

REGIONS OF EUROPE



Part 2

BENELUX COUNTRIES

✦ Belgium



✦ Netherlands



✦ Luxembourg



- ✦ cultural, economic, and geographic grouping
- ✦ intergovernmental cooperation
- ✦ unanimously decision-making



NETHERLANDS

“God made the world, but the Dutch made the Netherlands.”

~ Rene Descartes, French Philosopher

Making a Polder

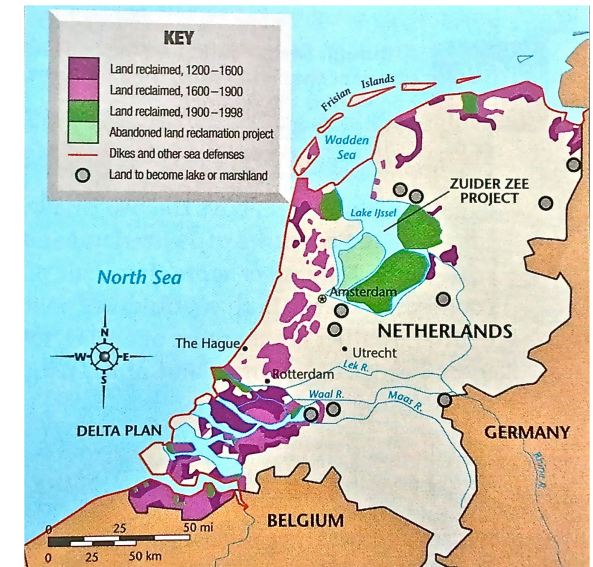


Dikes and Polders

In response to the pressure of a growing population, the Netherlands began to reclaim marshy lowlands from the North Sea in the 1100s. This new dry land, called *polders*, was created with protective dikes and drainage ditches. The use of windmills made it easier to pump excess water off the land. A continuing problem, however, was the Zuider Zee, an arm of the North Sea. This body of water once protruded deep into the Netherlands and often flooded the surrounding land. Finally, in 1932, the Dutch completed a dike that stretched about 20 miles (32.2 km) across the water. On the inland side of the dike, the salt water gradually became a freshwater lake—Lake IJssel.

Making a Polder

As a polder is being created, how is the land fertilized with organic matter?

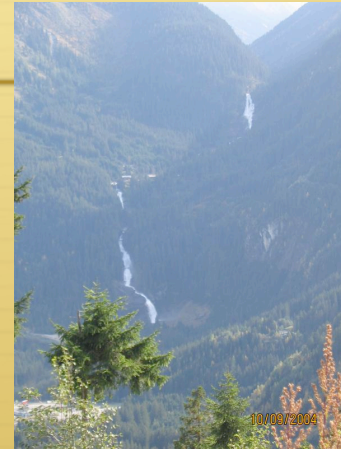


SWITZERLAND & AUSTRIA

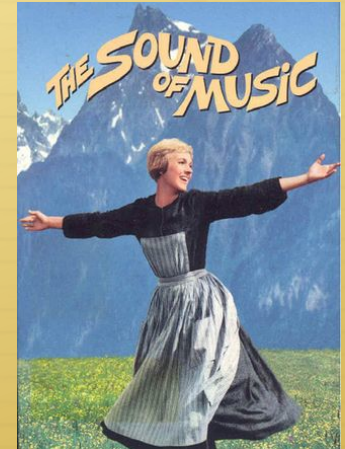
- ✦ Austria - German influenced
- ✦ Switzerland is influenced by Germany, Italy, and France.
- ✦ dairy farming
- ✦ skilled labor (watches, tools, medicines)
- ✦ banking
- ✦ tourism



Mozart



Krimml Falls
(highest waterfall
in Europe)



Salt mine



Wrought-iron store signs

MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE



MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE

- ✦ Six countries
- ✦ A discontinuous (not connected) region
- ✦ On the **periphery** (border)
- ✦ **Cultural continuity** dates from Greco-Roman times
- ✦ **Mediterranean climate**
 - ✦ Hot, dry summers
 - ✦ Warm/cool, moist winters

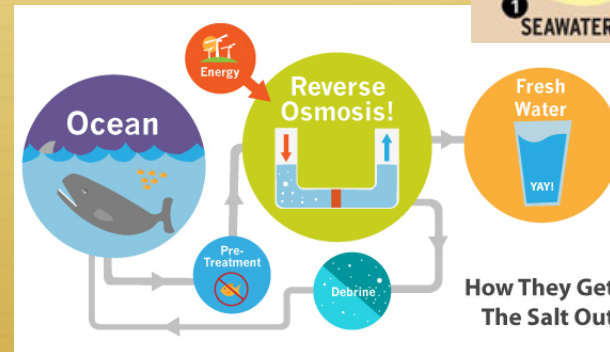
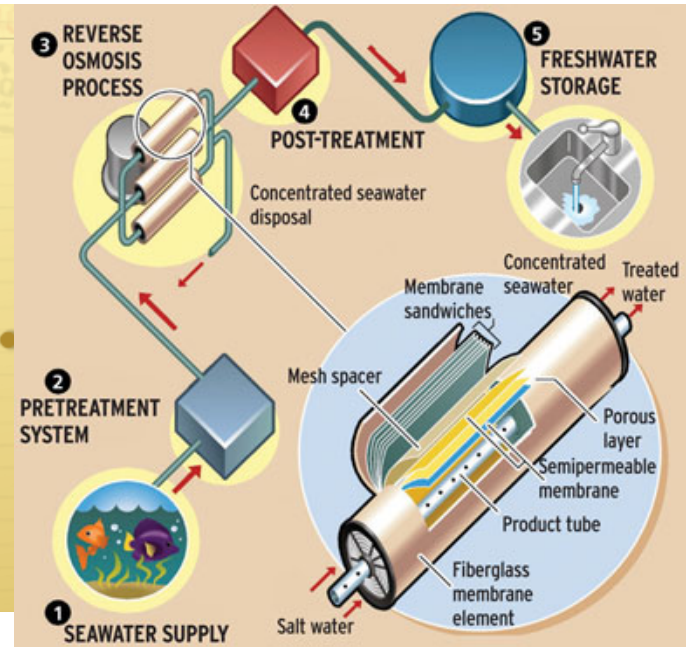
IBERIAN PENINSULA - SPAIN

- ✦ Most of the peninsula is a plateau.
- ✦ The Pyrenees Mountains form a barrier between the peninsula and the rest of Europe.
- ✦ Steep cliffs on the coastline
- ✦ Out of all rivers, there is only one river (Guadalquivir) is **navigable**.



SPAIN

- ✦ Desalination – a process of removing salt or minerals from saline water
- ✦ Spain built Europe's first desalination plant about 40 years ago.
- ✦ This innovation provides clean water to millions of people.



ITALY

- ✦ The Boot
- ✦ Most populated of Mediterranean countries
 - ✦ Population – 58 million
 - ✦ unemployment in rural areas (south)
 - ✦ after WWII, many migrated to north to work in factories (automobiles, home appliances, metal goods)
 - ✦ new styles and designs (home furnishings and high-fashion clothes)
- ✦ Around the Apennine Mountains
 - ✦ seismic activity



ITALY



The Leaning Tower of Pisa



Pompeii



Vatican City



Venice



Colosseum

VATICAN CITY

- ✦ A country within a city (an *enclaved* country)
- ✦ Home to the Pope
- ✦ One of 12 apostles, St. Peter's burial site
- ✦ Michelangelo's art work



in Sistine Chapel



in St. Peter's Basilica



EASTERN EUROPE



- ✦ Latvia
- ✦ Lithuania
- ✦ Belarus
- ✦ Poland
- ✦ Czech Republic
- ✦ Slovakia
- ✦ Ukraine
- ✦ Hungary
- ✦ Romania
- ✦ Moldova
- ✦ Slovenia
- ✦ Croatia
- ✦ Bosnia
- ✦ Bulgaria
- ✦ Macedonia
- ✦ Albania
- ✦ Serbia-Montenegro

EASTERN EUROPE

- ✦ Europe's largest region
- ✦ Contains the most countries
- ✦ Europe's poorest region
- ✦ Influenced by Russia
- ✦ Many areas have had political and economic instability during the last 2 decades.

UNDERLYING FORCES



✦ Centrifugal Forces

- ✦ Forces that tend to divide a country
 - ✦ Religious, linguistic, ethnic, or ideological *differences*

✦ Centripetal Forces

- ✦ Forces that tend to unite and bind a country together
 - ✦ A strong national culture, shared ideological objectives, and a common faith

EXAMPLES OF UNDERLYING FORCES

- ✦ Countries in the Eastern Europe were divided because they had a variety use of languages.
- ✦ National boundaries in Europe were established accordingly to ethnicity
- ✦ The country, Yugoslavia, were broken down into 6 countries (*Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia*) due to ethnicity to maintain their cultural identity.

SUBREGIONS OF EASTERN EUROPE

- ✦ Countries facing the Baltic Sea
- ✦ The Landlocked Center
- ✦ Countries facing the Adriatic Sea
- ✦ Countries facing the Black Sea



COUNTRIES FACING THE BALTIC SEA

✦ Poland

- ✦ A classic **nation-state**
- ✦ Traditionally a farming country
- ✦ Post WWII industry – Silesia
- ✦ Warsaw – Primate City

✦ Lithuania

✦ Latvia

✦ Belarus

- ✦ Still strongly influenced by Russia



THE LANDLOCKED CENTER

✦ Czech Republic

- ✦ The region's most westernized
- ✦ **Prague** – a classic **primate city**

✦ Slovakia

- ✦ The least developed, most rural than Czech Republic

✦ Hungary

- ✦ A nation-state (*a country which consists people who share same culture, language, ethnic*) of 10 million
- ✦ **Budapest** – a classic **primate city**



COUNTRIES FACING THE BLACK SEA

- ✦ **Bulgaria:** Freed from Russia in 1878
- ✦ **Romania:** Formerly Roman
- ✦ **Moldova:** Agrarian
- ✦ **Ukraine:** Agrarian; largest and most populated of these countries



COUNTRIES FACING THE ADRIATIC SEA

- ✦ **Slovenia:** First to secede; ethnically most homogeneous
- ✦ **Croatia:** Booming tourism
- ✦ **Bosnia & Herzegovina:** Centrally positioned
- ✦ **Macedonia**
- ✦ **Serbia-Montenegro:** Includes Serbia, Kosovo, and Montenegro
- ✦ **Albania:** 70% Muslims; lowest economic ranking in Europe



