

**Essential Question: How does the structure of modern governments in Europe impact its people?**

# Standards:

∞ **Standard: SS6CG5a. Compare the parliamentary system of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom), the federal system of the Federal Republic of Germany (Germany), and the federation of the Russian Federation (Russia), distinguishing the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting and personal freedoms.**

# Government Matching Pair Cards

# Form of Leadership

## Chief of State:

Leader of a country who represents the state at official and ceremonial functions, but who may not be involved with the day-to-day activities of the government.

## Head of Government:

A country's top administrative leader who is designated to manage the day-to-day activities of the government.

# Form of Leadership

## Chief of State



## Head of Government



# Use the Governments of Europe Chart

## Governments of Europe

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Country	Structure of Government	Form of Leadership	Role of the Citizen (Voting and Personal Freedoms)
United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland)			
Germany			
Russia			

# United Kingdom

**The United Kingdom is a  
Parliamentary Democracy.**

**How is power distributed?  
How do citizens participate?**

# Parliamentary Democracy

## Executive & Legislative Branch

**Prime Minister**  
(Head of Government)



**Government (Majority)**

Leader  
of the  
Opposition



**Opposition (Minority)**



# **Structure of Government: United Kingdom**

**A parliamentary system in which the power in the United Kingdom's government lies with the Parliament (legislature).**

# Structure of Government: United Kingdom

- Legislature controls power
- Separation of Powers
- Prime Minister
- President
- Leader answers to the people
- Leader answers to the legislature
- Checks and Balances
- Elections held if leader forced to resign
- Leader elected by the people

# **Form of Leadership: United Kingdom**

---

**The monarch (Queen Elizabeth II) is the ceremonial head of state with very little power.**

**The prime minister is the head of government (nominated from the elected legislature).**

# **Form of Leadership: United Kingdom**

---

**The monarch is hereditary.**

**Following legislative elections by the people, the leader of the majority party is usually the prime minister.**

**The UK legislature has two houses (bicameral). One house is elected by popular vote.**

# **Role of the Citizen: United Kingdom**

---

**Citizens over 18 can vote  
for members of one of  
houses of the legislature  
[House of Commons].**

# **Role of the Citizen: United Kingdom**

---

**Citizens are granted basic rights and personal freedoms like the right to vote and freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly.**

**Turn to a seat partner  
and identify 1-2  
similarities and  
differences between the  
U.S. government and the  
United Kingdom's  
government.**

# Germany

**Germany is a  
Federal Republic.**

**How is power distributed?  
How do citizens participate?**



# **Structure of Government: Germany**

**A federal system of government in which power is shared between a central government and state governments**

**Ultimate power rests with the people who elect their government representatives**

# **Form of Leadership: Germany**

---

**The president is the head of state with very little power.**

**The chancellor is the head of government.**

# **Form of Leadership: Germany**

**The president is elected by a group formed up of legislators.**

**The chancellor is elected by one of the two houses of Germany's Parliament .**

**One house of Germany's bicameral legislature is elected [Federal Assembly or Bundestag].**

# **Role of the Citizen: Germany**

**Citizens over 18 can vote.**

**Germany's constitution guarantees basic rights and personal freedoms, such as the right to vote, equal rights, and freedom of speech, religion, and press.**

**Turn to a seat partner  
and identify 1-2  
similarities and  
differences between the  
U.S. government and the  
Germany's government.**

# Russia

**Russia is a  
federation.**

**How is power distributed?  
How do citizens participate?**

# **Structure of Government: Russia**

**In a federation (federal), power is divided between a central authority and a number of districts.**

**The central government exerts influence directly upon people as well as upon the districts.**

# **Form of Leadership: Russia**

---

**The president is the head  
(chief) of state.**

**The Prime Minister  
(Premier) is the head of  
government.**



# **Form of Leadership: Russia**

**Unlike in other countries we have studied, the head (chief) of state in Russia has considerable executive power.**

# **Form of Leadership: Russia**

**The President is elected by popular vote.**

**The Prime Minister (Premier) is appointed by the President.**

**The bicameral legislature consists of a lower house (State Duma) which is elected and an upper house (Federation Council) which is appointed.**

# **Form of Leadership: Russia**

**The legislative branch is far weaker than the executive branch. The President can pass decrees without consent from the legislature.**

# **Role of the Citizen: Russia**

**Citizens over 18 can vote.**

**Russia's constitution guarantees basic rights and personal freedoms such as the right to vote, equal rights, and freedom of religion, speech, and the press.**

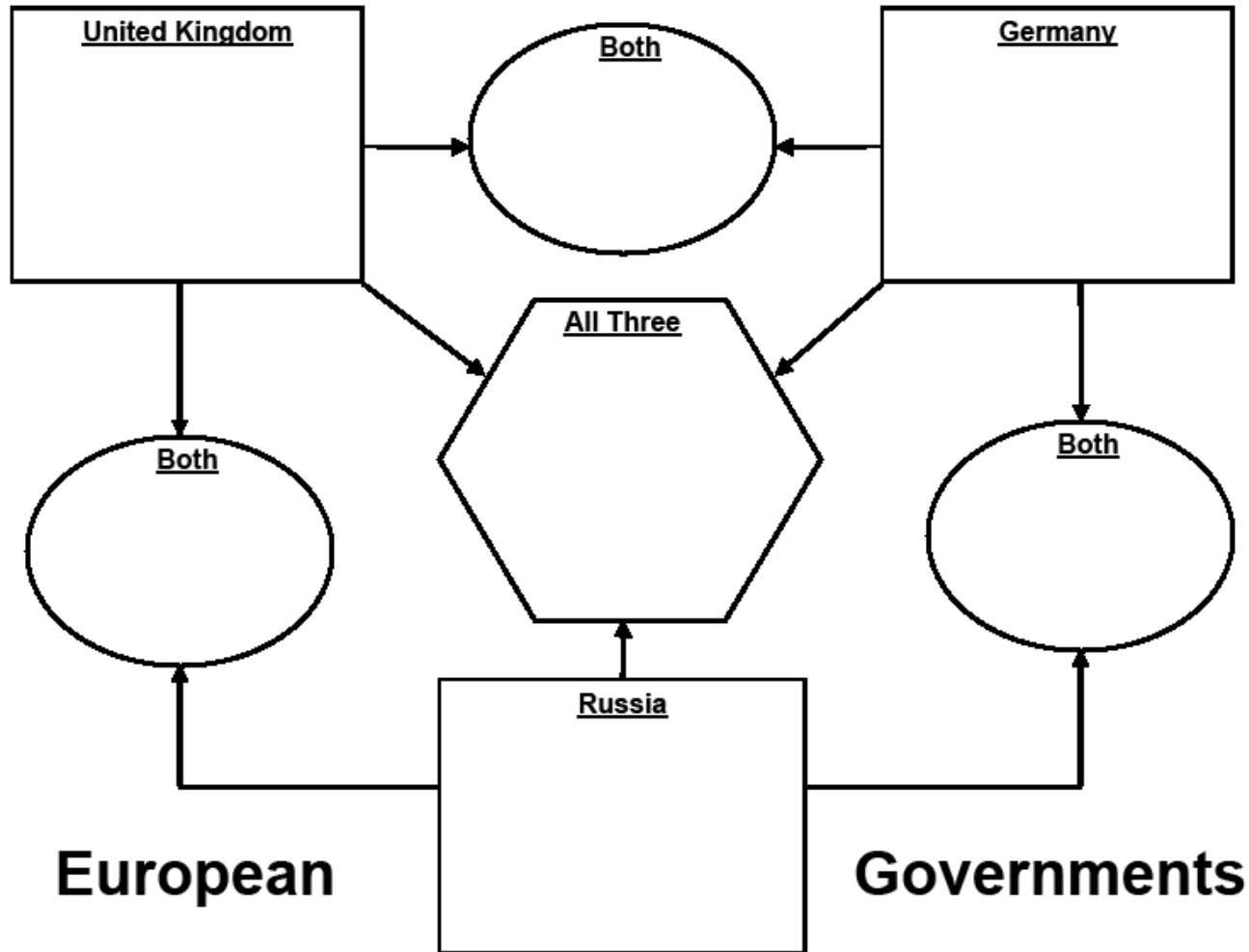
# **Role of the Citizen: Russia**

**The constitution provides for freedom of speech and of the press; however, in practice government pressure on the media persists, resulting in numerous violations of these rights.**

**The government uses its influence to restrict access to information deemed “sensitive”.**

**Turn to a seat partner  
and identify 1-2  
similarities and  
differences between the  
U.S. government and the  
Russia's government.**

# Use your Government Chart to Complete the Comparison Graphic Organizer



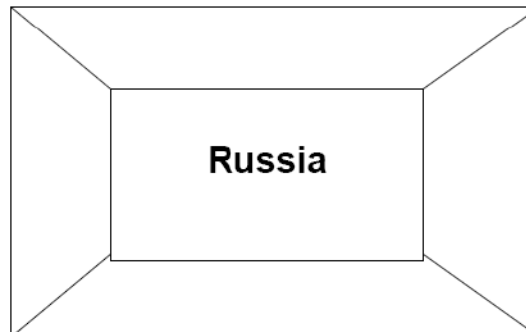
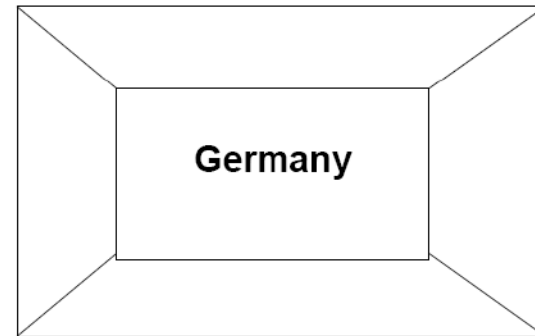
# Governments of Europe Frames

## Governments of Europe Frames

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_

Directions: Place the following terms or characteristics in the correct frames.

• Federation	• Power shared between central gov't and state gov't's	• Parliamentary Democracy
• Head of State is a monarch	• The Prime Minister is appointed by the President	• The Chancellor is the head of government
• Power lies with legislature	• The Prime Minister is the head of government	• Executive has more power than legislative
• Federal Republic	• Some rights/freedoms intentionally restricted	• Ultimate power rests with the people





# Governments of Europe Summarizer

Governments of Europe Summarizer      Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Based on my knowledge of the governments of Germany, Russia, and the United Kingdom, I would MOST prefer to live in \_\_\_\_\_ because [include forms of leadership and the role of the citizen in your explanation] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Based on my knowledge of the governments of Germany, Russia, and the United Kingdom, I would LEAST prefer to live in \_\_\_\_\_ because [include forms of leadership and the role of the citizen in your explanation] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In which country would you prefer to be a leader? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In which country is it worse to be citizen? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_