Ancient cities
and their reflection to today's world
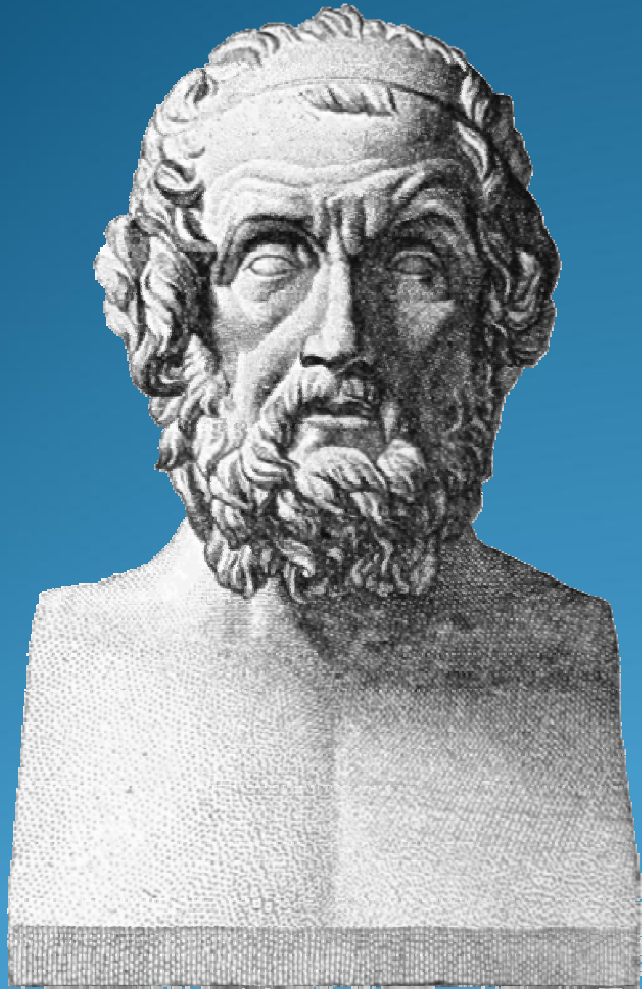

Sokrates Grundtvig Learning Partnership 2010 - 2012

Volkshochschule Schrobenhausen e. V.

Lithuantian Project Meeting

Vilnius, 22th – 26th Sept. 2011

Ancient cities and commerce :

Blonde curles and hodgepodge

Connotation of ancient world

Ancient world in our thinking is:

- Philosophy
- Art and literature
- „Gradle of occident"

But:

- No philosophy without economy
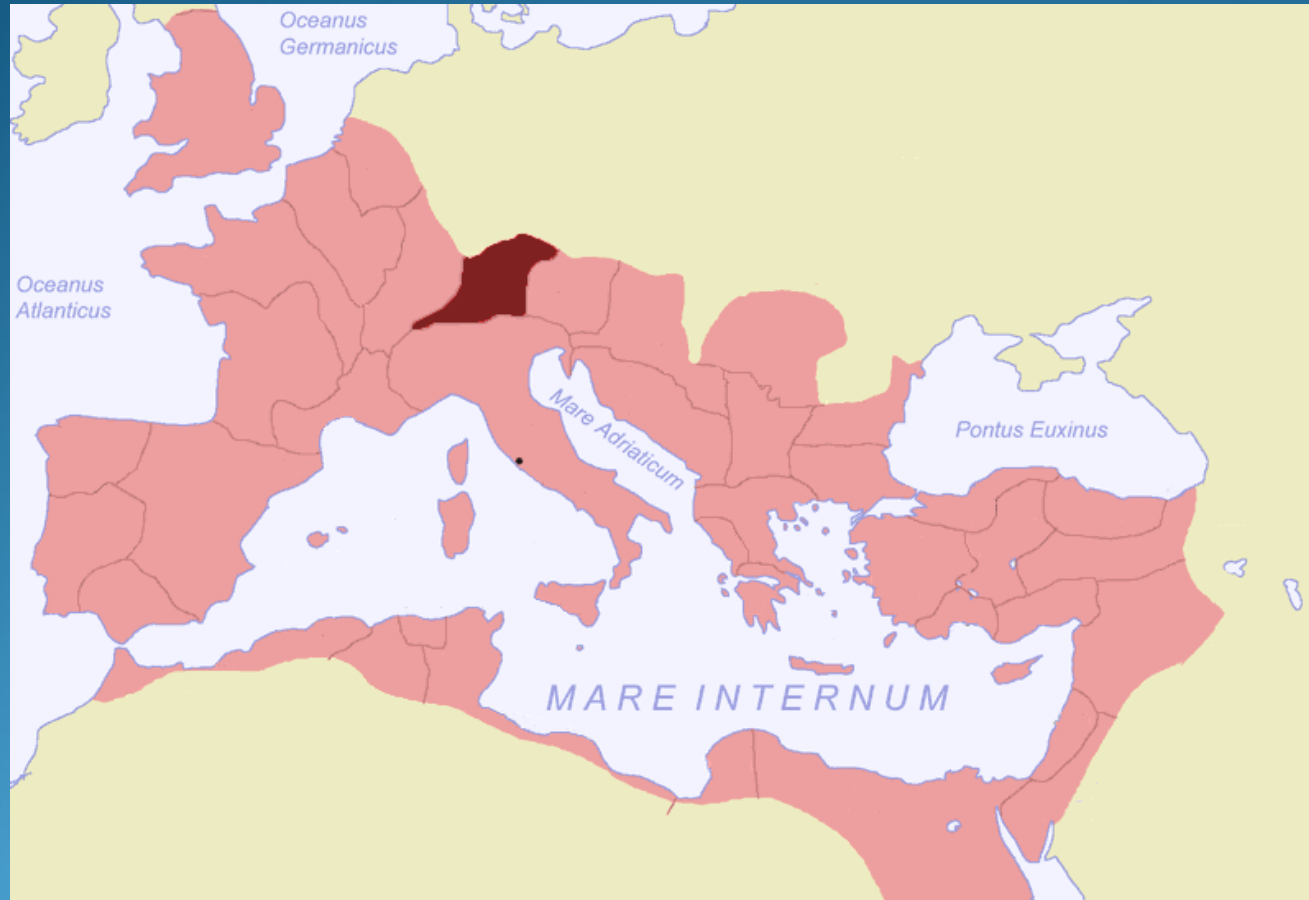- Being determines consciousness

Ancient cities and commerce

o Production

o Warehousing

o Processing

o Market place

o Buying and selling

o Import and export

o Transport and shipping

o Banking business

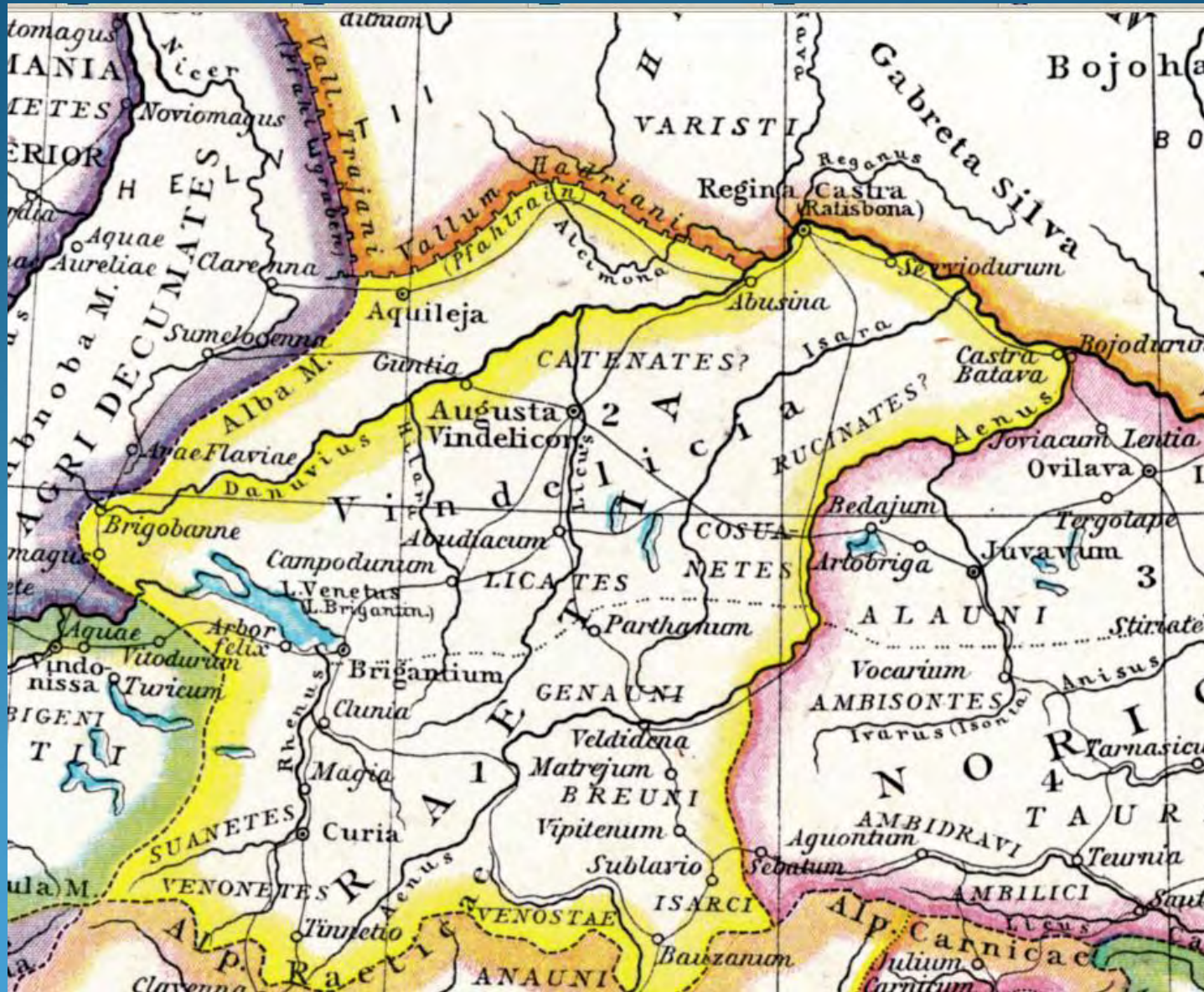◄ Augusta Treverorum (reconstruction)

Roman province of Raetia

The province of Raetia was conquered by Drusus and Tiberius in the year 15 BC.

Augusta Vindelicorum (I)

❖ Founded about 14 AC by Augustus

❖ Capital of the province Raetia

❖ Tacitus (Germ. 41):
   „splendissima Raetiae provinciae colonia"

❖ Central point of administration and commerce

❖ Taken over by Alemanni in the 4th century.

(Present-day Augsburg (264 000 inhabitants) is still a very busy town of commerce and industry.)

Augusta Vindelicorum (II)

Augusta Vindelicorum (III): Junction of roads

Via Claudia Augusta
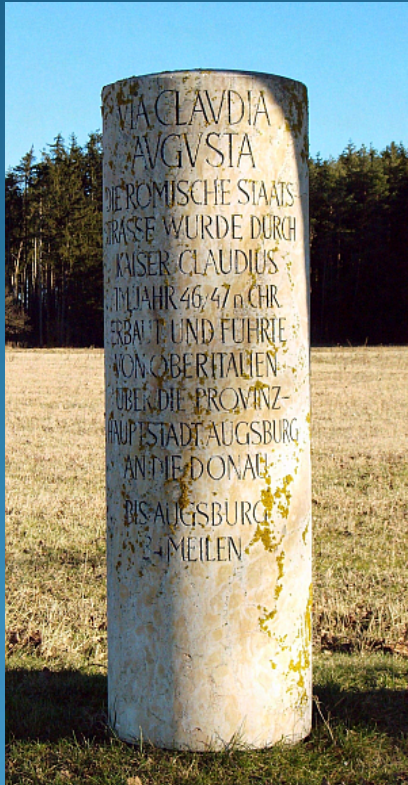
▼

Via Julia

▶

Military roads along the Danube

◀

Local roads

Via Claudia Augusta (I)

Via Claudia Augusta

This road was initiated by Drusus in 15 BC as a military artery of conquest and defence, and Emperor Claudius continued its development as a cultural and commercial artery with permanently populated posting stations where fresh horses would be available.

Via Claudia Augusta (II)

Replica of Roman milestone on the Via Claudia Augusta

Remains of Via Claudia Augusta in Lake Forggensee in spring (low water level)

Land transport in Roman times

Long distance trade and local trade in Augusta Vindelicorum

Replica of a Villa rustica

- Land transport very expensive and only profitable in the case of very valuable goods.
- Local trade: agriculturtal products for the city
- Every day and – to a less extent – „luxury goods" for the urban hinterlands.
- Cross border trade with Germanic people

Cross border trade with Germanic people at the Limes

The „Limes Germanicus" was a border defense or delimiting system of Ancient Rome. But there were also a close commercial relationship across the fortifications.

„Limes Germanicus":
‚Reconstruction of a watch tower

Roman exports to „Germany"

Roman Patera made of silver

- Articles for everyday comsumption
- Bronze and silver items
- Jewelry, glass
- Gold and silver coins
- Other prestige goods, sometimes specially adopted to the „barbarian taste"

Roman imports from „Germany"

- amber
- skins
- leather
- agricultaral surplus
- blonde hair
- slaves

The roman legacy: Augsburg – medivial center of global trade

Thank you very much!

Labai ačiū!

Vielen Dank!

Die **vhs** Volkshochschule