

MAJOR GEOGRAPHIC QUALITIES

- WESTERN EXTREMITY OF EURASIA
- LINGERING WORLD INFLUENCE
- HIGH DEGREES OF SPECIALIZATION
- MANUFACTURING DOMINANCE
- NUMEROUS NATION-STATES
- URBANIZED POPULATION
- HIGH STANDARDS OF LIVING

SUBDIVISIONS OF THE REALM

- Western Europe
- Eastern Europe
- British Isles
- Northern Europe
- Mediterranean Europe

PHYSICAL LANDSCAPES


- Alpine System
- Western Uplands
- Central Uplands
- North European Lowland

RELATIVE LOCATION

- At the heart of the land hemisphere
- Maximum efficiency for contact with the rest of the world
- Every part of Europe is close to the sea.
- Navigable waterways
- Moderate distances



AGRARIAN REVOLUTION

- Began in Europe in the 1750s
- Based on new agricultural innovations
- Enabled increased food production
- Enabled sustained population increase




INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- Developed in the UK between 1750-1850
- Evolved from technical innovations that occurred in British industry
- Proved to be a major catalyst towards increased urbanization
- Produced a distinct spatial pattern in Europe

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



Replacing bobbins on machinery
Kids At Work, Russell Proffman, Scholastic, 1994. Photo by Lewis Hine

SPATIAL INTERACTION

- Movement across geographic space
- Involves contact of people in two or more places for the purposes of exchanging goods or ideas
- Principles
 - COMPLEMENTARITY
 - TRANSFERABILITY
 - INTERVENING OPPORTUNITY

COMPLEMENTARITY

- Two places, through an **exchange** of goods, can specifically satisfy each other's demands.
- One area has a **surplus** of an item **demand**ed by a second area.



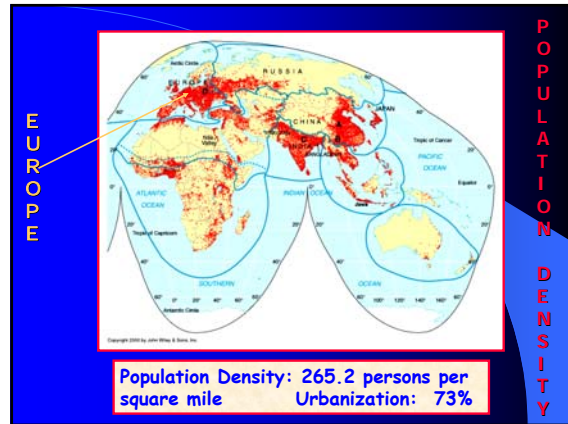
TRANSFERABILITY

- The ease with which a commodity may be transported or the capacity to move a good at a bearable cost
- Rivers, Mountain Passes, Road networks
- Advances in transportation technology



INTERVENING OPPORTUNITY

- The presence of a nearer source of supply or opportunity that acts to diminish the attractiveness of more distant sources and sites



CITIES

- The term is a political designation.
- Refers to a municipal entity that is governed by some kind of administrative organization
- The largest cities (especially capitals) are:
 - the foci of the state
 - complete microcosms of their national cultures

PRIMATE CITIES

- A country's largest city
- Jefferson's criteria:
 - Always disproportionately larger than the second largest urban center -- more than twice the size
 - Expressive of the national culture
 - Usually (but not always) the capital
- Examples: **Paris, London, Athens**

EUROPEAN versus AMERICAN CITIES

Similarities

- Central core
- Suburban ring



EUROPEAN versus AMERICAN CITIES

Differences

- High suburban density
- Apartments
- Public transportation
- Land scarcity
- Centralized Urban planning



Population of Europe

- Falling share of the world's population
- Fertility at an all-time low
- Fewer young people
- Smaller working age population



Infertility rates 'could threaten Europe's population'

Population of Europe

- Population Growth Rate: 0%
- Birth Rate: 10 births/1,000 population
- Death Rate: 11 deaths/1,000 population
- Labor force: (sources - CIA Fact Book)
 - Industry 41%
 - Agriculture 6%
 - Other (services, etc.) 53%
- Population profiles:
 - Current snapshots
 - Reveal historical events
 - Enable projections

Supranationalism

- A venture involving three or more states
- Political, economic, and/or cultural cooperation to promote shared objectives



New "Euro" Currency



European Supranationalism



1944 Benelux Agreement

- Netherlands
- Belgium
- Luxembourg

Why would anyone want to give away international autonomy, one of the most sought after goals in this century?

History of European Supranationalism



Primary function of the OEEC
To accept and distribute funds allocated under the **Marshall Plan**

Developed by the U.S. to assist the rebuilding of European countries at the end of WW II



European Union (EU)



- Original Members: (12) Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, UK
- Established: 7 February 1992
- Effective: 1 November 1993
- Aimed to coordinate policy among the members in three fields:
 - economics
 - defense
 - justice and home affairs

European Union Members Today

- Belgium
- Netherlands
- Luxembourg
- France
- Italy
- Germany
- Britain
- Ireland
- Denmark
- Greece
- Spain
- Portugal
- Austria
- Sweden
- Finland



- EU Members
- Non-members
- Prospective Members

European Supranationalism

Supranationalism Problems

- Loss of autonomy
- Disparities in levels of economic development
- Technical barriers
- Cultural barriers



- WESTERN EUROPE
- BRITISH ISLES
- NORTHERN (NORDIC) EUROPE
- MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE
- EASTERN EUROPE

Western Europe

France
Belgium
Luxemburg
Netherlands
Germany
Austria
Switzerland



British Isles

United Kingdom
• England
• Wales
• Scotland
• Northern Ireland

Ireland





MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE

- SIX COUNTRIES
- A DISCONTINUOUS REGION
- ON THE PERIPHERY
- CULTURAL CONTINUITY DATES FROM GRECO-ROMAN TIMES
- MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE
 - HOT - DRY SUMMERS
 - WARM/COOL - MOIST WINTERS



EASTERN EUROPE (REGIONAL IDENTIFIERS)

- EUROPE'S LARGEST REGION
- ADJOINS 3 OF 4 OTHER EUROPEAN REGIONS
- CONTAINS THE MOST COUNTRIES
- INCLUDES EUROPE'S LARGEST STATE
- INCORPORATES EUROPE'S POOREST COUNTRY
- IN 1990, NONE OF ITS STATES COULD MEET THE CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU
- REACHES INTO THE RUSSIAN ZONE OF INFLUENCE



COUNTRIES FACING THE BALTIC SEA

- POLAND
 - A CLASSIC NATION-STATE
 - TRADITIONALLY AGRARIAN - WHEAT
 - POST WWII INDUSTRY - SILESIA
 - WARSAW - PRIMATE CITY
- LITHUANIA
 - LOST INDEPENDENCE IN 1940, REGAINED IN 1991
 - KALININGRAD - A RUSSIAN EXCLAVE
- LATVIA
 - SIMILAR HISTORY AS LITHUANIA
 - CONSTITUTE BARE MAJORITY IN OWN COUNTRY
- BELARUS: RUSSIA'S CLOSEST ALLY

THE LANDLOCKED CENTER

- CZECH REPUBLIC
 - THE REGION'S MOST WESTERNIZED
 - PRAGUE- A CLASSIC PRIMATE CITY
- SLOVAKIA
 - THE LEAST DEVELOPED, MOST RURAL PART OF "CZECHOSLOVAKIA"
- HUNGARY
 - A NATION-STATE OF 9.9 MILLION
 - BUDAPEST- A CLASSIC PRIMATE CITY

COUNTRIES FACING THE ADRIATIC SEA

- SLOVENIA: FIRST TO SECEDE; ETHNICALLY MOST HOMOGENEOUS
- CROATIA
- BOSNIA: CENTRALLY POSITIONED
- SERBIA: LARGEST AND MOST POPULOUS
- MACEDONIA: 65% MACEDONIAN, 21% ALBANIAN
- ALBANIA: REMNANT OF TURKISH OTTOMAN EMPIRE; 70% MUSLIMS; LOWEST ECONOMIC RANKING IN EUROPE

COUNTRIES FACING THE BLACK SEA

- BULGARIA: LIBERATED BY RUSSIA IN 1878
- ROMANIA: A FORMER ROMAN PROVINCE; RAW MATERIALS (COAL, IRON ORE, OIL, NATURAL GAS)
- MOLDOVA: AGRICULTURAL
- UKRAINE: LARGEST AND MOST POPULOUS; AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE

KEY CONCEPTS

- IRREDENTISM
- ETHNIC CLEANSING
- BALKANIZATION
- DEVOLUTION
- SHATTER BELT



BALKANIZATION

- FROM THE VERB *BALKANIZE*, WHICH MEANS TO BREAK UP (AS IN A REGION) INTO SMALLER AND OFTEN HOSTILE UNITS
- ORIGINATES FROM A MOUNTAIN RANGE IN BULGARIA
- APPLIED TO THE SOUTHERN HALF OF EASTERN EUROPE, i.e., THE *BALKAN COUNTRIES* OF THE BALKAN PENINSULA



The former *Yugoslavia* has become five independent countries and the province of Kosovo is currently fighting to break away of what is left of Yugoslavia.

UNDERLYING FORCES

- **CENTRIFUGAL FORCES**
 - REFER TO FORCES THAT TEND TO DIVIDE A COUNTRY
 - Religious, linguistic, ethnic, or ideological differences
- **CENTRIPETAL FORCES**
 - FORCES THAT UNITE AND BIND A COUNTRY TOGETHER
 - A strong national culture, shared ideological objectives, and a common faith

IRREDENTISM

- A POLICY OF CULTURAL EXTENSION AND POLITICAL EXPANSION AIMED AT A NATIONAL GROUP LIVING IN A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY



Every divided country or partitioned people is unhappy -- Leo Tolstoy

ETHNIC GROUPS IN EASTERN EUROPE



ETHNIC CLEANSING

- REFERS TO THE FORCIBLE OUSTER OF ENTIRE POPULATIONS FROM THEIR HOMELANDS BY STRONGER POWERS BENT ON TAKING THEIR TERRITORIES



DEVOLUTION IN EUROPE

- THE PROCESS WHEREBY REGIONS WITHIN A STATE DEMAND AND GAIN POLITICAL STRENGTH AND GROWING AUTONOMY AT THE EXPENSE OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT



SHATTER BELT

- A TERM APPLIED TO EASTERN EUROPE BY GEOGRAPHERS TO DESCRIBE A ZONE OF CHRONIC POLITICAL SPLINTERING AND FRACTURING
- WHY HERE?



