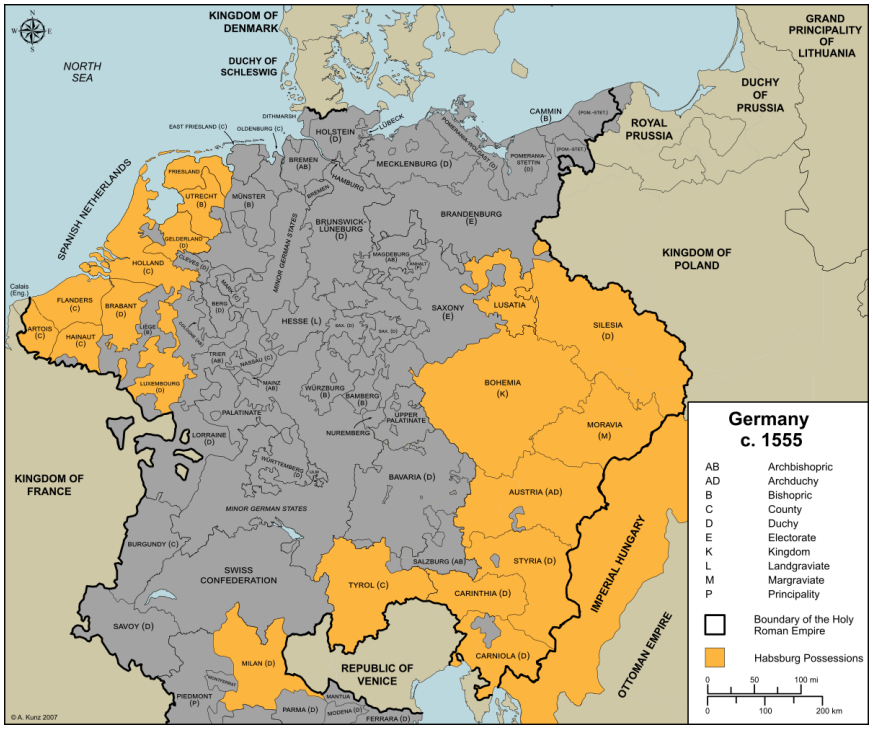
# Germany (c. 1555)

## Abstract

By 1555, after the Schmalkaldic War of 1546/47 between Emperor Charles V and the Protestant princes and cities and the Religious Peace of Augsburg (1555), the Holy Roman Empire had assumed the basic constitution it would retain until its dissolution in 1803. From late 1520s on, the ruling Habsburg dynasty held the crowns of Bohemia and Hungary, together with the lordship of the seventeen provinces of the Netherlands. Leading princely dynasties had established stronger territorial positions. The Hohenzollerns, seated in Franconia and Brandenburg, added the duchy of Prussia to their dominions in 1525, while the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria commanded a strong power base in southern Germany. Saxony underwent a shift that was advantageous to the Albertine line and disadvantageous to the Ernestine line, which had led the Protestant party and the revolt against Charles V. Very stable, on the other hand, was the Swiss Confederation, which already roughly corresponded to the later (since 1648) independent Switzerland.

## Source




Source: Original cartography by IEG-MAPS, Institut für Europäische Geschichte, Mainz, A. Kunz/ Joachim Robert Moeschl, 2007. Revised cartography (WCAG-compliant) by Gabriel Moss, 2022.

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