**The Hohenzollerns**

The Growth of Prussia

**Frederick William, the Great Elector (1640-1688)**

Guided country through last years of 30-Years War

Reorganized armies of state into one national force

Improved tax system

Encouraged agriculture, industry, and infrastructure improvement

Imitated Louis XIV lavish court

**Frederic I (1688-1713)**

(state now known as Prussia- HRE named F-I King of Prussia for support in War Sp. Succession)

Got rid of much of the luxury of court

Doubled size of army- made most efficient fighting force in Europe (all TALL)

Created efficient government bureaucracy

Encouraged trade and industry

Compulsory education

**Frederick William I (1713-1740)**

Killed son’s friend in front of him to toughen him

Signed Pragmatic Sanction

**Frederick (II) the Great (1740-1786)**

Played flute

*First 23 years of reign- WAR*

Invaded Silesia, didn’t recognize Maria Theresa- sparked War of Austrian Succession (1740-48)

🡪 (didn’t sign P.S.)

Diplomatic Revolution (1756) Realigned with GB

Realignment led to 7-Years War (1756-63)

ALL of Europe & global conflict

Prussia pushed to brink of defeat- held together by Frederick the Great

🡪 also death of bitter enemy, Russia’s Catherine the Great

First Partition of Poland (1722) Linked Prussia and East Prussia

*Next 23 years- Internal administration & organization*

Expanded and improved education system

Legal and court reforms

Encouraged trade and manufacturing

Committed to religious tolerance

No interest in granting self-government to national or ethnic minorities

Left Prussia as a rival of Austria of control of Germany and a first-rate European Power