



THE BALTIC REGION - BACKGROUND

- An isolated periphery
- Poor soils, harsh climate
- Assets – water and the forests

INTERACTION WITH THE WIDER WORLD

- Trade and/or plunder

The Vikings
The Hanseatic League
The Dutch

- The spread of institutions

The church and religion
Law
Administration
Education

CONSEQUENCES

- A region of slow colonisation and settlement
- 'Living on the margins'
- Few centres of population

COLONISATION

- Taming the land
- The German impact

Settlement along the southern Baltic
Mercantile colonies

- Other settlers

The Dutch
Scots
Jews

THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

- The religious Reformation

Church subordinated to the crown
Religious division and conflict

- Fiscal and administrative change
- The emergence of the 'military state'
- The role of education

NEW FORCES

- The decline of the Hanse
- The rise and fall of state unions

The Union of Kalmar (1397)

The Union of Lublin (1569)

THE
BALTIC LANDS
C. 1617

- Denmark & Norway
- Sweden
- Poland & Lithuania
- Russia
- Brandenburg & Prussia
- House of Austria
- Turks &c.



SWEDEN AS A GREAT POWER

- The Vasa dynasty
- The Northern wars (1560-1617)
- War in Central Europe (1621-1660)
- Reform and Nemesis (1660-1721)

THE BALTIC LANDS C.1809

- Denmark & Norway
- Sweden
- Warsaw & Saxony
- Russia
- Prussia
- Austrian Empire
- Turks &c.



THE RISE OF RUSSIA

- St. Petersburg as symbol
- The disappearance of Poland-Lithuania
- Prussia - A new power on the horizon?

GEOPOLITICS

- From northern Europe to a western-eastern alignment
- The rise of Germany – the consequences for regional and interregional identities and links

THE BALTIC ECONOMY

- Delayed industrialisation
- Agricultural crisis
- Declining trade

PATHS TO PROSPERITY

- Invention, adaption and innovation – Sweden, Finland
- Co-operation, increased productivity, marketing - Denmark

INDUSTRIALISATION

- The Russian Baltic – large-scale enterprises, but relatively poor infrastructure and dependence on foreign investment
- The German naval drive as a stimulus to development

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

- Scandinavia – an 'open' society?
democratic institutions
land, aristocrats and peasant-farmers
social cohesion
- The German and Russian empires – 'closed' societies?
the legacy of serfdom
autocracy and authoritarianism
divided societies

THE IMPACT OF WAR

- 1914-1919 – the collapse of empires, and emergence of new states
- 1939-1945 – frontier changes, loss of independence for the Baltic states, massive movement of populations
- The Scandinavian experience of war

A DIVIDED BALTIC

- Russian domination and its consequences
 - a distorted economy
 - pollution
 - the immigrant issue
- The 'Scandinavian model'
- Finland – a special case?
- European integration – a new Baltic identity?