Austria Timeline

December 31, 1889 Two Austrian socialist wing merge
November 12, 1918 Republic of German-Austria declared; want to join Germany but not allowed to do so
1919 Failed Communist revolution
November 1920 SDAP defeated
1920s Mussolini seizure of power polarizes politics
January 30, 1927 SDAP activists shot by rightists
July 15, 1927 Armed clashes following acquittal of rightists; police restore order; SDAP on defensive; Heimwehr (fascists) supported by capitalists and Chancellor
1929 Latent civil war; moderates maintain republic
1930 Depression hits with same force as in Germany; unemployment a bit lower
May 8, 1930 Heimwehr pledges to seize power
September 1930 Heimwehr participate as minority partners of CSP (peasants and lower-middle classes, Catholic and anti-Semitic)
November 9, 1930 Elections; Landbund (rural, moderately anticlerical) and GDVP (rightist anticlericals; intellectuals and some white-collar workers) replace Heimwehr; Heimwehr begins to disintegrate
September 31, 1931 Heimwehr uprising; Socialists refuse to enter multiparty coalition Government
May 24, 1932 Nationwide local elections see huge increase for Nazis; takes entire German-Nationalist vote plus votes from CSP; CSP get 18%; SDAP lose where they were weak and call for new elections
May 1932 New conservative government barely weathers no-confidence vote
January 1933 Hitler takes power; polarization; Nazis grow to third-largest party
March 1933 Parliament can’t elect a speaker; government by decree
March 15, 1933 Parliament suspended; dissolution of Republican Defense League; outlawing of Communists and Nazis
June 1933 Nazi terrorism peaks; then erodes as death penalty is passed
September 1933 CSP and Heimwehr fuse to form Vaterlaendische Front, which becomes the party of the Dollfuß-Schuschnigg dictatorship; SDAP specify conditions for general strike
February 12, 1934 SDAP outlawed
February 1934 Civil war; Socialists lose
July 1934 Austrian Nazis attempt armed coup; suppressed; Nazis, Communists, and Socialists set up big underground organizations
February 12, 1938 Schuschnigg pardons Nazis, Communists, and Socialists; accepts two Nazis and one Socialist into government
March 9, 1938 Schuschnigg sets March 13 date for plebiscite on Austrian independence; Germans invade and annex Austria