

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