Treaty of Carlowitz (1699) aka Karlowitz

*Between the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Ottoman Empire*

Signed January 26, 1699

In order to perpetuate the memory of the deed: let it be known to each and everyone of those concerned: After a savage, destructive war, cruel by reason of the great shedding of human blood, with the destruction of many provinces, had raged for sixteen years to this time between the Most Serene and Most Powerful Prince and Lord Leopold on the one side, and the Most Serene and Most Powerful Prince and Lord Sultan Mustaffa Han, Emperor of the Ottomans and of Asia and Greece and his glorious predecessors on the other side: These two were moved to compassion, at length, by the extremely distressing fate of their subjects, and the aforesaid two Most Powerful Emperors resolved in earnest to put an end to such great evils for the human race which were daily increasing...agreed, after invoking the aid of the Eternal Deity and ceremonially exchanging documents, to the following twenty reciprocal articles of peace and concord for the glory of the Divine Name and the welfare of both empires.

I.

Let the region of Transylvania remain in the dominion of His Imperial (i.e. Austrian) Majesty just as it is at present in His possession and power. And let it be circumscribed from the border of Podolia to the extreme border of Wallachia by its mountains, which were formerly the boundary during the present war between Transylvania on the one side and Moldavia and Wallachia on the other side; and from the borders of Wallachia until the river Maros, let the boundary be defined likewise by its mountains, which were formerly the boundaries. And thus, the old frontiers having been kept by both sides, there cannot be encroachment neither on the one side nor on the other side by either Empire.

II.

Let the subject province of Temesvar, with all its districts and the rivers flowing within it, remain in the possession and power of the lofty Ottoman Empire. And on the side of Transylvania, from the furthest border of Wallachia as far as the river Maros, let its borders be the old borders of Transylvania as established in the above article. Then, on the side of the Maros as far as the river Theiss, let the boundary be along the nearer bank of the same Maros, and on the side of the Theiss as far as the Danube, let the boundary be along the nearer bank of the river Theiss. And let the places which may be situated within the aforesaid boundaries, as everyone knows, Caransebes, Lugos, Lippa, Esaanad, Kiscanisie, Betsche, Betskerek, and Hither Sablia, be reduced. And let those within the predetermined old boundaries of Transylvania before the present war, and, in accordance with the aforesaid proposal, any other similar places that may be found within the banks of the rivers Maros and Theiss, be reduced by the imperial (i.e.
Austrian) forces to such condition that by virtue of the agreement they cannot be rebuilt any more. And let the aforementioned region of Temesvar be left completely free, and in the future, neither in the aforementioned places, nor along the banks of the rivers Maros and Theiss, let any other places, whether large or small, be built; that is, places which can be shown to be a type of fortification.

Let the use of the rivers Maros and Theiss between the province of Temesvar and the provinces subject to the power and possession of the (Austrian) Emperor be common to the subjects of both empires, both for watering cattle of all types, and for fishing, as well as for other extremely necessary conveniences.

Ships carrying freight ought not to be hindered on route whenever, indeed, they are ascending or descending from the upper reaches subject to the Imperial (i.e. Austrian) dominion, both along the Maros river into the Theiss, and along the Theiss into the Danube, and moving back and forth.

The sailing of German ships or the ships of other Imperial (i.e. Austrian) subjects should in no wise be inconvenienced in their course back and forth, but let navigation be carried on freely and conveniently everywhere on the aforesaid two rivers. And since the agreements of reciprocal friendship and mutual good will require, indeed, that those subjects of the Imperial Ottoman power can be participants in the use of the aforesaid rivers: let them use them without hindrance for fishing boats and skiffs. Moreover, let mill ships be placed by consultation and with the consent of the governors of both dominions in the places which cannot merely be a hindrance for other navigation of the Imperial (i.e. Austrian) dominion. And let them in no wise be permitted to be placed so that the waters from the Maros may be diverted elsewhere or be divided by mills or on another pretext, lest by diversion of the waters in the Maros the passage of the Imperial (i.e. Austrian) ships suffer some inconvenience.

Whatever islands are in the aforesaid rivers, since they are by force in the Imperial (i.e. Austrian) power, may remain just as they are now occupied. And let the subjects of both dominions live completely peacefully and tranquilly, and let them be restrained by the most severe decrees from insolences and breaking of the pacts.

III.

Since the region between the rivers Theiss and Danube, commonly called Batska, is in the sole possession and power of His Imperial (i.e. Austrian) Majesty, let it remain thus continuously in the aforementioned Imperial power and dominion; nor may Titel be fortified more than it is at present.

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