

## **Abstract**

The work is focused on the fate of Irish emigration to Central Europe (the Habsburg monarchy) during the 16th and 17th centuries and its subsequent fate in this region. Particular attention is paid to the family of the Counts Taaffe, who especially in the 19th century significantly influenced politics in the Austrian Empire. Irish emigration in the 17th and 18th century can be divided into three major waves. The first hit after the defeat of Ireland Ulster insurgents in Kinsale. Local elites were not willing to accept a subordinate position and four years after the signing of Mellifontské contract went 30 September 1607 more than ninety Ulstr for the most important nobles in exile. This "escape poke" had far-reaching consequences for Ireland and has contributed greatly to the realization of England's plans. The second and most extensive emigration met Ireland after the Armistice in Kilkeny in May 1652, ie during the era of Oliver Cromwel. The third wave of emigration then caused the victory of William of Orange over James II. in the battle of the Boyne in 1690 and Aughrimu the 1691.

Most Irish emigrants resorted to the Catholic powers, particularly Spain, France and Austria. They can be roughly divided into three groups. First it was the Catholic priests, mainly members of the Franciscan order. Furthermore, it was mainly the wealthy Irish seeking sustenance in the army, and finally students. Political events in the Austrian Empire greatly influenced the Irish Taaffe and his family for the Habsburg monarchy without a doubt the most important member of the family, Count Eduard, who for 13 years held the office of the Austrian Prime Minister.