Introduction

- Central Europe on maps
  - Ghost of "Mitteleuropa" (German type)
  - Central Europe & “V4 +1” (Japan) (2003)
- Visegrád accord in 1991
  - Czech Republic (CZ), Slovakia (SK), Poland (PL), Hungary (HU)
- Today’s topic (Historical Approach)
  - Centralness & Europeanness

1a. Centralness (German type)

- F. Naumann’s Mitteleuropa (1915)
- Discovery of the “East”
  - The Enlightenment and “Orientalism”
- Impact of the French Revolution
  - Fichte’s turnover: Universalism to Nationalism
- Anti-Napoleon & anti-Western
  - But, not Eastern (not backward)
  - Discovery of the “Central”

1b. Centralness (non-German)

- F. Palacký’s refusal against Frankfurt (1848)
  - (German) National Assembly
  - German Integration & Parliamentary Democracy
  - Refusal as a Czech citizen, not a German
- Austria (Habsburg) as an umbrella
  - A "corridor" between Germany & Russia
  - Tomáš G. Masaryk (First President of CZ)
  - Milan Hodža (Prime Minister of CZ, in 1935-38)
2. Europeanness

- “All of Europe is watching us!” in 1848
- Civilization & Barricade
- Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi as a Savior?
  - His famous (?) mother, Mitsuko
  - Pan Europa (1923), Pan European Congress
- O. Schpengler’s “Decline of the West” (1918-22)
- The Great War as a Trench Warfare
- Richard’s Dangerous Game?
  - Sympathy with Dollfuss (Austria) & Mussolini…

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Richard and Mitsuko

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Conclusion

- Central Europe: Gone with Crises?
  - Jacque Le Rider, La Mitteleuropa (1994).
    (German & Japanese versions are available)
- Central Europe: Frontier of EU?
  - Fatigue with Enlargement, Financial Crisis…
  - Schengen & Historical Ties on Eastern Borders
  - Central Europe’s Old and New Mission?