archive work, the author focuses on the composition of the respective protestor collectives, on their notions of just and unjust, and on forms and scale of the violent acts committed. He argues that the protests reflected an increasing degree of the state losing legitimacy in the opinion of the protestors, while those protestors lacked any distinct idea of a possible new order. They wanted their problems solved, on the spot and at once. Taking this into account, it is no surprise, according to the author, that the protestors’ ethnic affiliation had only minor, if any, effects on this home front violence. In this situation of all-around shortages the importance of macro communities – nation, empire – was greatly surpassed by an almost corporal sense of local belonging.

THE CREATION OF THE CONDITIONS FOR CONSOCIATIONAL DEMOCRACY AND ITS DEVELOPMENT IN INTERWAR CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Philip J. Howe/Thomas A. Lorman/Daniel E. Miller

The authors present a historical application of the consociational theory of democracy to Imperial Austria (1867-1914) as well as the Czechoslovak First Republic (1918-1938) and interwar Slovakia. The consociational model guarantees minorities a say in government while protecting their interests, thereby helping to preserve democracy in societies with deep ethnic, religious, or other divisions. The authors contend that the nine favorable conditions and the four characteristics of consociational democracy apply, in varying degrees, to the Austrian half of the Habsburg Monarchy and interwar Czechoslovakia. They demonstrate the extent to which Imperial Austria, although never fully democratic, was developing in the direction of consociationalism because it employed, to some degree, proportionality, segmental autonomy, minority veto, and grand coalitions. Interwar Czechoslovakia was not a failed democracy because, in the creation of governments, the evolution of its political institutions, and the implementation of policies, it exhibited all four characteristics of consociationalism. The examination of Slovakia concentrates on how government institutions, particularly the Provincial Office, fostered cooperation among Slovaks and between Slovaks and the central authorities in Prague, thereby undermining the notion of centralism and Czech domination. The authors’ explanation of the development of democracy in Central Europe has implications for interpreting current politics in the region and generally for the historical development of consociational democracy.