

July 6th

CZECH REPUBLIC

Jan Hus day



Jan Hus, a predecessor of Martin Luther, was an early 15th century Czech theologian and scholar. He advocated church reforms, such as using Czech as the liturgical language, aligning the church's practices with teachings contained in the Bible, limiting the power of the church to spiritual matters, and stopping the sale of indulgences. Consequently, he was excommunicated from the Catholic Church in 1412 for insubordination. He was summoned to the ecclesiastical Council of Constance in 1414, where he was ordered to recant his teachings. Refusing to comply, Hus was burnt at the stake on July 6, 1415. Over the centuries Jan Hus has become a powerful symbol of an independent Czech national identity. The Czech Republic is one of the most atheistic countries, with Catholicism leading at like 24%. Nevertheless Jan Hus is a national hero and we get today off.

LITHUANIA

CROWNING OF MINDAUGAS /DAY OF STATEHOOD



The monument to Lithuania in Druskininkai

Day of Statehood is an annual public holiday in Lithuania celebrated on 6th July to commemorate the coronation in 1253 of Mindaugas as the first and only King of Lithuania. **Mindaugas** (ca. 1200 – 12 September 1263) was the first known Grand Duke of Lithuania

and the only King of Lithuania. Mindaugas and his wife Morta were crowned during the summer of 1253. Bishop Henry Heidenreich of Kulm presided over the ecclesiastical ceremonies and Andreas Stirland conferred the crown. 6th July is now celebrated as Statehood Day (Lithuanian: *Valstybės diena*); it is an official holiday in modern Lithuania. The exact date of the coronation is not known; the scholarship of historian Edvardas Gudavičius, who promulgated this precise date, is sometimes challenged. The location of the coronation also remains unknown.

The day of Statehood is officially celebrated since 1991.