

Political Forces

Centripetal and Centrifugal Forces

- In political geography **centripetal forces** are things that help politically unify a country, and **centrifugal forces** are things that can further divide a country

Centripetal (examples)	Centrifugal (examples)
Official Language (in mostly monoculture society)	Physical Fragmentation
Culturally homogeneous	Multiculturalism (with divisiveness)
Multiculturalism (Acceptance of differences)	Official Language (with exclusion)
Physically compact Countries	Nationalism
Nationalism (in mostly monoculture society)	Racism, ethnic division, classism
Patriotism	Uneven development
Unified transportation network	Single Narrative Education

Defining Nationalism

- Colloquial Definition

- A group of people being loyal and showing love for their country, often with a feeling of supremacy
 - Semi-Synonymous with Patriotism

- Academic Definition

- **A desire by a large group of people to form a separate country with a government that represents them or rejoin a country it had been separated from**

Patriotism

- Love and loyalty felt towards ones own country
- Different from nationalism as it is more inclusive of people living inside the state



Effects of Nationalism: Devolution

- Transfer or delegation of power to a lower level, especially by central government to local or regional administration.

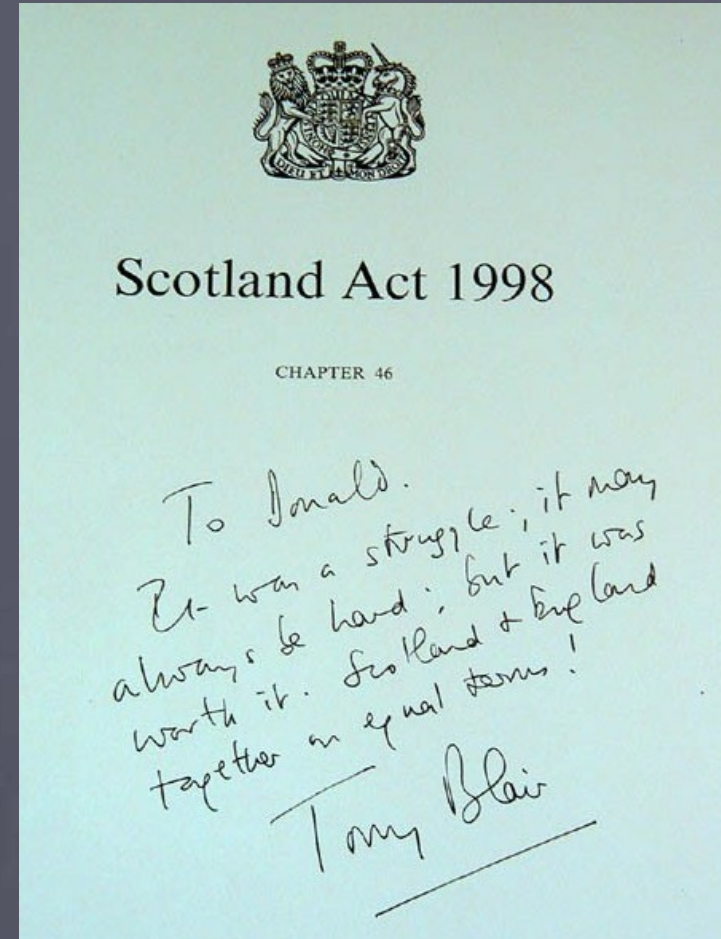
Case Study: Quebec

- Many cultural differences between Quebec and “English Canada”
- Referendum for separation in 1995 barely failed
 - 50.58% of Quebec voted against separation



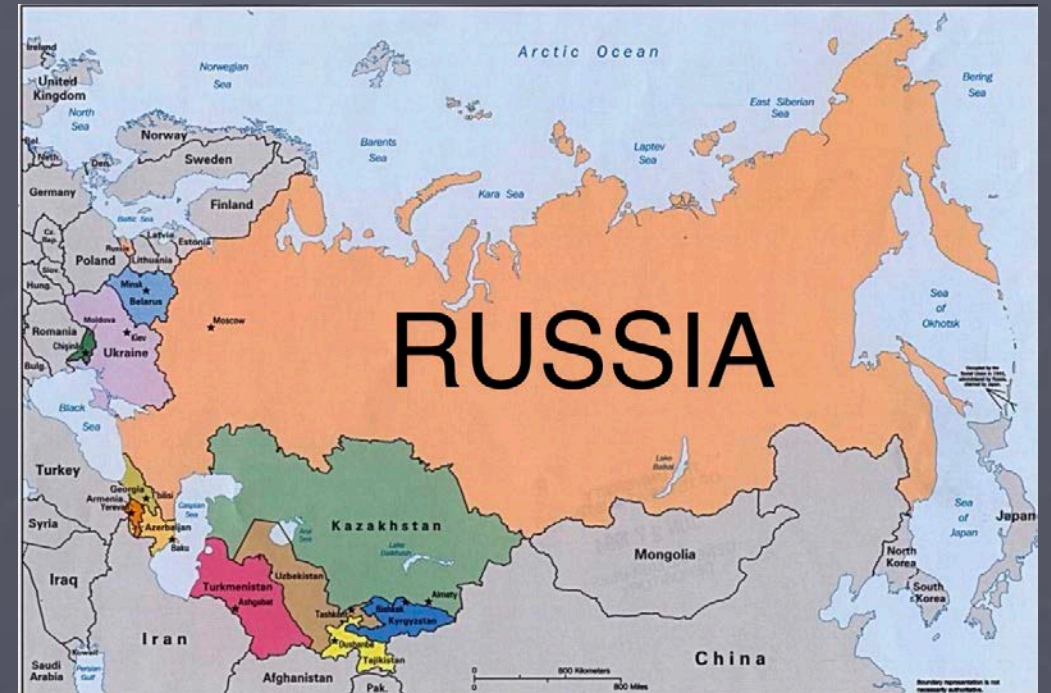
Case Study: Scotland Act of 1998

- Effectively established a Scottish Parliament and government to handle most of the affairs of Scotland
 - Still member of the United Kingdom but provided more autonomy
- Supported by 74% of Scottish voters



Effects of Nationalism: Balkanization

- The fragmentation of a state into smaller semi or fully autonomous states.
 - Often resulting in complications from disputed territories and by way of the process



Case Study: Yugoslavia

- Created in 1918 but faced many problems due to many ethnicities
 - Nationalist movements resulted in division of Yugoslavia in 1993



Effects of Nationalism: Separatist Movements

- The desire of a group of people to break away from existing government and create a new state
- Main reasons for movements
 - Cultural differences
 - Governmental Differences
 - Military Occupation
 - Ethnic/Racial Conflict
 - Economic differences
- Often spark counter-Nationalist movements

Separatist Movements of Europe



Case Study: Kosovo

- Kosovo is mostly ethnic Albanians, not Serbs
 - Predominantly Sunni Muslims, not Orthodox Christians like serbs
- Could set precedent in area that would allow for redrawing lines of nearby countries



Hyper-Nationalism

- Extreme nationalism, the belief in the superiority of one's nation and of the paramount importance of advancing it
- Often used as an excuse to commit acts of “Ethnic Cleansing”



Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide

- Genocide – The attempt to eradicate all peoples of a racial, ethnic, or religious group
 - Has been criminalized in 1948 and requires action under international law
- Ethnic Cleansing – The aim of establishing cultural homogeneity
 - Does not necessarily use methods of mass killings
 - Linked by International Criminal Court as a “War Crime” or “Crime Against Humanity” and since 1998 is punishable

Genocide

- Term phrased in 1944 as a way to describe German actions against Jews in World War II
 - Created by the Greek words *Genos* “Race or Tribe” and *Cide* “To Kill”
 - Immediately applied to Turkish actions against Armenians in World War I

United Nations Definition of Genocide

- Any of a number of acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.
 - Killing or causing serious bodily or mental harm
 - Inflicting conditions of life intended to cause demise of group
 - Imposing measures to prevent births
 - Forcible removing a groups children

Armenian Genocide

- Undertaken by Ottoman government during World War I in 1915
 - Led to death of estimated 1.5 million Armenian Christians (Roughly 66%)
 - Use of primitive gas chambers
 - Death Marches
 - Witnessed by German soldiers and used as justification for Genocide
- Those responsible not punished

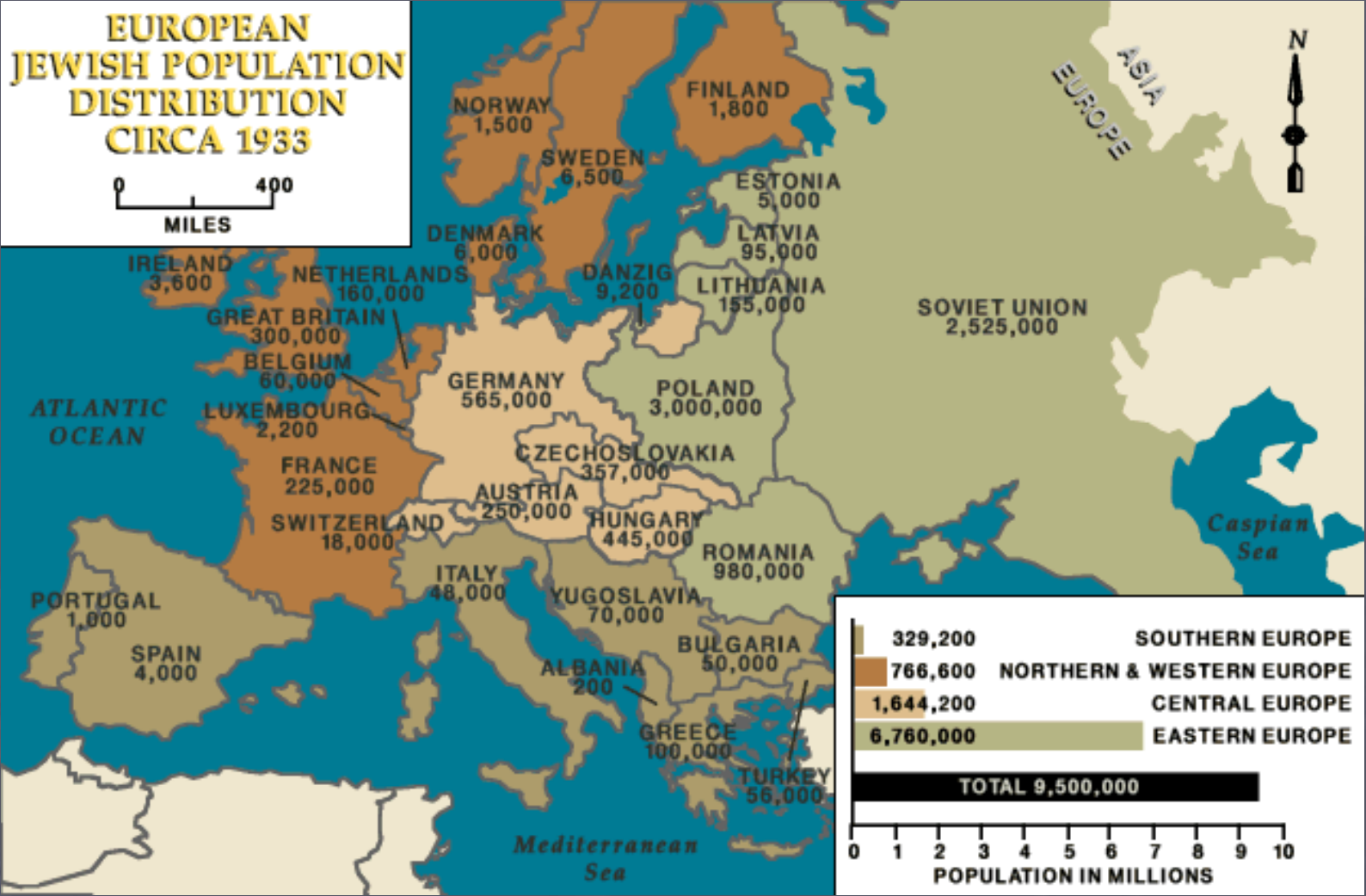


The Holocaust

- Measures taken out by the Nazi government in German between 1933 and 1945 to eliminate “undesirables”
 - Jews – Almost 6 Million
 - “Gypsies” – Around 200,000
 - Homosexuals – Unknown - less than 10,000
 - Mentally/Physically Disabled – Around 200,000
 - Poles – Roughly 3 Million
 - Slavs – Between 2-3 Million
- Also caused the forced migration of countless others



Effects of the Holocaust



Effects of the Holocaust



Cambodian Genocide

- Led by communist leader Pol Pot of the Khmer Rouge from 1975 to 1979
 - Tried creating classless society
 - 1.5 million died from starvation, overwork, and execution
 - Bodies buried in mass graves called “Killing fields”
 - Out of total population of 7-8 million
- Pol Pot and Khmer Rouge removed by Vietnamese
 - Few leaders of Khmer Rouge tried as war criminals



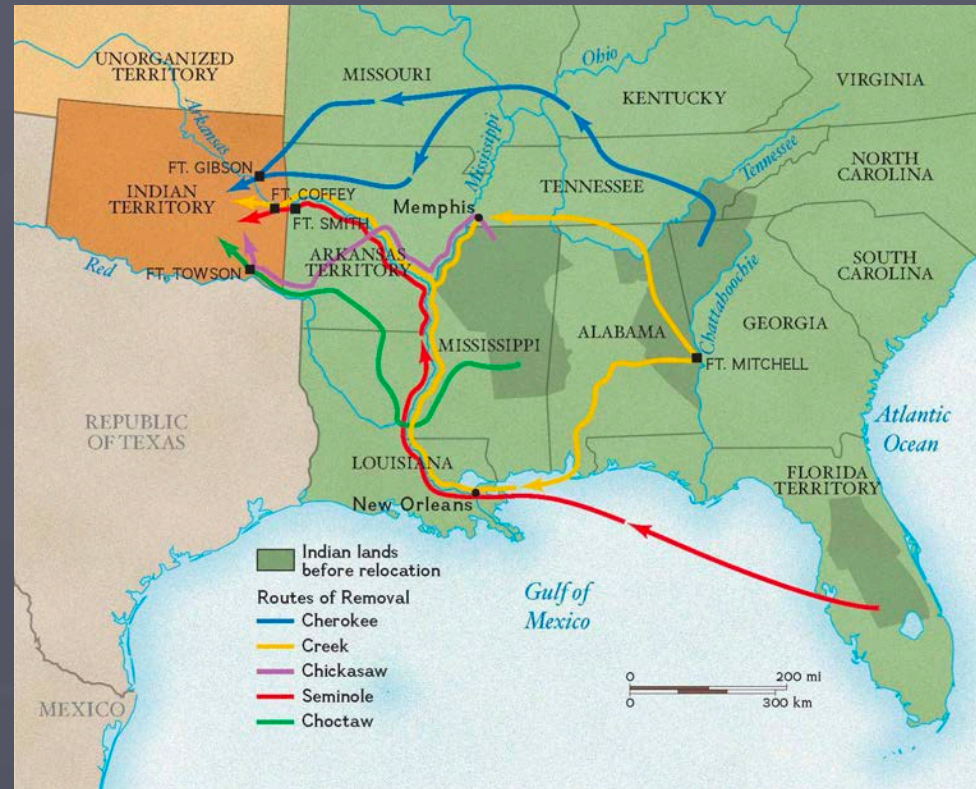
Rwandan Genocide

- Ethnic difference between Hutu and Tutsi
 - Tutsi were minority group placed in power by Belgians
 - Hutu used position to persecute Tutsi
 - Leading to 800,000 to 1 million dead
 - 2 Million Displaced
- International criminal tribunal established for trials



Ethnic Cleansing

- The act of removing “unwanted” ethnicities from an area to attempt to create a ethnically homogenous geographic area
 - Forced deportations
 - Displacement
 - Mass killings



Bosnia

- In 1992 Bosnia separated from Yugoslavia
 - Bosnia Serbs backed by Serbian and Yugoslavia military embarked on Ethnic cleansing mission
 - Targeting Bosniaks (Bosnian Muslims) and Croats
 - Around 100,000 killed
 - Lasted until 1995
- NATO stepped in and ended hostilities
- International court placed leaders on trial



Kosovo

- In 1996 Kosovo attempted to gain independence from Yugoslavia
- Slobodan Milosevic ordered Serbian military in against Ethnic Albanians
 - Only lasted from 1998-1999
 - 10,000 Kosovar Albanians killed
 - 850,000 expelled from Kosovo
 - 600,000 Displaced
 - NATO responded quickly
 - Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic arrested and put on trial



Darfur

- Struggle between African Darfuri and Arabic Sudanese Government
 - Government using *Janjaweed* or “Devils on Horseback”
 - To date over 400,000 killed and 2.7 million displaced
- Sudanese president indicted by ICC
 - Including other top officials
- Conflict is ongoing

