

# AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

## POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

# 1. Political Geography

The study of human political organization of the earth.

Study political organization at three scales

Supranational

National (country)

Subnational (local)



## **2. Territoriality**

Creating ownership over a defined space

Can be your backyard or an entire country









**NOT A  
STATE**

# 3. State

A political unit with a permanent population, territorial boundaries that are recognized by other states an effective government, a working economy and sovereignty.

State = Country

state = sub-state





## 4. Sovereignty

A recognized right to control a territory both politically and militarily

Under international law states are sovereign

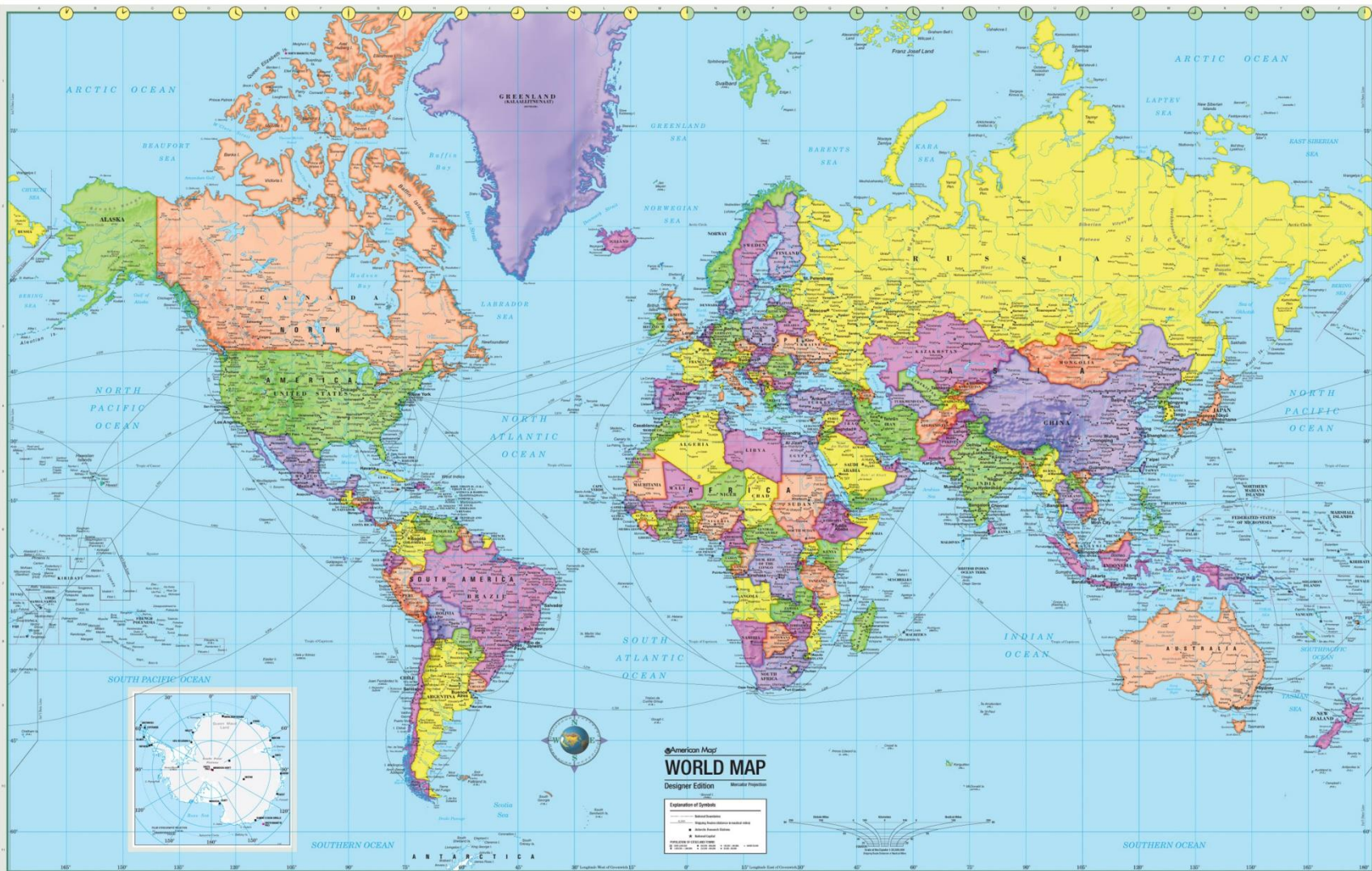


# Qualifications for Statehood

- Has space or territory with recognized boundaries
- Has a permanent population
- Has economic activity and an organized economy – regulates foreign and domestic trade and issues money
- Has the power of social engineering, such as education
- Has a transportation system
- Has a government which provides public services and police power
- Has sovereignty. No other state exercises control over the territory
- Has external recognition by other states







## 5. Microstate

- A very small State, such as Singapore.

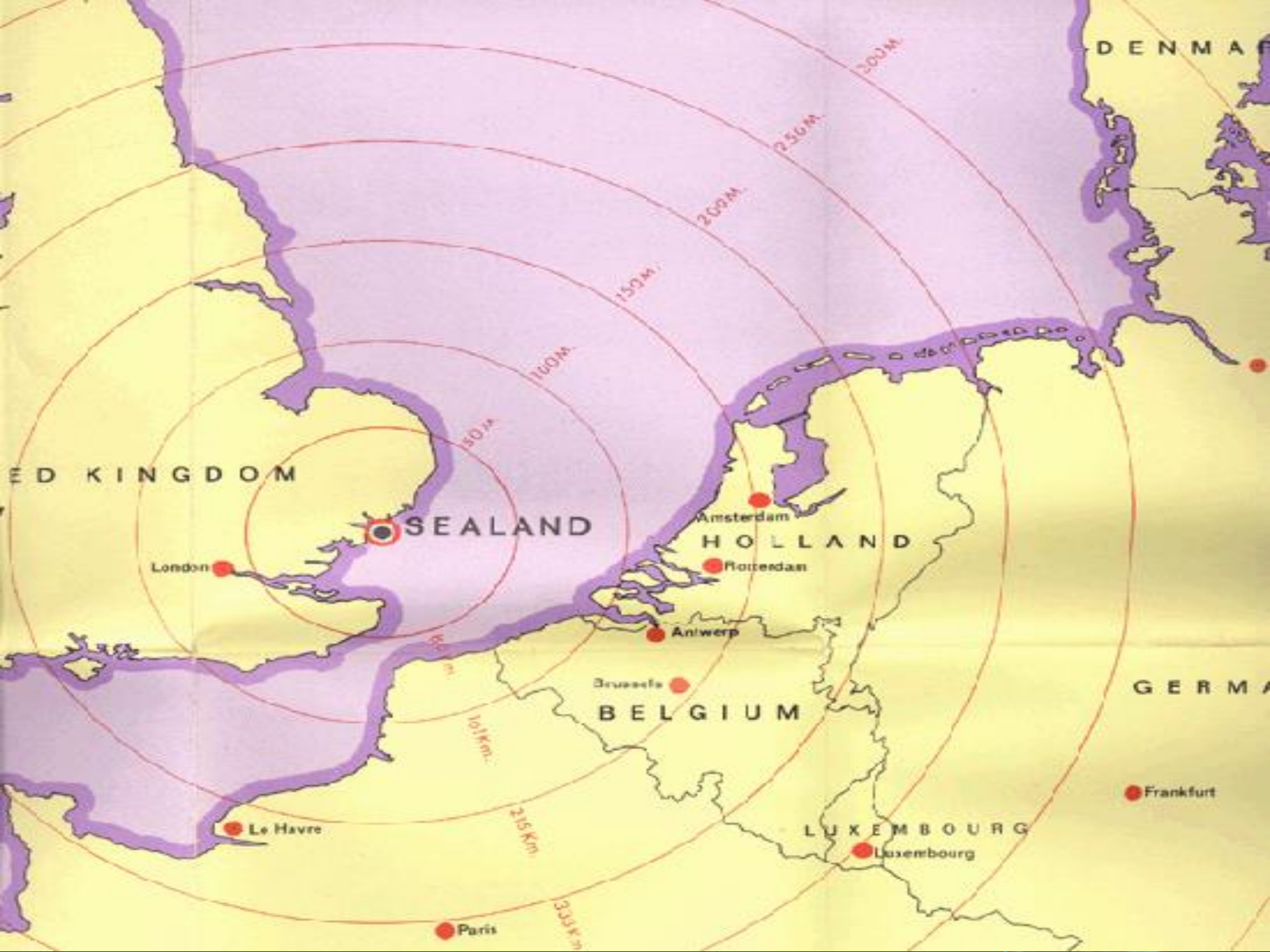


# Is Sealand a State?



[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P\\_LnPYRSLIc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_LnPYRSLIc)





The coat of arms of the Principality of Sealand is centered in the background. It features a shield with a red chevron, supported by two golden lions. Above the shield is a crown, and the shield is flanked by two golden lions. The shield is set against a blue background with a white border.

*Principality of*  
**SEALAND**

# History of Sealand



Established by Britain during WWII  
Purpose to guard the Thames estuary

Well-equipped Military installation  
200 men

After the war it was abandoned

1966 - British family took possession and  
restored the platform

1967 declared itself a nation

Has become recognized internationally

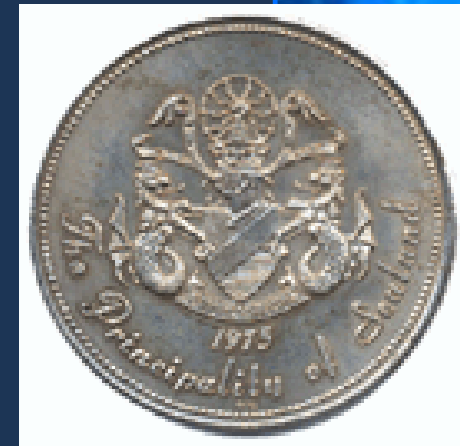
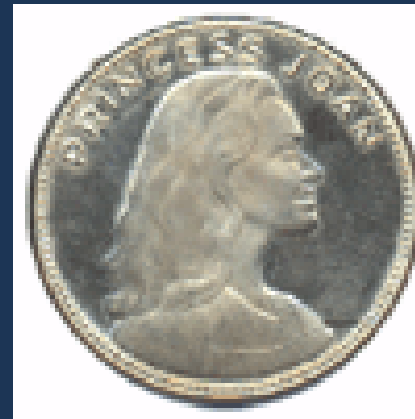
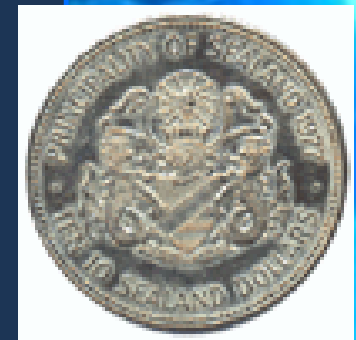
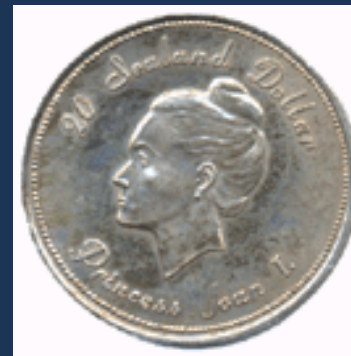
European states have given it *de facto*  
recognition





Prince Roy and  
Princess Joan of  
Sealand.

# Stamps and Coins







## MORE MICRONATIONS

25 Micros:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL8R199K66s>

The Republic of Molossia:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01RI75llvtU>



## **6. Territorial integrity**

The right of a state to defend sovereign territory against incursion from other states



Politically  
Organized

Permanent  
Population

State

Defined Territory  
and Government

Recognized by  
other States



Territory



Sovereignty



# How many States (countries) in the world?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AivEQmfPpk>

What did we have before States?

# 7. EMPIRES



# Examples of Empires

Roman Empire

Ottoman Empire

Han Dynasty

Mayan Empire

Kingdom of France



# Why are Empires not States?

Territory is not clearly defined – boundaries were not set or recognized.

Included a large amount of ethnic and cultural groups



# 8. Peace of Westphalia

Marks the beginning of the modern state system

Treaty between princes of the states making up the Holy Roman Empire

Ended destructive religious war – The Thirty Year War

Recognized the rights of rulers within defined territories





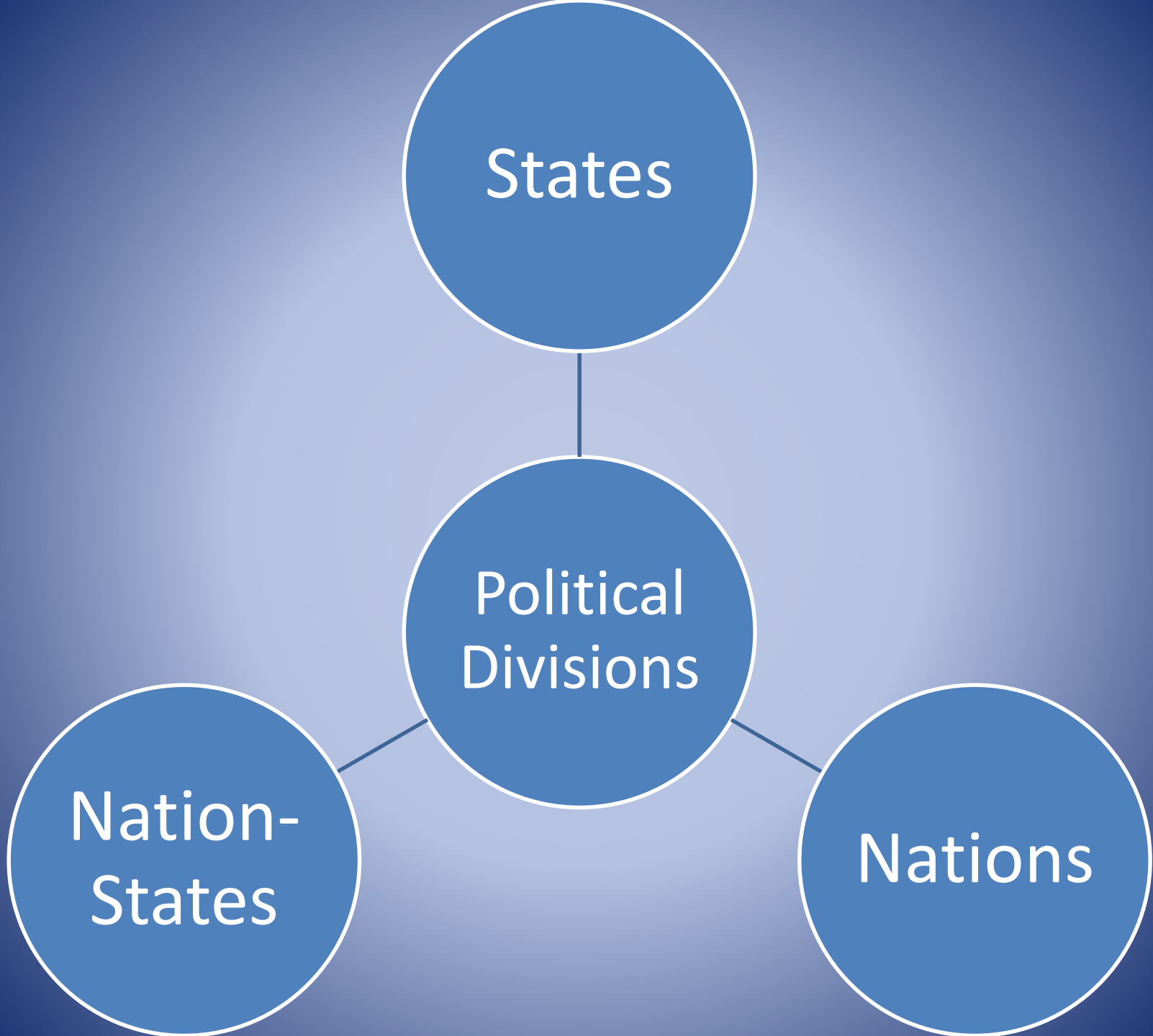
# Peace of Westphalia

Fundamental shift in how we thought about territory

Previously where a society lived was it's territory

After Westphalia territory defined the society





States

Political  
Divisions

Nation-  
States

Nations

# 9. Nation

A group of people who think of themselves as one based on a shared culture and history.

May share religion, language, an ethnicity, etc.





Culturally  
Defined

Shared  
Culture

Nation

Not defined  
by territory

“An Imagined  
Community”

```
graph TD; A((The French)) --- B((Nations)); B --- C((Native Americans));
```

The French

Nations

Native  
Americans

```
graph TD; A((Italy)) --- B((Nations?)); B --- C((Great Britain))
```

Italy

Nations?

Great  
Britain

```
graph TD; A((Italy)) --- B((Not Nations)); B --- C((Great Britain));
```

Italy

Not  
Nations

Great  
Britain



# 10. Nation-State

A politically organized area in which a nation and state occupy the same space.

An ATTEMPT to marry the concepts of nation and state into one big happy territory.



Dates to the French  
Revolution

Created to inspire  
nationalism within  
a state

Nation-  
State

Largely an ideal  
rather than fact

Unifies groups that  
may destroy the  
state

# 11. Multinational State

A state that contains more than one nation within its borders



# 12. Multistate Nation

When a nation stretches across borders and across states





# 13. Stateless Nation

When a nation does not have a territory to call its own

## Examples

- Assyrian Christians of Iraq
- Kurds in the Middle East
- Ughirs in Western China



A. Define the following concepts as they are used in political geography.

1. Nation
2. State
3. Nation-state

B. For each of these concepts, name a specific late-twentieth-century example from Region A and a specific late-twentieth-century example from Region B on the map above.

C. Explain how the pursuit of the nation-state ideal during recent decades has led to conflict in each of the two Regions A and B on the map above.



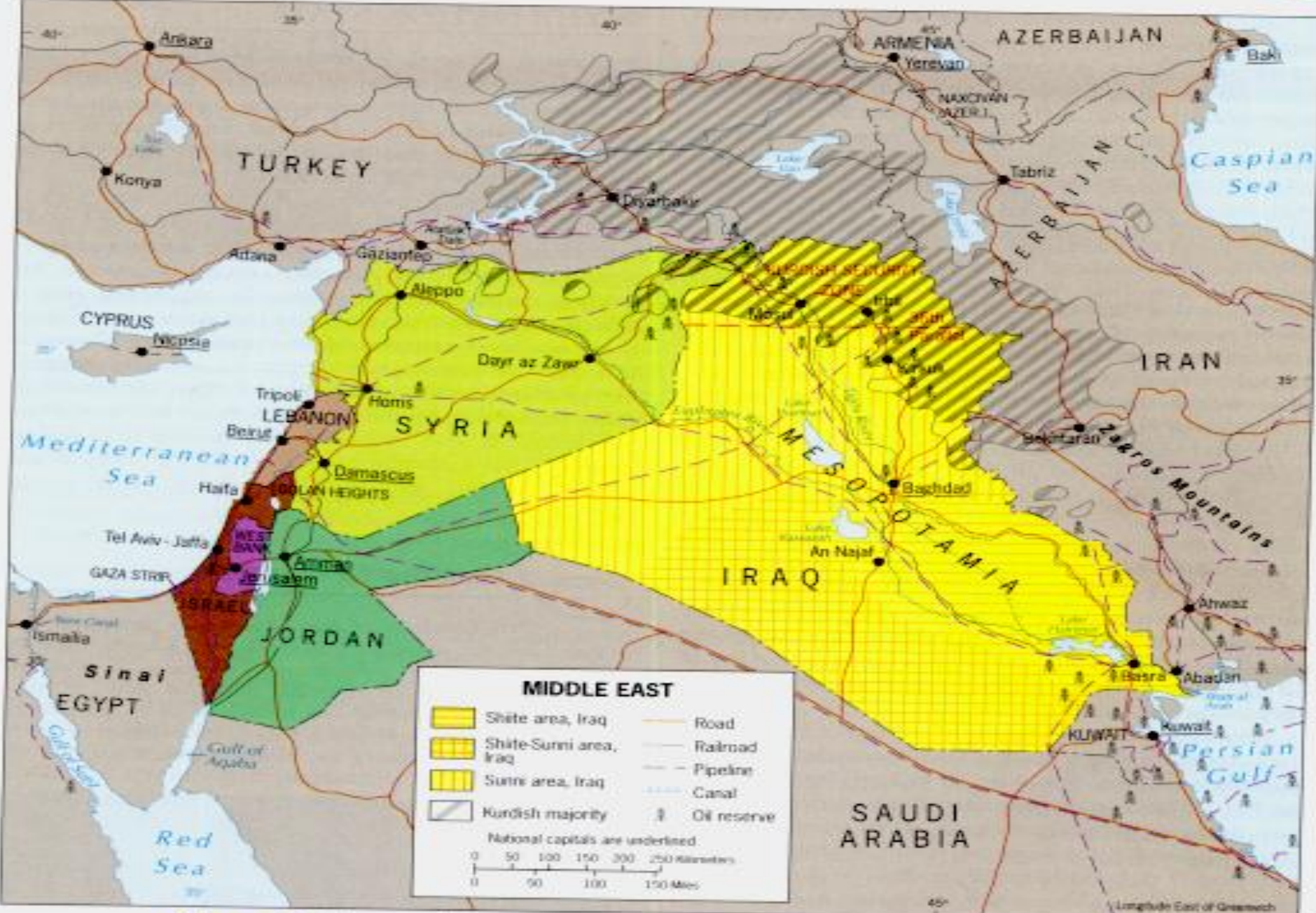
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**Figure 25-2** States and Territories of the Middle East. Kurdistan is a stateless nation divided under six flags. *Source: From a map in H. J. de Blij and P. O. Muller, Geography: Regions, Realms, and Concepts, 8th ed. New York: Wiley, 1997.*



# Native Americans Stateless Nations ?





## Multinational State

- A state with more than one nation inside its borders.
- Nearly every State in the world is a multinational state.
- Iraq: Sunnis, Kurds, Shiites

## Multistate Nations

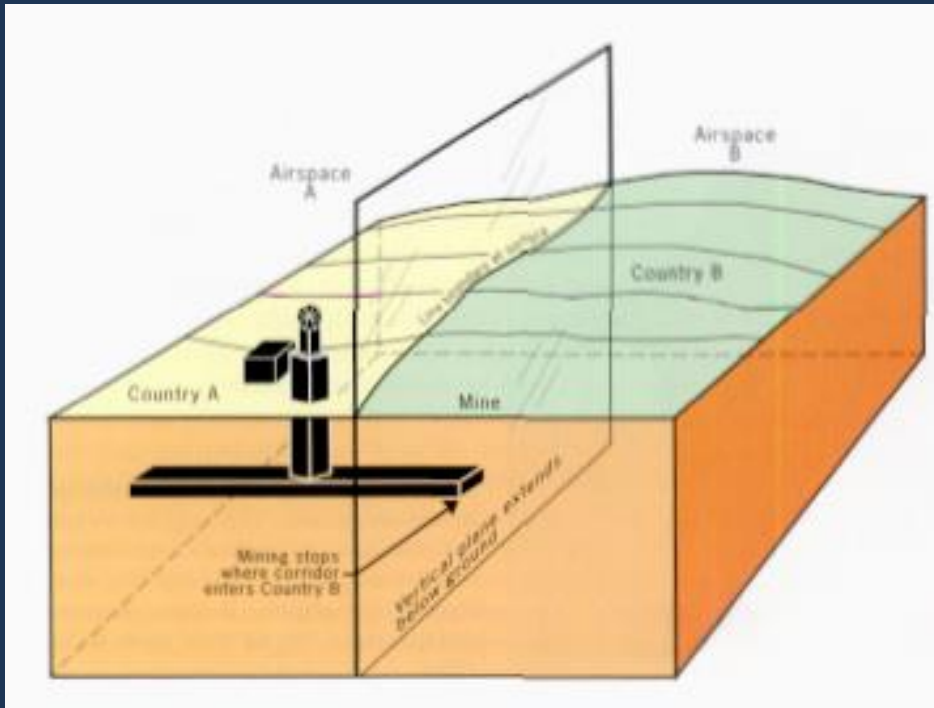
- A nation that stretches across borders.

## Stateless Nations

- A nation that does not have a state.
- Palestinians, Kurds

# 14. Boundary

A vertical plane that cuts through the airspace and ground to determine ownership





# 15. Geometric Boundary

Boundaries drawn based on a grid system – such as line of latitude or longitude.



# 16. Physical Political Boundary

Boundaries that follow an agreed upon feature in the natural landscape.



## **17. Defining (boundaries)**

Boundaries are normally created in a treaty like legal document.



# 18. Delimiting

The drawing of a boundary on a map.



# 19. Demarcating

Creating visible means to mark a boundary – steel posts, fences, walls, etc.





## 20. Median Line Principle

- Waters will be divided evenly between two or more countries.



# 21. Antecedent Boundaries

- Boundary lines that existed before human cultures developed into their current form.
- Many physical boundaries grew from antecedent boundaries
  - Kentucky and Indiana grew as distinct cultures around an already existing divider – the Ohio River.

## 22. Subsequent Boundaries

- Divided space resulted from human interaction and negotiation after settlement.

## 23. Superimposed

- Boundaries forcibly put on the landscape by outside parties, such as invaders or supranational organizations.
- Example - The UN created borders of Israel.

## 24. Relict

- Boundary that no longer functions as a border.
- Example – The Berlin Wall





## 25. Definitional Boundary Disputes

Dispute based on the legal language of a boundary.

Example: Japan and Russia have not agreed to the definition of the boundaries surrounding islands north of Japan.



## 26. Locational Boundary Disputes

Countries agree on the definition, but not on where the boundary exists on the earth or on a map.

Example: Saudi Arabia and Yemen have agreed to a border, but not to exactly where that border is located.



## **27. Operational Boundary Disputes**

Disputes over how a border should be operated or controlled.

Example: The US/Mexican Border in regards to immigration and transport of goods.



# 28. Allocational Boundary Disputes

Disputes over natural resources (mineral deposits, fertile farmland, or rich fishing grounds) that lie in the border area.

Example: The US and Canada have fought over fishing grounds in the Atlantic Ocean





# 29. Territorial Morphology

The relationship between a state's geographic shape, size, relative location and its political situation.



# 30. Fragmented States

Geographically exists in several pieces

Indonesia is fragmented into over 16,000 islands



# 31. Elongated States

State that is long and thin in shape.



# 32. Compact States

State that does not vary greatly in distance from its center to any point on its border.





# 33. Prorupt States

State that has a piece that protrudes from its core area, like an arm or leg jutting out.





# 34. Perforated States

State that has a hole punched in them by another state. A perforated state completely surrounds another state.



# 35. Landlocked States

Countries that have no access to a coastal area or large body of water.



# 36. Political Enclave

A state or part of a state surrounded completely by another state.



# 37. Political Exclave

A part of a state almost completely separated from the rest of the country.







The Most Complex Borders in the World – Part 1:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtLxZiiuaXs>

The Most Complex Borders in the World – Part 2:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZdkqqjosCM>



# 38. Buffer State

An independent country located between two larger countries that are in conflict.



# 39. Satellite States

A country controlled by another, more powerful state.





# 40. Shatterbelt

A state or group of states that exist within a sphere of competition between larger states and is often culturally, economically and politically fragmented.



# 41. Frontiers

Regions where boundaries are weakly developed, territoriality is unclear and not well established.





# THE APHG GAME

Write a definition and give one real world example for each of the following terms

1. State
2. Nation
3. Multi-state Nation
4. Antecedent Boundary
5. Operational Boundary Dispute
6. Irredentism
7. Median Line Principle
8. Prorupt State
9. Compact State
10. Political Enclave



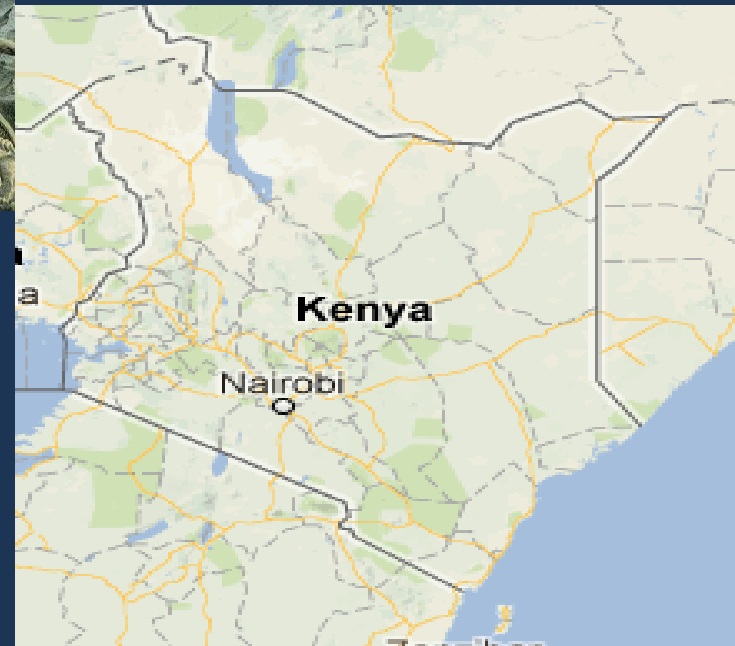
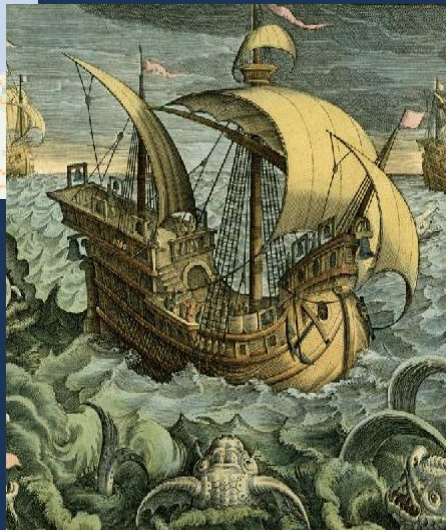
# COLONIALISM

A STORY ABOUT STUFF

or

How to steal stuff from other territories  
and make yourself filthy rich.





# 42. Colonialism

Establishing a new territory by a group of people who keep their ties to their home government.

The control of one state over another place

Often the colonizer has a more industrialized economy

Major factor in colonialism was the industrial revolution



# Colonialism

Age of European Colonialism lasted from 16<sup>th</sup> century until end of WWII

## Two Major Periods

- First occurred after European explorers discovered land in the western hemisphere (15<sup>th</sup> century)

- Second – Late 1800's when Euro powers competed to carve up Africa

- \* France and England would control 70% of Africa





## 43. Mercantilism

An economic system where a state acquires colonies that provide it with the raw materials to ship back home and use in making products for the population of the mother country



# 44. Imperialism

The process of establishing political, social and economic dominance over a colonized area



# What's the Difference

MERCANTILISM, COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM ?

Mercantilism:

Economic System – Make money by establishing colonies and using the resources to make products and goods back home.

Colonialism:

The act of establishing the territory

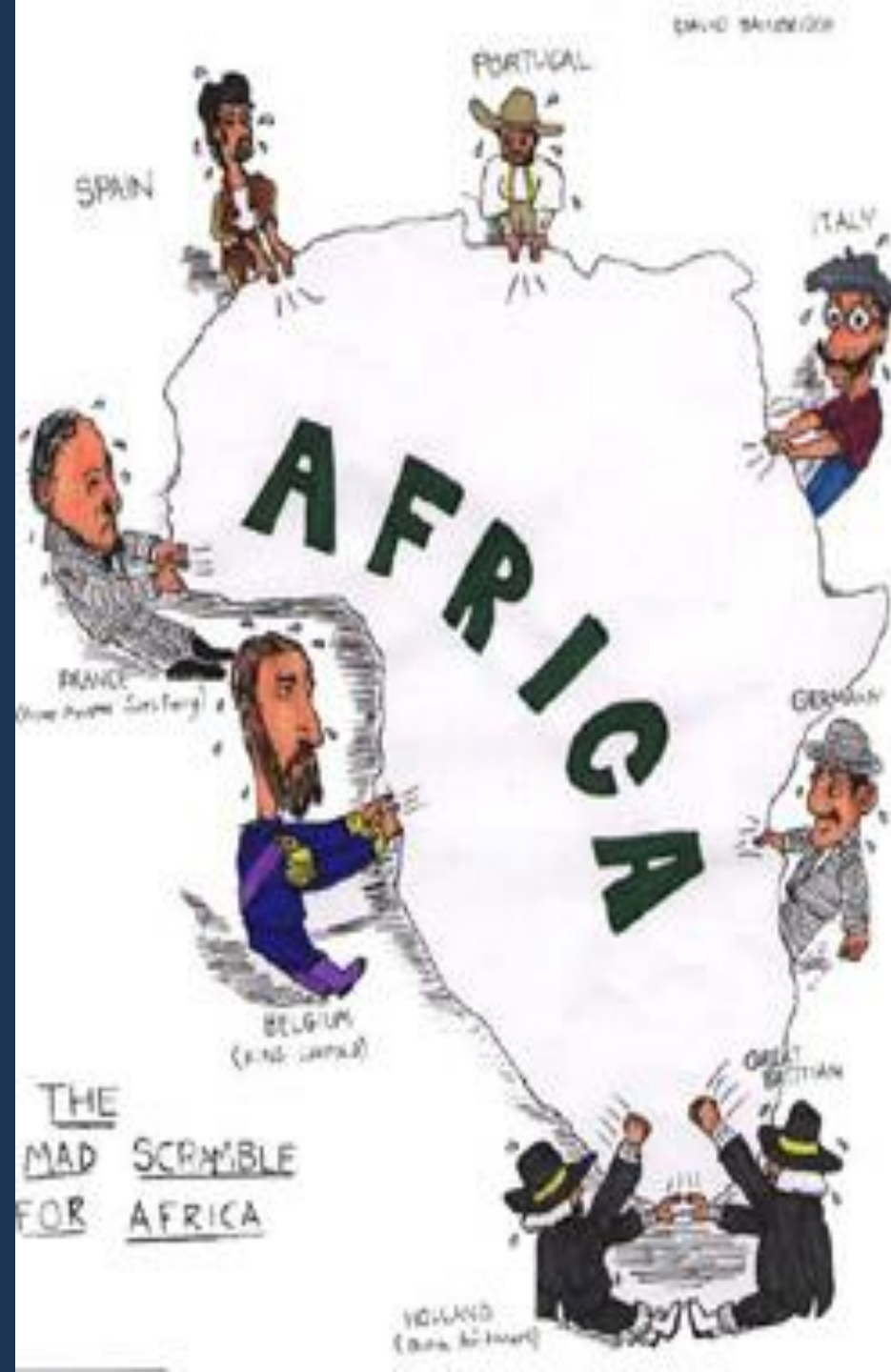
Imperialism:

The act of dominating the territory



# 45. Scramble for Africa:

Period between 1880 and 1914 when European countries competed to claim territory in Africa.



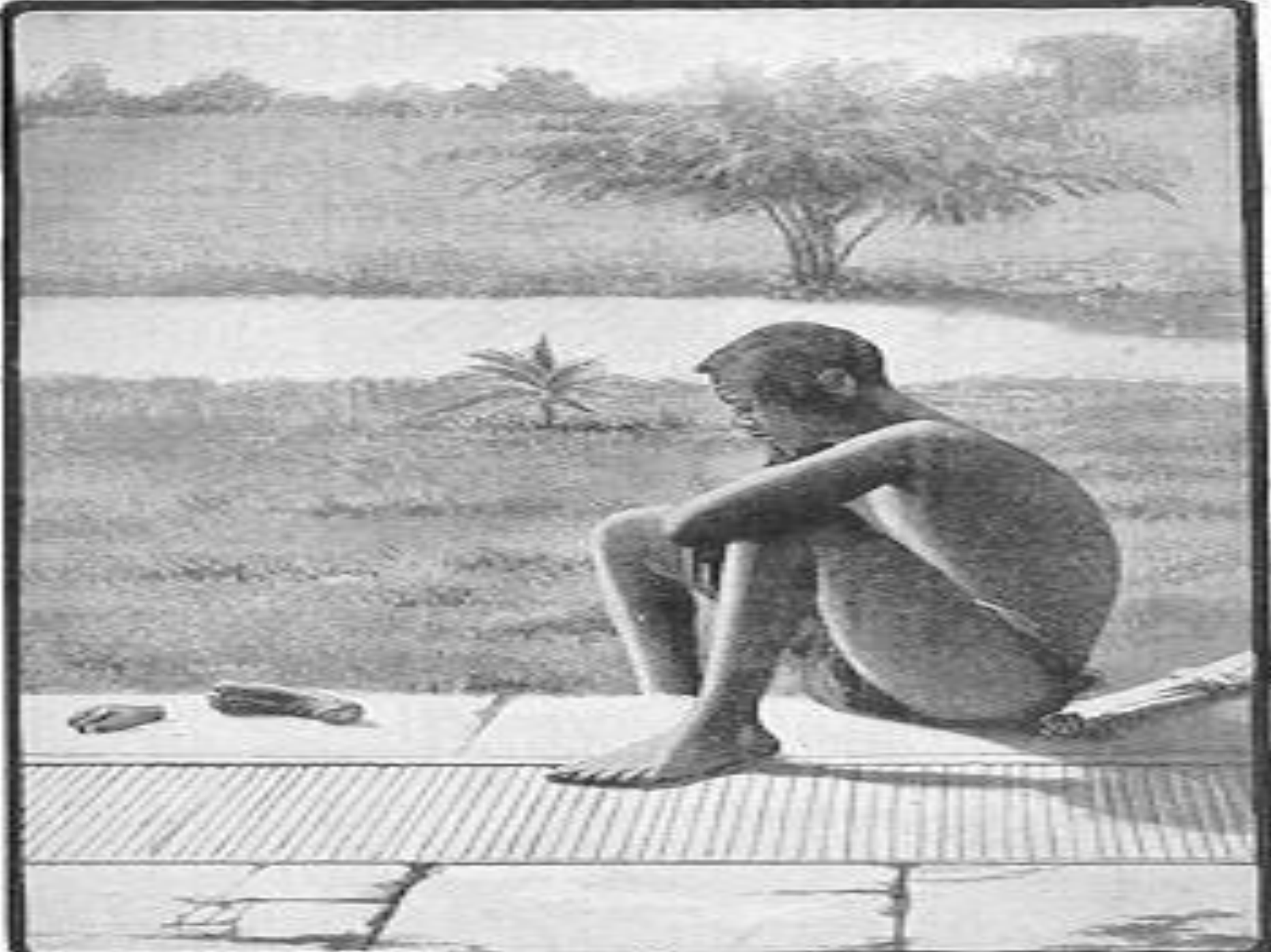
## 46. Berlin Conference (1884):

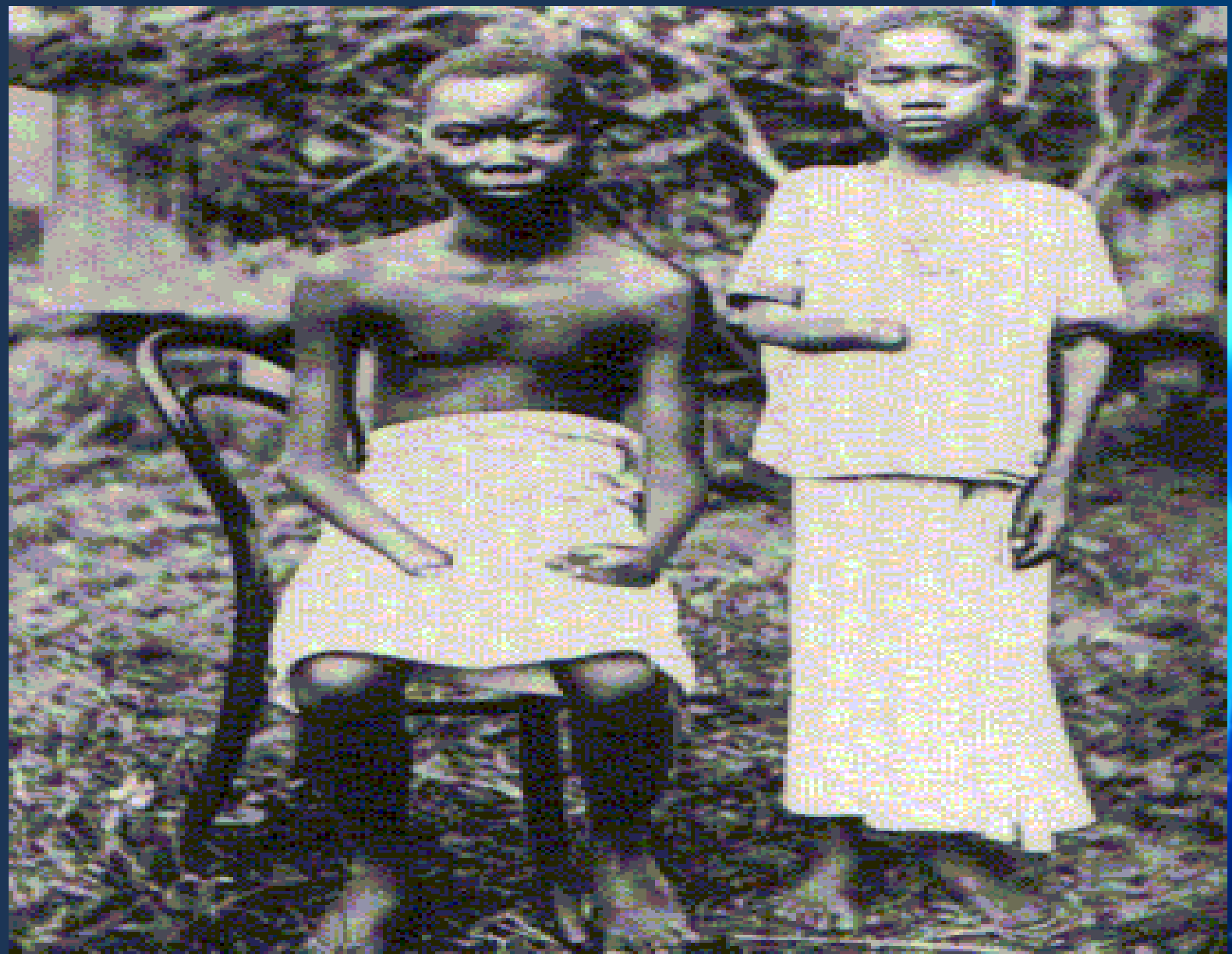
Called together all the European powers to lay down rules for the division of Africa.

Agreed that any European power could claim land in Africa by notifying other nations of their claims and showing they could control the area





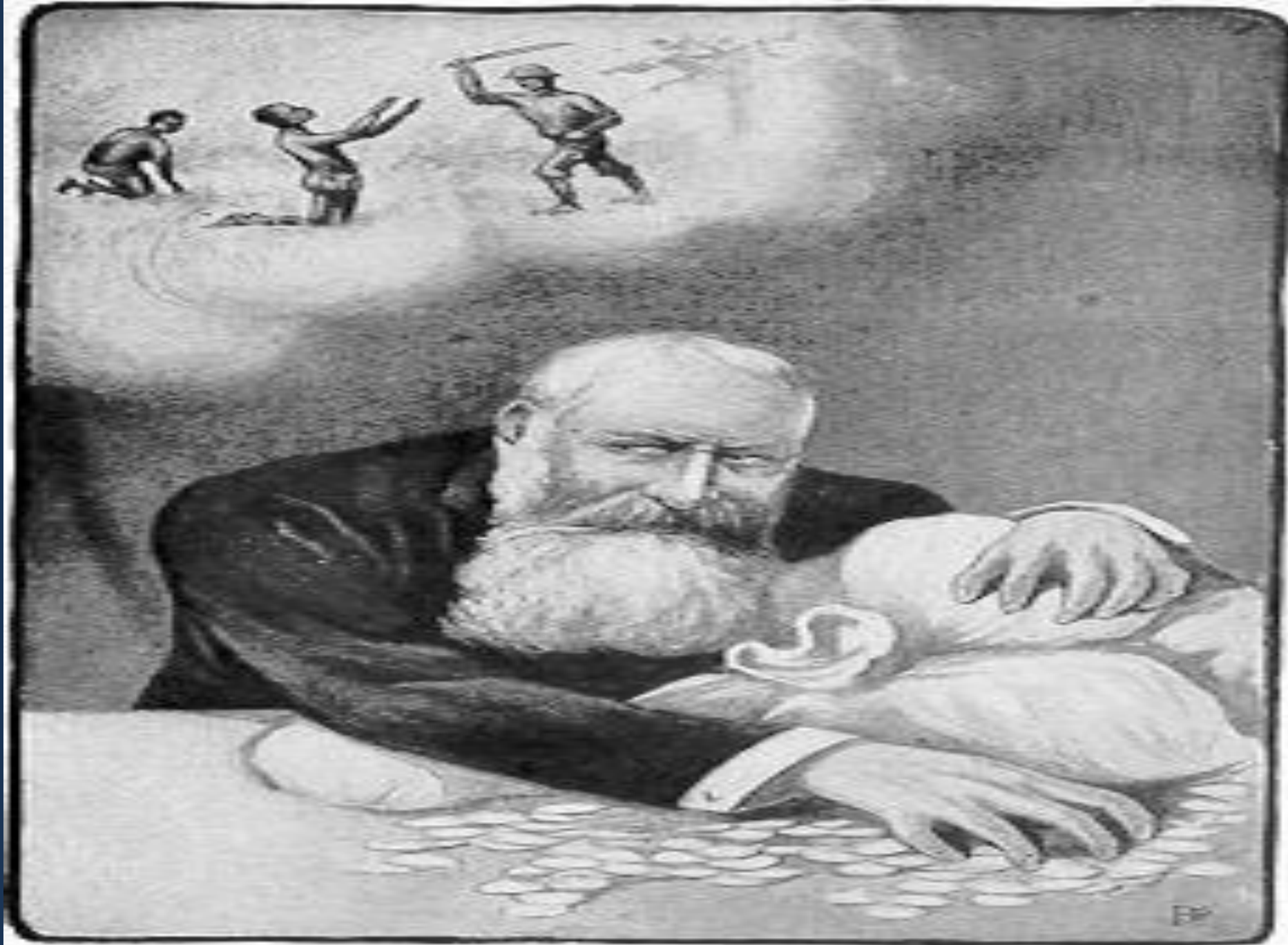














# 47. European Motives for Imperialism

## Motive #1 - Industry and Technology

To improve their economies they needed new markets and raw materials.

Technological advances led to the Europeans ability to dominate (maxim guns, steamboats, quinine)



## Motive #2 - Nationalism

Pride in one's country led to a heated competition among the European nations.

The more lands you controlled showed how strong you were as a country.



## Motive #3 - Racism and Social Darwinism

Social Darwinism : Idea that one race is better than another

Survival of the fittest: Those who are the fittest would enjoy wealth and success.

If others suffered or were exterminated that was nature.



## Motive #4 - Civilizing Mission

Missionaries wanted to Christianize and “civilize” the peoples of non-European societies.



# Superimposed Borders and Colonialism

Colonialism in 10 Minutes

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pw12KGSj53k>





# Continued Borders Issues in Israel

<http://thedailyshow.cc.com/videos/kovgs5/sir-archibald-mapsalot-iii>



# 48. Unitary

A form of government organization.

The state has strong centralized government

Exercises power equally over all parts of the country



# 49. Federal

Organizes the State into regions (provinces, cantons, "states")

Central government tends to control areas of common interest such as defense and foreign affairs.

Regional governments have power to create their own laws and policies



# 50. Democracy

The idea that the people are the ultimate sovereign

The people are the nation and have ultimate power over what happens in the state



# 51. Territorial Representation

System where each representative is elected from a territorially defined district.





## 52. Reapportionment

Process where representative districts are switched according to population shifts so that each district has approximately the same number of people.



# 53. Gerrymandering

Redistricting to create an advantage for one political party

Divides districts to give one party a majority in most districts.



## 54. Splitting

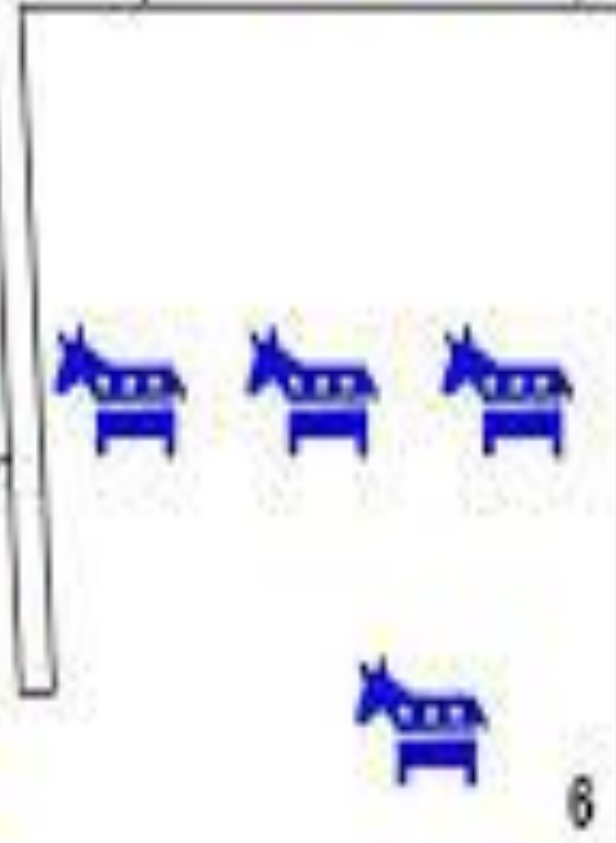
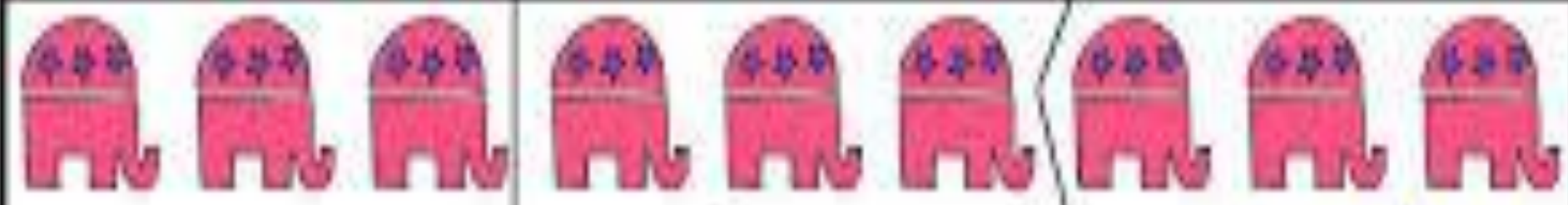
Process where the majority and minority populations are spread evenly across districts – ensuring control of the majority.



# 55. Majority-Minority Districts

Drawing districts so that a majority of the population in that district is actually from the minority



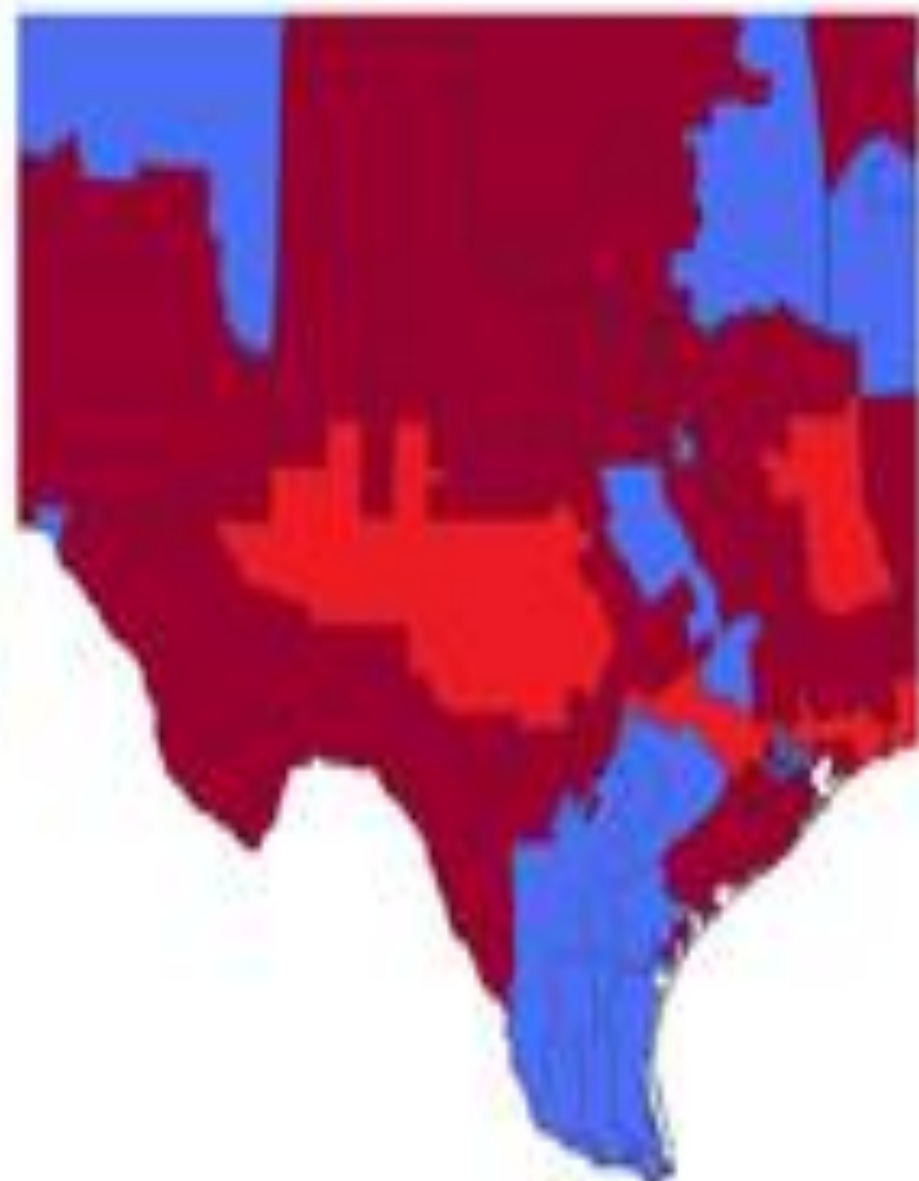




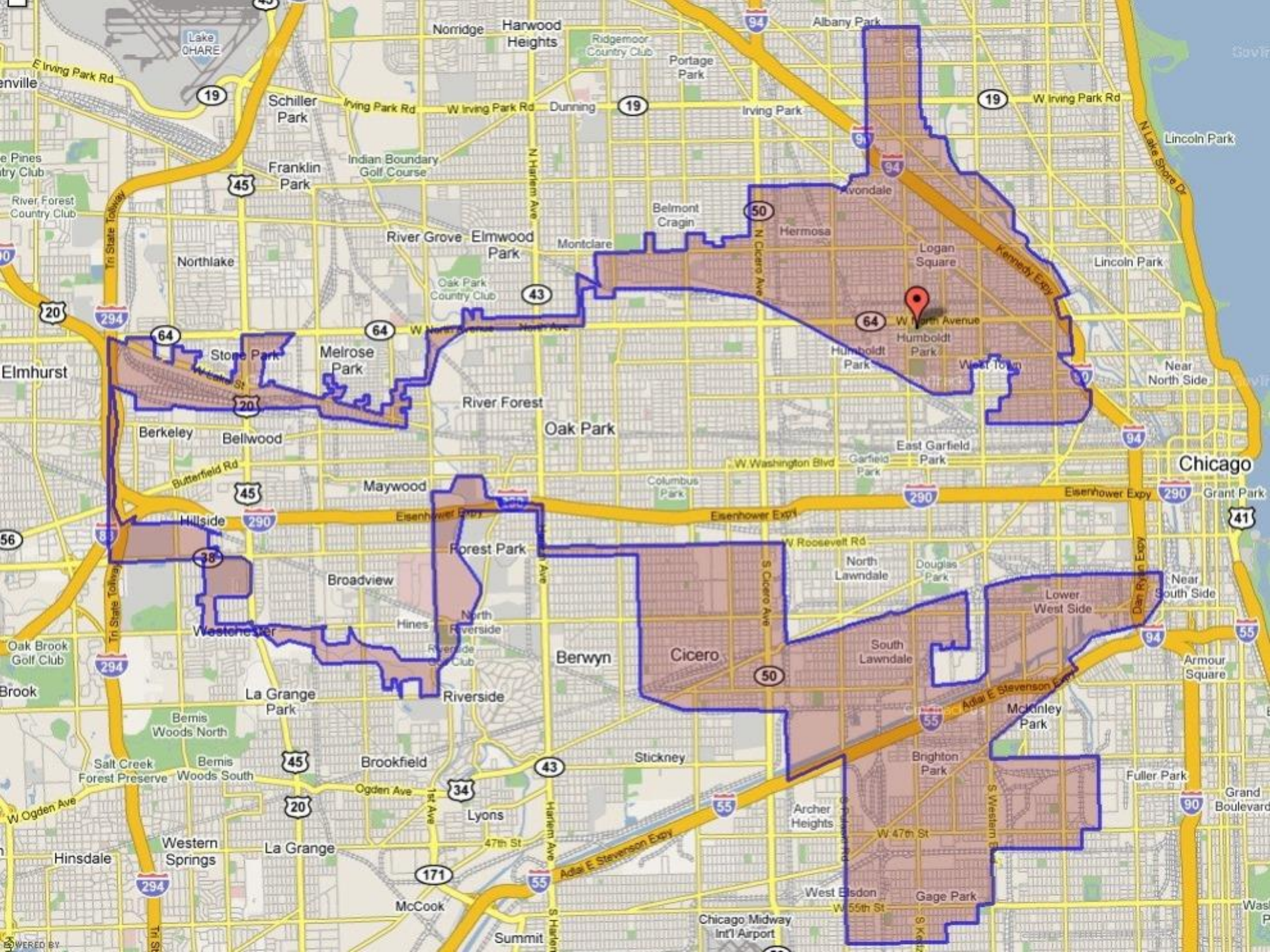
2002 Election Results



2004 Election Results











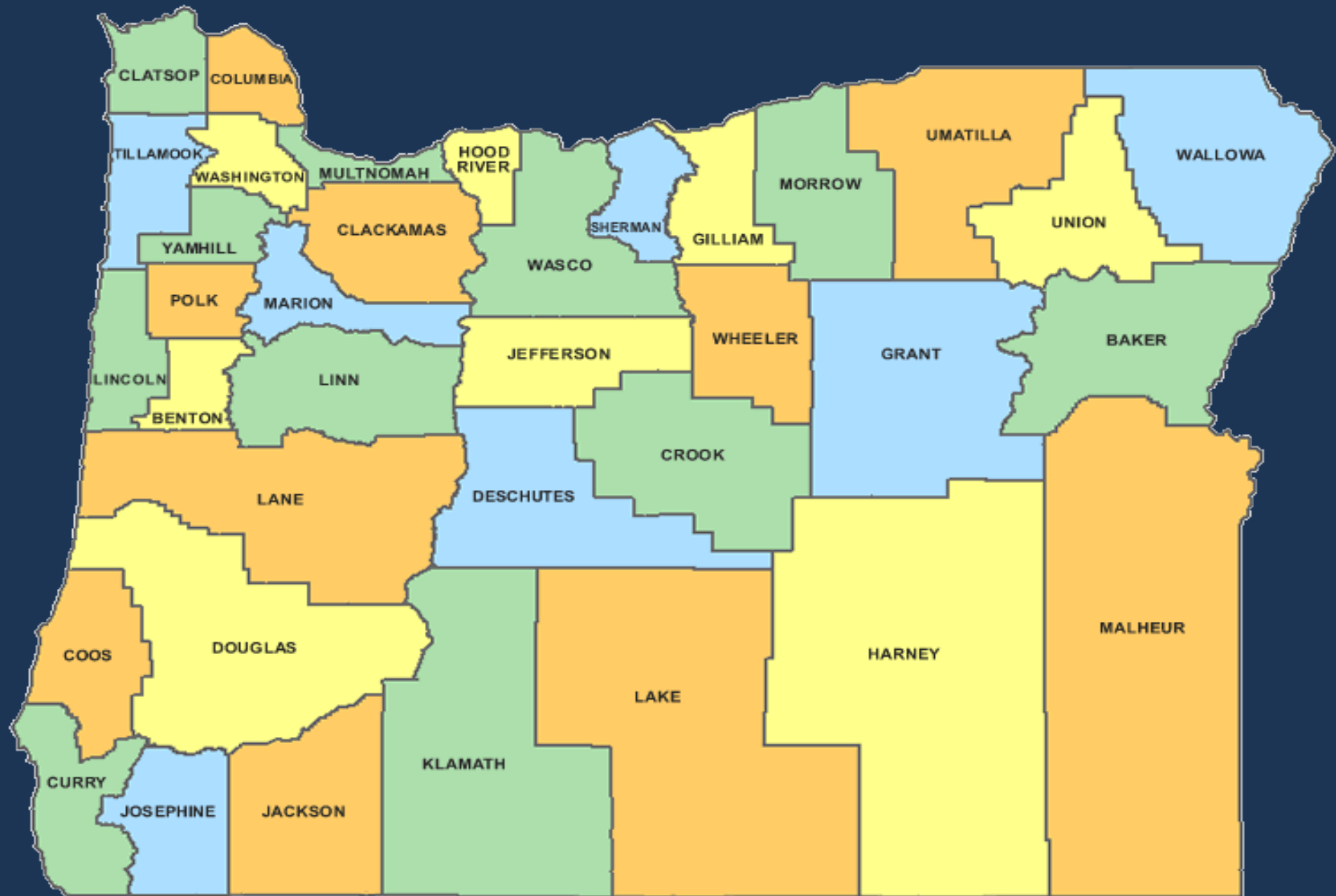


## What are the criteria for drawing district lines?

The criteria for consideration by the Legislative Assembly or the Secretary of State for redistricting legislative and congressional districts are listed in ORS 188.010. The criteria require that each district, as nearly as practicable, shall:

- Be contiguous;
- Be of equal population;
- Utilize existing geographic or political boundaries;
- Not divide communities of common interest; and
- Be connected by transportation links.

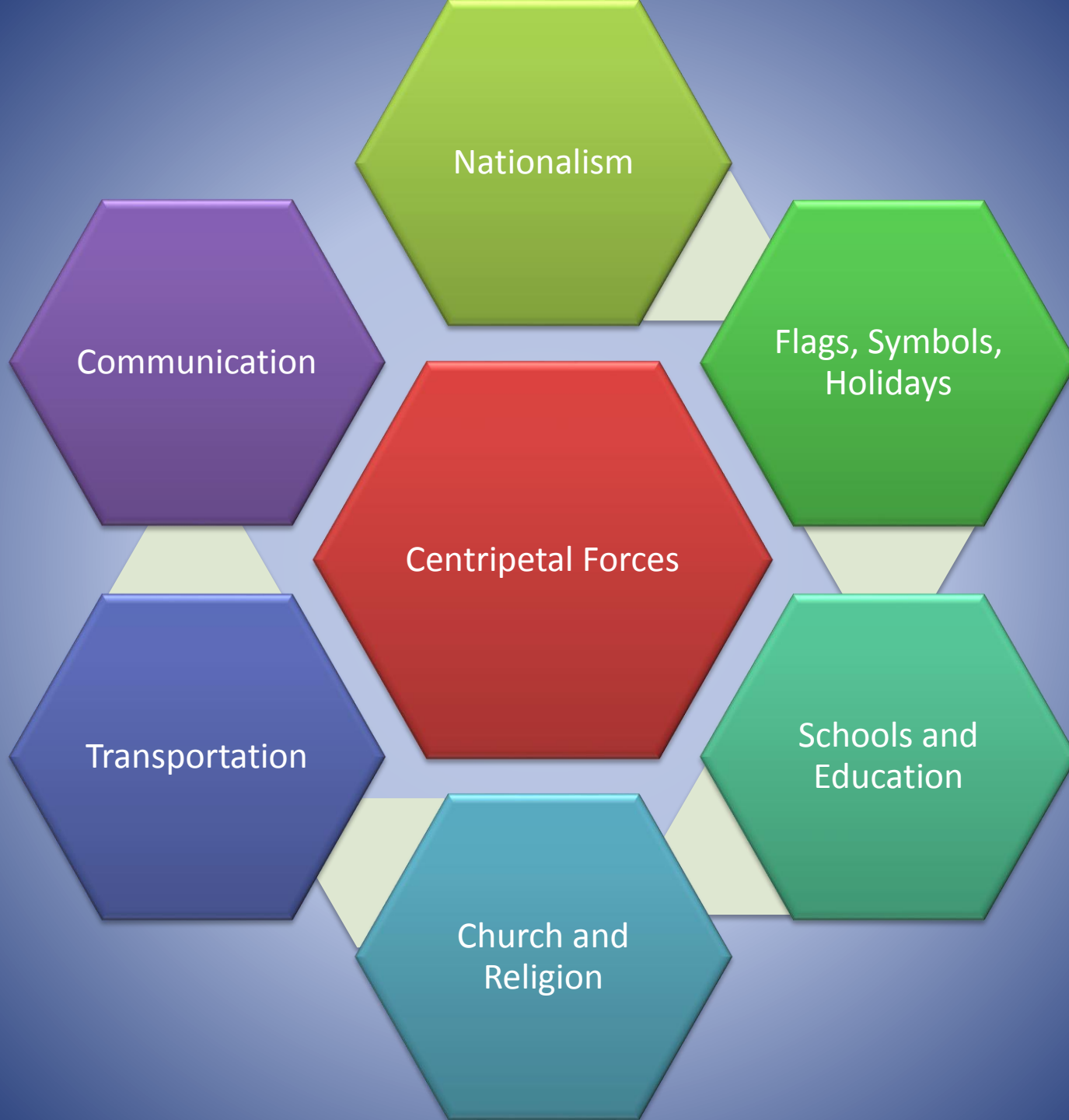




# 56. Centripetal

The forces within a state that unify the people





Nationalism

Flags, Symbols,  
Holidays

Centripetal Forces

Schools and  
Education

Church and  
Religion

Transportation

Communication

# 57. Centrifugal

Forces within a state that divide the people

Examples?







## 58. Ethnonationalism

A powerful emotional attachment to one's nation. Occurs when a minority nation within a state feels different from the rest of the state's people.



# 59. Irrendentism

A movement by a nation to reunite its parts when they have been spread across borders.



# 60. Devolution

Process where regions within a state demand and gain political strength and autonomy at the expense of the central government.



# 61. Balkanization

- The process of fragmentation or division of a region or state into smaller regions.

# 62. Deterritorialization

The movement of social, political and economic out of the hands of states.

Modern trade, communication and travel has lessened the effects of boundaries

**Example: Schengen Area** - 26 European countries that have abolished passport and any other type of border control at their common borders.





## 63. Reterritorialization

Actions taken by a state to solidify control over its territory.

US building a fence along the Mexican border.



# 64. Geopolitics

International relations, as influenced by geographical factors.



## **65. Classical Geopolitics**

School of geopolitics which focused on how to become powerful and strategies for maintaining power.



## 66. Ratzel's Organic Theory

States are like living organisms. They hunger for land and want to grow larger and larger. To a state Land = Food.

Hitler believed in and acted on this theory.



# 67. Heartland Theory

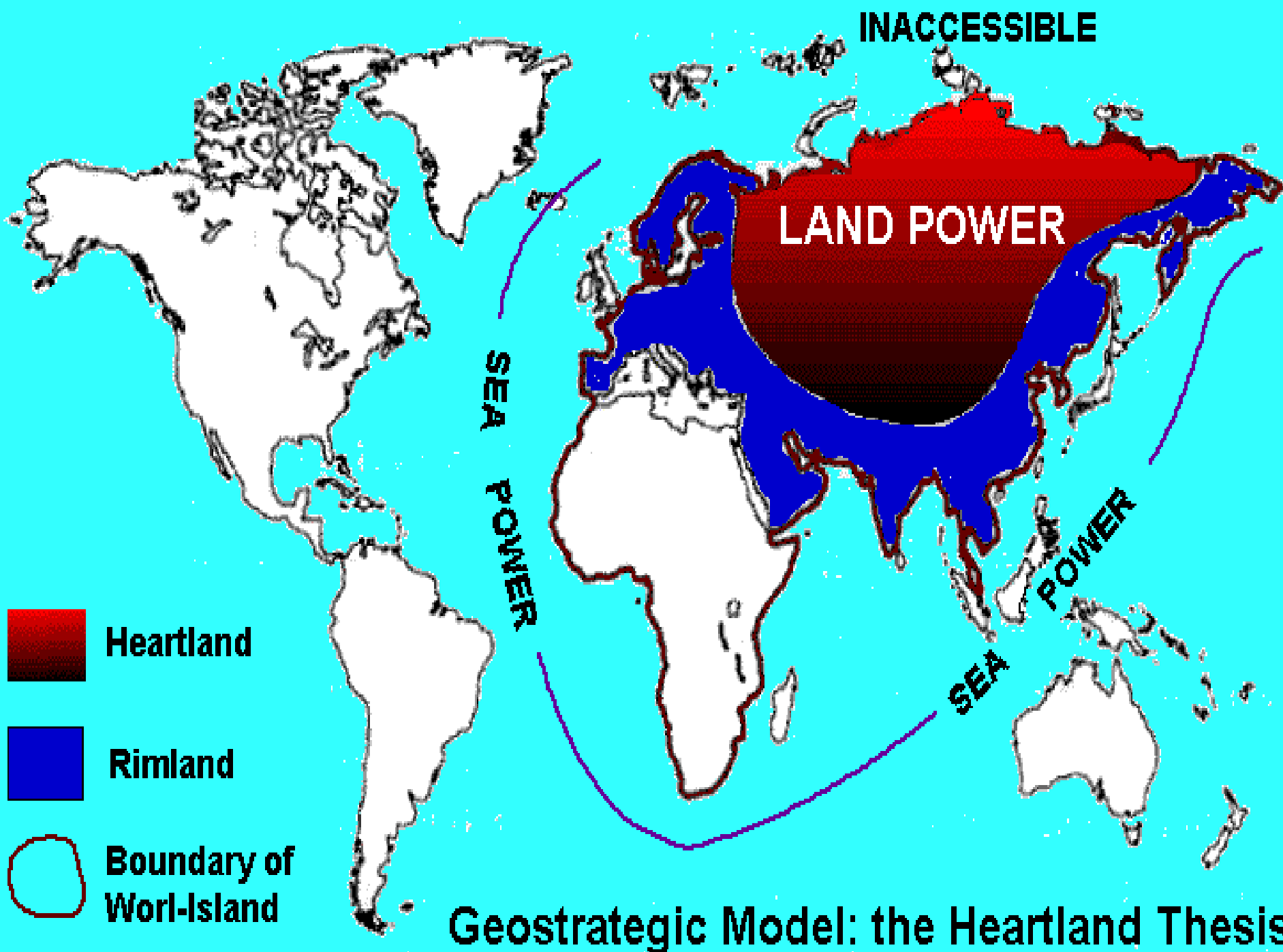
Halford Mackfinder

Era of sea power was ending and control over land would be the key to power.

Controlling Eurasia would be the key to dominating the world.







**Geostrategic Model: the Heartland Thesis**

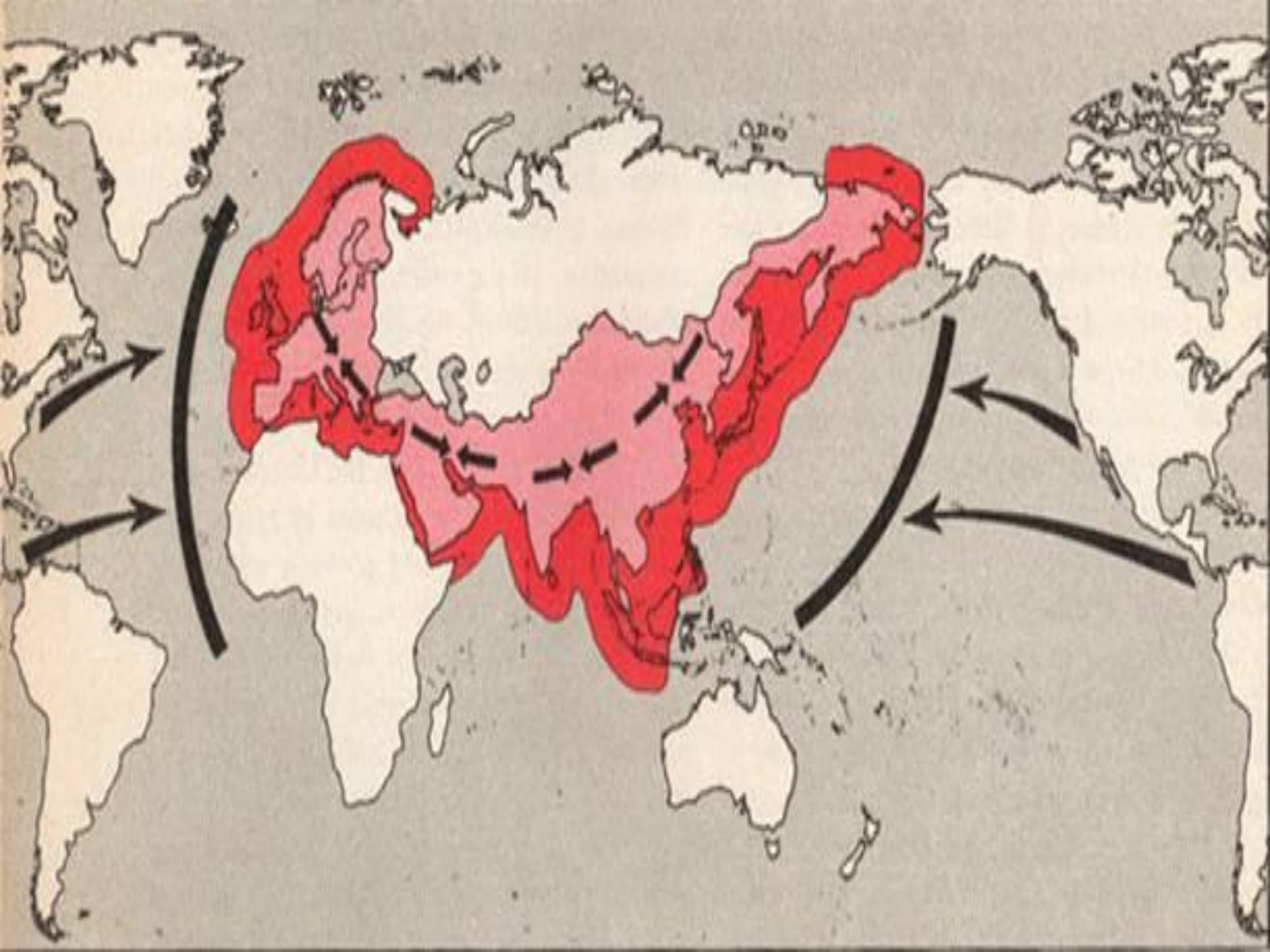
## 68. Rimland Theory

Theory that the rimland of Euroasia was the key to power

Rimland was the periphery – extending from Western Europe, Southeast, South and East Asia.

Important to balance power in the rimland to prevent a global power from emerging





# 69. Critical Geopolitics

School of geopolitics that focuses on explaining the geographical assumptions and perspectives of international actors.

Analyzes why countries act. Used to predict what will happen in a region and how government should respond.

Determines a countries foreign policy decisions.



<https://news.vice.com/video/how-the-us-created-the-islamic-state>





# 70. The Domino Theory

## Cold War Theory

Democratic allies must protect lands from falling to the communists, because if one country (domino) fell under the power of communism others in the region would also fall.

Believed that this would result in communist domination of the world.

Led to Vietnam war.



# 71. Unilateralism

World order in which one dominant state makes political decisions and its allies follow.

Allies have no say in the decision making process

US decided to invade Iraq – expected allies to support and even join in the invasion.



## **72. Supranational Organization**

An entity composed of three or more states that forge an association and form an administrative structure for mutual benefit and to pursue shared goals.



# Power of Place

## Supranationalism and Devolution

<http://www.learner.org/series/powerofplace/page3.html>

Examples / Information from video will be fair game for exam!

- General knowledge and how it applies to HG



# 73. Global Commons

- The 'Global Commons' refers to resources or areas that lie outside of the political reach of any one nation State.
- International law identifies four global commons:
  - The High Seas
  - The Atmosphere
  - Antarctica
  - Outer Space.



# 74. Law of the Sea

- A collection of international laws and treaties that set rules for how States will use the oceans.



# 75. UNCLOS – UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

- Coastal States have claim to the sea up to 12 nautical miles from the shoreline
- Must allow commercial ships from other countries to pass through these waters
- Coastal state can claim up to 200 nautical miles as an exclusive economic zone, over which it has control of resources (oil, fish, etc.)
- If there is not 200 nautical miles between two or more countries than the median line principle will be used.

# All at sea

Sovereign territory

Sovereign rights to the water column and the continental shelf

Extension possible to cover continental shelf

BASELINE

200 nautical miles

12nm 12nm

## Territorial water:

It usually begins at the mean low-water baseline.

Sovereignty covers the airspace above and the seabed below.

## Contiguous zone:

States may exercise the control necessary to prevent others from infringing its customs, immigration and other laws.

## Exclusive economic zone:

Within the EEZ, states have control of economic resources (including mining and oil explorations), but cannot prohibit legal passage and loitering. They can request an extension to their EEZ to cover part or all of the continental shelf.

## The high seas:

Also known as international waters, they are beyond national jurisdiction.

- A. Give a specific real world example for each of the following terms. Use the example to define and explain the concept (2-3 sentences for each term).
- Devolution
  - Centrifugal
  - Deterritorialization
  - Supranationalism
  - Imperialism
- B. Discuss one political change that has occurred in Europe resulting from devolution (1 paragraph).
- C. Discuss one economic change that has occurred in Europe resulting from suprnationalism (1 paragraph).
- D. Using an example from Africa, discuss one long-term economic effect of Imperialism (1 paragraph).

BE PREPARED TO REPORT OUT YOUR RESPONSES IN THE LAST 10 MINUTES OF THE CLASS PERIOD.

**Territory size & shape can influence political stability – both internally and externally (border).**

- A. Choose the state shape that you believe would be the least stable and explain why. Use at least one real world example to make your point.
  
- B. Choose the state shape that you believe would be the most stable and explain why. Use at least one real world example

Be sure to address both internal and border stability.

