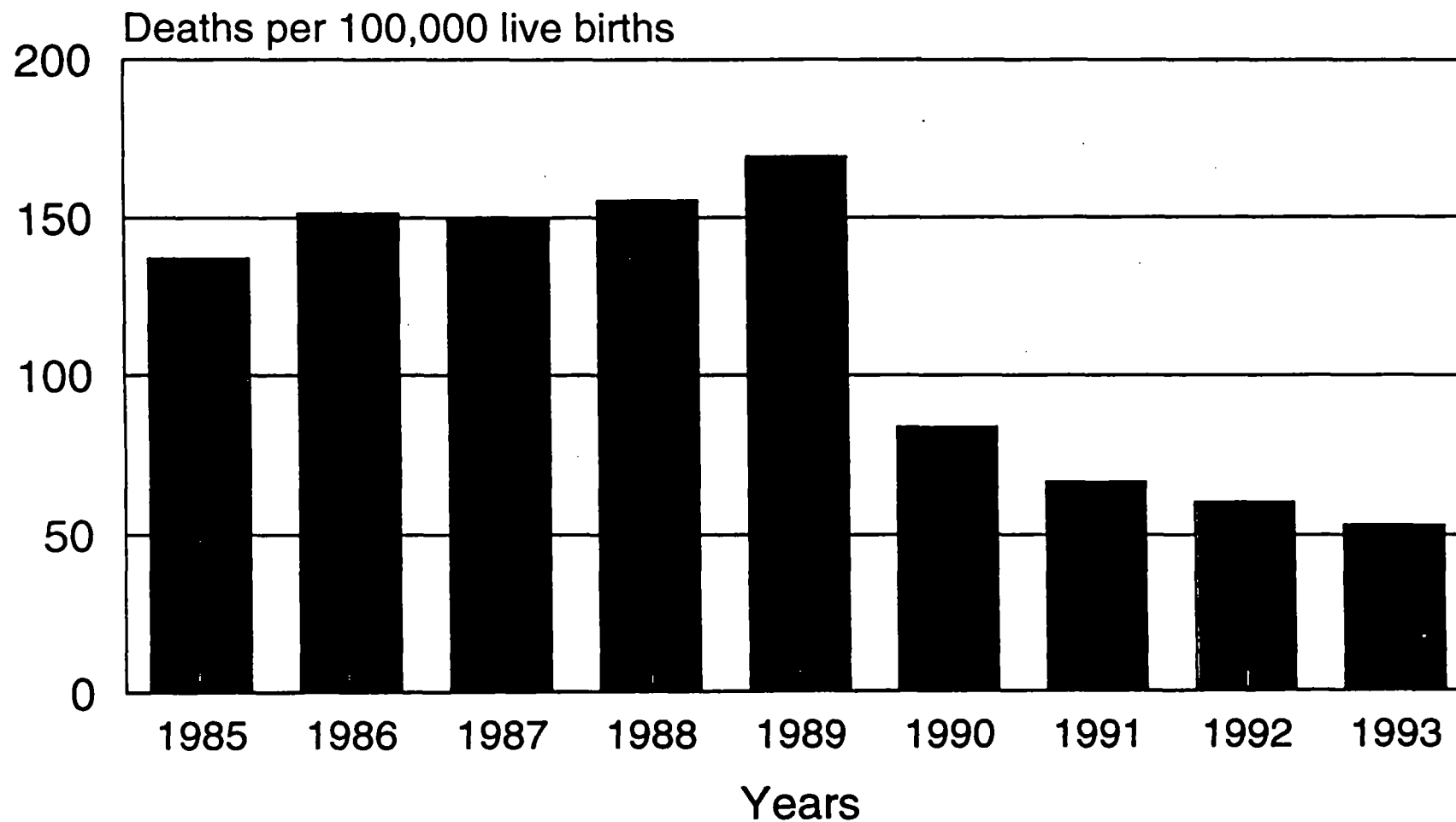


* data for 1991

**data for 1992

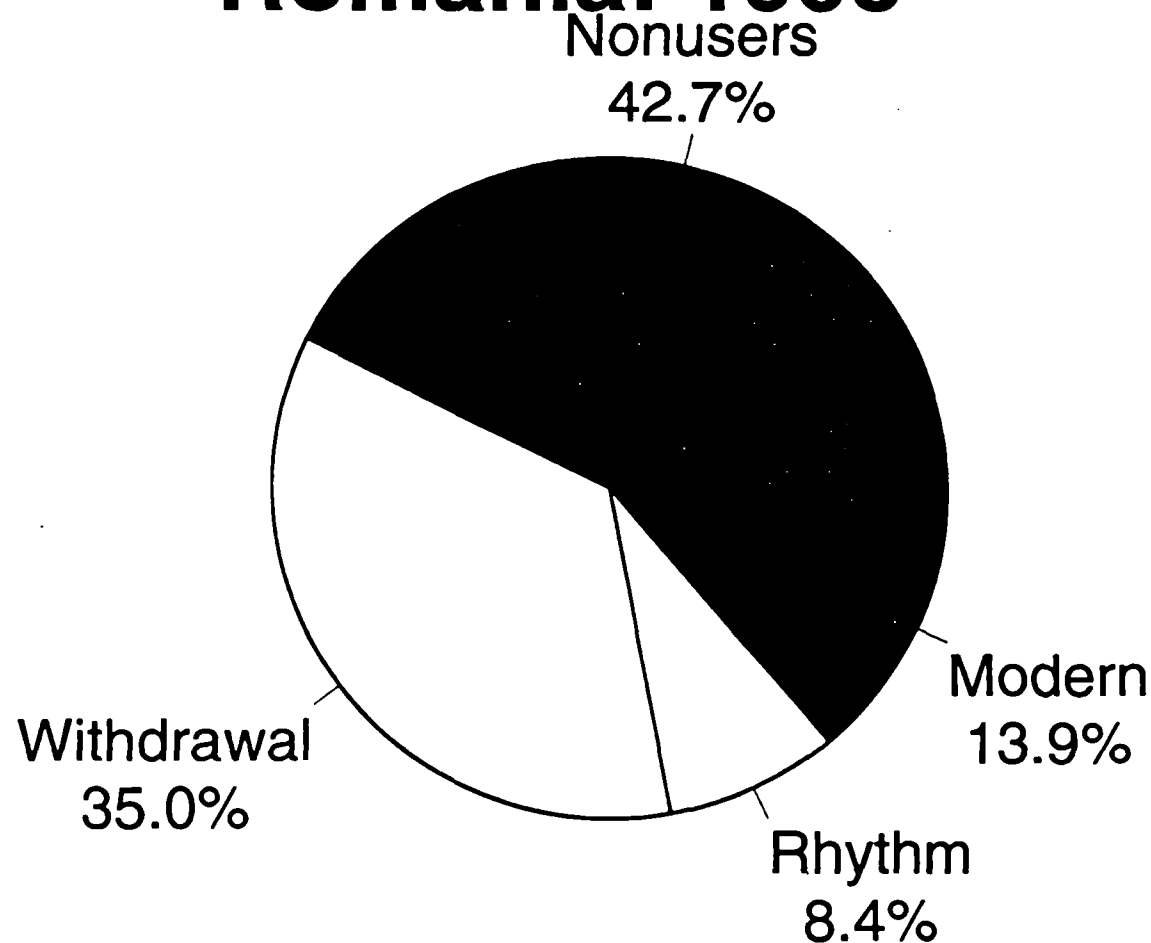
International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 9. Maternal Mortality Rate in Romania: 1985-1993



International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Figure 10. Use of Contraceptive Methods
by Women in Union Ages 15 to 44, in
Romania: 1993**



CZECH REPUBLIC

Table 1. Population: 1996

Age	Both Sexes	Male	Female
All ages	10,321,120	5,012,455	5,308,665
0-4	567,494	291,675	275,819
5-9	641,262	328,371	312,891
10-14	675,850	345,815	330,035
15-19	830,186	424,691	405,495
20-24	876,909	447,701	429,208
25-29	691,971	353,484	338,487
30-34	690,597	351,878	338,719
35-39	667,566	337,945	329,621
40-44	793,383	397,721	395,662
45-49	826,349	411,187	415,162
50-54	681,725	333,608	348,117
55-59	510,522	243,741	266,781
60-64	475,458	217,797	257,661
65-69	474,755	203,678	271,077
70-74	422,531	164,438	258,093
75-79	215,247	77,086	138,161
80+	279,315	81,639	197,676

Table 2. Demographic Indicators

Date	Total Fertility Rate *	Life Expectancy at Birth	
		Male	Female
1991	1.8	68.2	75.7
1992	1.7	68.5	76.1
1993	1.6	69.3	76.4
1994	1.5	69.5	76.6
1995	1.4	70.0	77.5
1996	1.4	70.1	77.7

Date	Both Sexes	Infant Mortality **	
		Male	Female
1991	10.4	11.6	9.1
1992	9.5	10.7	8.3
1993	9.2	10.3	8.0
1994	8.8	9.9	7.7
1995	8.5	9.5	7.4
1996	8.4	9.4	7.3

Table 3. Unemployment Rates : 1991-1995.2

Year	Male	Female
1991	2.3	3.0
1992	2.6	3.6
1993	2.4	3.5
1994	2.6	4.1
1994.1	3.0	4.0
1994.2	2.4	3.9
1994.3	2.4	4.1
1994.4	2.5	4.0
1995.1	2.5	3.8
1995.2	2.0	3.7

Table 4. Educational Attainment: 1991 (In percent)

Age	Completed Secondary and above	
	Male	Female
25-29	89.4	86.8
30-34	88.5	80.3
35-39	84.9	72.4
40-49	84.1	69.5
50-59	74.9	50.4
60+	58.0	31.6

Age	University	
	Male	Female
25-29	13.7	11.3
30-34	14.3	11.0
35-39	13.0	8.5
40-49	11.4	7.5
50-59	10.7	4.3
60+	8.7	1.7

* Total fertility rate is the average number of children that would be born per woman if all women lived to the end of their childbearing years and bore children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

** Infant mortality is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

ESTONIA

Table 1. Population: 1996

Age	Both Sexes	Male	Female
All ages	1,459,428	680,418	779,010
0-4	75,545	38,563	36,982
5-9	107,724	54,921	52,803
10-14	108,977	55,199	53,778
15-19	104,098	52,951	51,147
20-24	104,580	53,148	51,432
25-29	100,748	52,830	47,918
30-34	100,634	50,301	50,333
35-39	107,259	52,292	54,967
40-44	104,331	50,089	54,242
45-49	98,435	46,224	52,211
50-54	76,668	35,058	41,610
55-59	93,322	41,411	51,911
60-64	79,203	33,455	45,748
65-69	75,682	29,580	46,102
70-74	54,841	16,686	38,155
75-79	29,204	8,416	20,788
80+	38,177	9,294	28,883

Table 2. Demographic Indicators

Date	Total Fertility Rate	Life Expectancy at Birth	
		Male	Female
1990	2.0	64.7	74.9
1991	1.8	64.4	74.9
1992	1.7	64.0	74.9
1993	1.4	63.9	74.9
1994	1.4	63.1	74.5
1995	1.4	62.2	74.0
1996	1.6	62.5	74.1

Date	Both Sexes	Infant Mortality	
		Male	Female
1990	12.1	14.0	10.1
1991	12.8	14.4	11.0
1992	13.4	14.7	12.0
1993	13.4	14.9	12.0
1994	15.4	18.0	12.8
1995	17.4	21.1	13.6
1996	17.4	20.3	14.3

Table 3. Unemployment Rates

Note: No data available.

Table 4. Educational Attainment: 1989 (In percent)

Age	Completed Secondary and above	
	Male	Female
25-44	77.3	86.9
45-54	51.0	61.3
55-64	37.3	37.9
65+	28.8	21.5

Age	University	
	Male	Female
25-44	16.6	19.9
45-54	15.1	15.1
55-64	11.7	9.1
65+	7.1	2.8

* Total fertility rate is the average number of children that would be born per woman if all women lived to the end of their childbearing years and bore children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

** Infant mortality is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

HUNGARY

Table 1. Population: 1996

Age	Both Sexes	Male	Female
All ages	10,002,541	4,771,598	5,230,943
0-4	554,664	283,695	270,969
5-9	600,614	307,267	293,347
10-14	620,221	317,001	303,220
15-19	778,594	398,526	380,068
20-24	809,668	415,317	394,351
25-29	678,315	345,514	332,801
30-34	583,871	294,202	289,669
35-39	676,350	336,458	339,892
40-44	832,618	410,343	422,275
45-49	724,505	352,434	372,071
50-54	624,088	295,419	328,669
55-59	558,252	250,433	307,819
60-64	523,856	226,883	296,973
65-69	494,827	204,955	289,872
70-74	429,240	165,045	264,195
75-79	238,504	84,799	153,705
80+	274,354	83,307	191,047

Table 2. Demographic Indicators

Date	Total Fertility Rate *	Life Expectancy at Birth	
		Male	Female
1990	1.8	65.1	73.7
1991	1.9	65.0	73.8
1992	1.8	64.6	73.7
1993	1.7	64.5	73.8
1994	1.6	64.8	74.2
1995	1.5	64.1	73.9
1996	1.5	64.2	74.0

Date	Both Sexes	Infant Mortality **	
		Male	Female
1990	14.6	16.2	13.0
1991	15.7	17.4	13.9
1992	13.9	15.3	12.5
1993	12.3	13.5	11.0
1994	12.4	13.7	11.0
1995	12.5	13.9	10.9
1996	12.3	13.8	10.8

Table 3. Unemployment Rates : 1991-1995.2

Year	Male	Female
1991	4.8	3.5
1992	11.7	8.8
1993	14.9	10.9
1994	12.9	9.7
1994.1	14.2	10.0
1994.2	12.4	9.4
1994.3	12.0	9.7
1994.4	11.7	8.9
1995.1	12.9	9.7
1995.2	11.4	8.6

Table 4. Educational Attainment: 1990 (In percent)

Age	Completed Secondary and above	
	Male	Female
25-44	72.8	62.1
45-54	36.0	30.4
55-64	23.6	13.5
65+	16.7	6.8

Age	University	
	Male	Female
25-44	12.6	14.2
45-54	12.9	8.8
55-64	11.6	4.3
65+	8.2	2.3

* Total fertility rate is the average number of children that would be born per woman if all women lived to the end of their childbearing years and bore children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

** Infant mortality is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.