Chapter 13

Human Geography of Europe: Diversity, Conflict, Union

Over the millennia, Europe's diverse landscape, waterways, and climate have hosted great civilizations, empires, and a variety of peoples.

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Section 1: Mediterranean Europe

Section 2: Western Europe Section 3: Northern Europe Section 4: Eastern Europe

SLIDE 3:

Section 1: Mediterranean Europe

- The ancient Greek and Roman civilizations and the Renaissance all began in Mediterranean Europe.
- In the 20th century, the region has seen economic growth and political turmoil.

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Section 1: Mediterranean Europe

A History of Ancient Glory

Geographic Advantages Boost Civilization

- Survival is easier in mild climate; institutions develop over time
- Mediterranean allows trade; ideas spread, knowledge grows

Greece: Birthplace of Democracy

- People enter Balkan Peninsula around 2000 B.C.
- City-state—a political unit made up of a city, surrounding lands
- Athenian democracy—a government in which the people rule
- Greece conquered by Macedonia's Alexander in 338 B.C.

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Continued A History of Ancient Glory

The Roman Empire

- Rome rules Italian Peninsula by 275 B.C.; Iberia and Balkans later
- Rome is a **republic**—elected representatives rule in citizens' name

- Christianity spreads from Palestine; is official religion by A.D. 400
- In A.D. 395 empire splits into eastern, western halves
 - Western Roman Empire weakens, falls A.D. 476
 - Eastern Roman Empire lasts another 1,000 years

Moving Toward Modern Times

Italian City-States

- Without strong central government, Italy divides into small states
- Christians start Crusades in 1096 to regain Palestine from Muslims
- Renaissance—renewed interest in learning, arts from 1300s to 1500s
- In 1347, Asian bubonic plague reaches Italy, kills millions in Europe

Spain's Empire

- North African Muslims conquer Iberian Peninsula in 700s
 retaken by Catholic rulers, Ferdinand and Isabella, by 1492
- Spain, Portugal launch Age of Exploration, colonize Americas

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A Rich Cultural Legacy

Rome's Cultural Legacy

- Greek the language of the Byzantine Empire
- Rome's Latin spawns Romance languages Portuguese, Spanish, Italian
- Two halves of Empire develop their own forms of Christianity
 - Eastern Orthodox: Greece
 - Roman Catholicism: Italy, Spain

Centuries of Art

- Ruins (like the Parthenon) remain in Greece, Italy
- Spain has Roman aqueducts—carry water long distances
 - Spain also has Muslim mosques
- Artistic legacy: classical statues, Renaissance art, modern art

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Economic Change

Agriculture to Industry

- Mediterranean nations less industrialized
- Economy once based on fish, crops (olives, grapes, citrus, wheat)
- Changed in 20th century: manufacturing, service industries growing
- Greece, Portugal, Spain join European Union (EU) in 1980s

Economic Problems

- Italy's northern region is more developed than southern half
- Mediterranean region poor in energy resources, relies on oil imports

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Modern Mediterranean Life

20th-Century Political Turmoil

- After dictator Francisco Franco, Spain sets up constitutional government
- After WWII, Italy became republic, but had many governments
- Greece has also had political instability

The Basques

- Spain gives Basque region self-rule in late 1970s
 - some Basques want full independence, use violence to fight for it

City Growth

- Move to cities for jobs creates housing, pollution, traffic problems
- People hope to preserve historic cities

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Section 2: Western Europe

- France and the Germanic countries developed very different cultures.
- These cultural differences led to conflicts that shaped the history of Western Europe.

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Section 2: Western Europe

A History of Cultural Divisions

French and German Culture

- France, Germany are region's largest, most productive countries
- They strongly influence the cultures of many nearby, smaller nations
- French, German culture also strong in Benelux countries
 - Benelux countries—Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg

Rome to Charlemagne

- Rome conquered Celtic tribes, so French is a Romance language
 - didn't conquer Germanic tribes, so Germanic languages still exist

Continued A History of Cultural Divisions

Rome to Charlemagne

- Germanic king Charlemagne conquers area in late 700s
 - after his death, his empire falls into small, competing kingdoms

The Reformation

- In 1517, Martin Luther's critical 95 statements launch Reformation
 many Christians break from church, formed Protestant churches
- Today France is mostly Catholic
- Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany have Catholics and Protestants
 - most German Protestants live in north, Catholics in south

SLIDE 13

The Rise of Nation-States

Nationalism

- Feudalism—Middle Ages system where lords own most of the land
- Lords give some land to nobles; strong kings gain power over lords
- Nationalism develops—belief people should be loyal to their nation
 nation is people who share land, culture, history
- Nationalism leads to growth of nation-states; France is one of first
- 1789 French Revolution deposes king, forms republic
- Napoleon Bonaparte takes power, tries to conquer Europe, is defeated

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Continued The Rise of Nation-States

Nationalism

- European nation-states become rivals
 - wars break out repeatedly between France and Germanic states
 - Germany unifies in 1871
- In 1800s, industrialized nations seek colonies for materials, markets

Modern Conflicts

- Nationalistic rivalry, competition for colonies cause WWI
 - Allied Powers (France); Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary)
- Allied Powers win WWI; harsh terms forced on Germany lead to WWII

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Continued The Rise of Nation-States

Modern Conflicts

- In WWII, Nazi Germany's Adolf Hitler tries to conquer Europe
 - Nazis carry out **Holocaust**—mass murder of European Jews, others
 - Allies defeat Germany in 1945
- After WWII, Germany split into non-Communist West, Communist East
- German capital of Berlin is split in half, divided by Berlin Wall
- In 1989 anti-Communist reforms lead East Germany to open Berlin Wall
 - two Germanys reunite in 1990 as a democracy

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Economics: Diversity and Luxury

Agriculture to High-Tech

- Agriculture important to Belgium, France, Netherlands, Switzerland
- Coal, iron made France, Germany, Netherlands industrial leaders
 - today they have high-tech industries
- Switzerland's neutrality makes it a banking center

Tourism and Luxury

- Tourism is major part of French, Swiss, Austrian economies
- German cars; Swiss watches; French clothes, food; Dutch flowers

Economic Problems

Germany experiences cultural, economic difficulties after reuniting

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Great Music and Art

Music

- Famed German and Austrian composers
 - Germany: Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven
 - Austria: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Painting

- Dutch painters
 - Jan Van Eyck (from Flanders), Jan Vermeer, Rembrandt
- Major French painters
 - Claude Monet, Paul Cezanne, Paul Gauguin, Pierre Auguste Renoir

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Modern Life

City Life

- Strong economies allow high standard of living
- Most Western Europeans live in cities
 - good public transportation, cultural attractions, low crime rates
- Most homes are small, so socializing is done in public cafés, parks

Recent Conflicts

In 1980s "guest workers" from Yugoslavia, Turkey go to West Germany
 declining economy leads to racism, violence against immigrants

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Section 3: Northern Europe

- The United Kingdom and the Nordic countries have seafaring histories that often led to conquest.
- The region played a role in developing representative government and industry.

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Section 3: Northern Europe

A History of Seafaring Conquerors

Early Conquerors

- Nordic countries—Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
- Romans conquer Britain's Celts by A.D. 80
 - later, Germanic invaders push Celts north, west
- Vikings invade Britain, sail to Iceland, Greenland, North America
 - other settlements in Normandy, France, and Russia
- Normandy's William the Conqueror invades Britain in 1066
 - French-speaking Normans alter English language

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Continued A History of Seafaring Conquerors

Dreams of Empire

- Denmark, Sweden, Norway become kingdoms in 900s
 - no Nordic country becomes a major empire
- England controls British Isles (Wales, Ireland, Scotland)
 - becomes United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in 1801
- British Empire grows due to island's safety; never invaded after 1066

- By 1800s, Britain has colonies in Americas, Asia, Africa, Oceania
 - "The sun never sets on the British Empire"

Moving Into the Modern Age

Representative Government

- Parliament—representative lawmaking body; members elected, appointed
- Britain has monarchy and parliament, but rulers slowly lose power
 - 1215 Magna Carta: trial by jury, no taxation without representation
 - political ideas spread to U.S., Canada, colonies
- Nordic countries develop representative governments

Industrial Revolution

- As Britain industrializes, colonies supply materials, buy goods
- In 1800s Industrial Revolution spreads to Western Europe, U.S.

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Continued Moving Into the Modern Age

Since 1900

After WWII, British colonies gain independence, experience turmoil

The Irish Question

- Protestant English rulers seize Catholic Irish land
 - many Irish left in poverty, starve in 1840s potato famine
- Irish seek independence, Britain splits country in 1921
 - mostly Catholic Republic of Ireland becomes independent
 - mostly Protestant Northern Ireland still part of U.K.
 - religious conflict in Northern Ireland leads to anti-British violence

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Economics: Diversity and Change

Industry and Resources

- Sweden and U.K. have strong vehicle, aerospace industries
 - produce paper and food products, pharmaceuticals
- Sweden has timber, Iceland has fishing, Norway has North Sea oil

High-Tech

- Computer production is major part of Ireland's economy
- Scotland has Silicon Glen—area with many high-tech companies
 - produces at least a third of Europe's personal, notebook computers

Union or Independence?

Mixed feelings about European Union and euro—common currency

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Cultural Similarities and Modern Art

Increasing Diversity

- Nordic nations usually have only one ethnic group
 - U.K. (London) more diverse

Similar Languages and Religions

- Germanic languages (except Sami in north; Celtic in parts of Britain)
- Most of region is Protestant; Ireland is only mainly Catholic country

Modern Culture and Literature

- Great Britain, Ireland, Nordic countries have strong literary traditions
 - Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen
 - Swedish filmmaker Ingmar Bergman
 - England: William Shakespeare, Charlotte Brontë
 - Irish author James Joyce

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Life in Northern Europe

Great Political Strides for Women

• By the late 1990s, most Nordic parliaments are about 1/3 women

Social Welfare

Nordic countries, Britain have national health insurance programs

Distinctive Customs

• British afternoon tea, Swedish smorgasbord, Finnish saunas

Leisure

- In Nordic countries, outdoor sports are popular despite cold
 - home to many winter Olympic skiing sports
- British have horseback riding, jumping, fox hunting
 - developed rugby and cricket

Section 4: Eastern Europe

- Eastern Europe has great cultural diversity because many ethnic groups have settled there.
- Many empires have controlled parts of the region, leaving it with little experience of self-rule.

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Section 4: Eastern Europe

History of a Cultural Crossroads

Cultures Meet

- Location between Asia and Europe shapes Eastern Europe's history
 migration creates diversity, empires delay independent nation-states
- Area includes:
 - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland
 - Czech Republic, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Yugoslavia
- Cultural crossroads—place where various cultures cross paths
 - people move through the region, world powers try to control it

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Continued History of a Cultural Crossroads

Empires and Kingdoms

- Rome holds Balkan Peninsula, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary
 later held by Byzantine Empire, then Ottoman Empire in 1300s, 1400s
- Slavs move in from 400s to 600s; Polish, Serbian kingdoms form
 - non-Slavic Magyars take Hungary in 800s; later conquered by Ottomans
- Austria becomes great power in 1400s, takes Hungary from Ottomans
 - in late 1700s, Austria, Prussia, Russia divide up Poland

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Turmoil in the 20th Century

War after War

- Balkan nations break from Ottoman Empire in 1908
 - Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia defeat Ottomans in 1912
 - Balkanization—a region breaks up into small, hostile units
- Slavic Serbia wants to free Austria-Hungarian Slavs

- Serb assassin kills Austrian noble, starts WWI

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Continued Turmoil in the 20th Century

War after War

- After war, Austria and Hungary split
 - Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia gain independence
- Germany takes Poland in 1939, starts WWII
 - Soviets capture, dominate Eastern European nations
 - they become Communist USSR's satellite nations

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Recent Changes

- In late 1980s, USSR has economic problems, Gorbachev makes reforms
 - Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania remove communism in 1989
- After communism comes instability, return to ethnic loyalties
 - Yugoslavia violently divides
 - Czechoslovakia splits: Czech Republic, Slovakia

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Developing the Economy

Industry

- Under communism, government owns and controls factories
 - inefficient system brings shortages, trade deficiencies, pollution
- After 1989, region tries market economy—making goods consumers want
 - factories are privately owned, but inflation, unemployment rise
- Cost cutting and improved production help some economies grow

Lingering Problems

- Albania has old equipment, lack of materials, few educated workers
- Romanians lack money to invest; government owns some industries

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A Patchwork Culture

Cultural Diversity

- Numerous languages make regional unification difficult
- Religions include Catholicism (Roman); Eastern Orthodox (Byzantine)
 - Protestant minority; Islam from Ottoman Empire

Holocaust kills 6 million Jews, half of them from Poland

Folk Art

- Folk art is produced by rural people with traditional lifestyles
 pottery, woodcarving, traditional costumes
- Folk music influences Frédéric Chopin (Polish), Anton Dvorák (Czech)

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Moving Toward Modern Life

Less Urban Development

- Large cities include 1,000-year-old Prague in Czech Republic
- Most of region has fewer urban residents than rest of Europe
 - only 40% in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 37% in Albania live in cities
- Cities will grow as industry develops
 - so will pollution, traffic, housing problems

Conflict

- Fierce loyalty to ethnic groups leads to violence
 - many Serbs hate Croats for WWII collaboration with Nazis

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Continued Moving Toward Modern Life

Conflict

- Discrimination against minority groups
 - anti-Semitism—discrimination against Jewish people
 - discrimination against nomadic Romany (Gypsy) people

Democracy

- Eastern Europeans must overcome old hatreds
- Unlike past dictators, officials must obey the rule of the law
 - in 2000, Yugoslavs force out a dictator who lost the election