



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman  
Antique Maps Inc.**

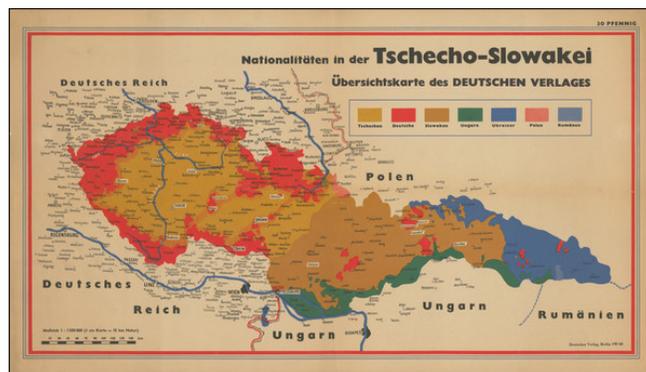
7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500  
blr@raremaps.com

**(Second World War - Prelude - Nationalities in the First Czechoslovak Republic)  
Nationalitäten in der Tschecho-Slowakei Übersichtskarte des Deutschen Verlag**

**Stock#:** 98021mp2  
**Map Maker:** Deutschen Verlag  
**Date:** 1938  
**Place:** Berlin  
**Color:** Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 27.14 x 14.25 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



**Description:**

***Preparing for the Nazi Takeover of the Sudetenland.***

This map of Czechoslovakia, published in 1938 by Deutscher Verlag, Berlin, offers a detailed representation of the distribution of nationalities within the country. Through color delineations—Czechs (yellow), Germans (red), Slovaks (orange), Hungarians (green), Ukrainians (blue), Poles (red and white), and Romanians (blue and white)—this map provides a stark visualization of the ethnic composition of the region on the eve of significant geopolitical changes in Europe.

The late 1930s were characterized by escalating tensions in Central Europe. Nazi Germany, under Adolf Hitler's leadership, pursued aggressive territorial ambitions, initially in regions with significant ethnic German populations. The Sudetenland, an area within Czechoslovakia that at the time had a substantial German-speaking populace, became a focal point of German geopolitical aggression. The map, framed as an objective demographic representation, should be seen in the light of these ambitions, effectively serving as a means to underscore and legitimize claims on the Sudetenland based on its alleged German character.

Historically, maps such as these played dual roles—on one hand, they provided genuine geographical and demographic information, but on the other, they were potent tools for political persuasion and propaganda. This specific map, while useful for understanding the demographics of Czechoslovakia at the time, must be approached with a discerning eye, understanding its potential intent within the broader context of the period's political landscape.

The map likely dates from the period between March 1938 and September 1938. This is because the Anschluss, the annexation of Austria into Nazi Germany, occurred in March 1938. The Sudetenland, on the



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other hand, was annexed by Germany later that year, following the Munich Agreement in September 1938.

**Detailed Condition:**

Old folds flattened. Small tears repaired on verso.