

Unit 4

Political Organization of Space



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This PPT has been created using the information from the *AMSCO Human Geography: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination* book.
Palmer, David. *AMSCO Advanced Placement Human Geography*. Perfection Learning, 2019.



UNIT 4 – POLITICAL ORGANIZATION OF SPACE

CH 10: TERRITORY, POWER, AND BOUNDARIES

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING (4.B)

By the end of this section, you will *understand* that **spatial political patterns reflect ideas of territoriality and power at a variety of scales.**

- **Territoriality:** **connection** of people, culture, and their economic system to the land.
- **Power:** geographic **control** over people, land, and resources.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE (4.B.3)

By the end of this section, you will *be able to analyze the spatial relationships between political systems and patterns of culture and economy.*

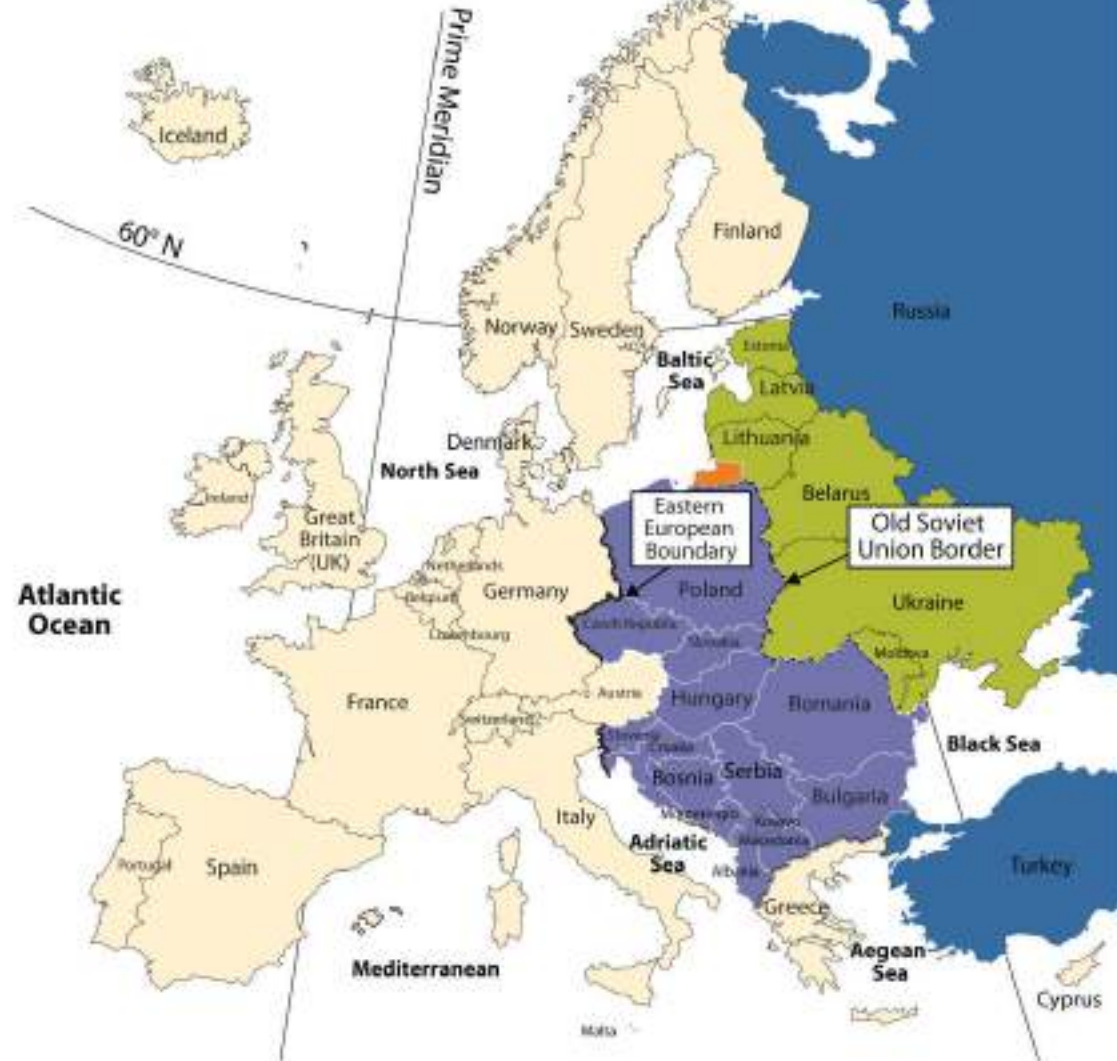
- a. Students will know that political boundaries do not always coincide with patterns of language, religion, ethnicity, nationality, and economy.

THE EFFECTS OF BOUNDARIES

Language and Religion

- Sometimes boundaries separate people who speak the same language, practice the same religion, or share other traits.
 - Example: Berlin Conference/Africa
- Other times, a region becomes a **Shatterbelt**, one that suffers instability because it is located between two very different regions.
 - Example: Eastern Europe between Western Europe (Roman Catholic/Protestant and capitalist) and Russia (Orthodox and communist)
 - Example: Caucasus mountain region and the Sudan

Eastern Europe

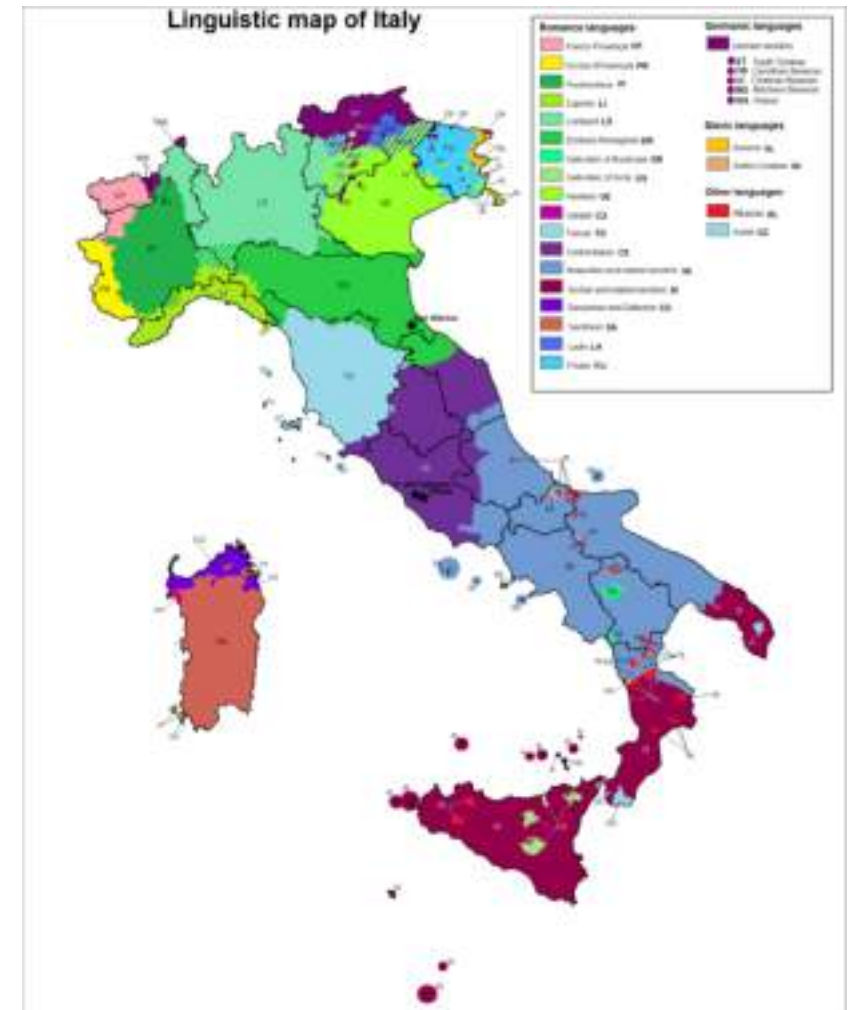


Caucasus Region

THE EFFECTS OF BOUNDARIES

Language and Religion

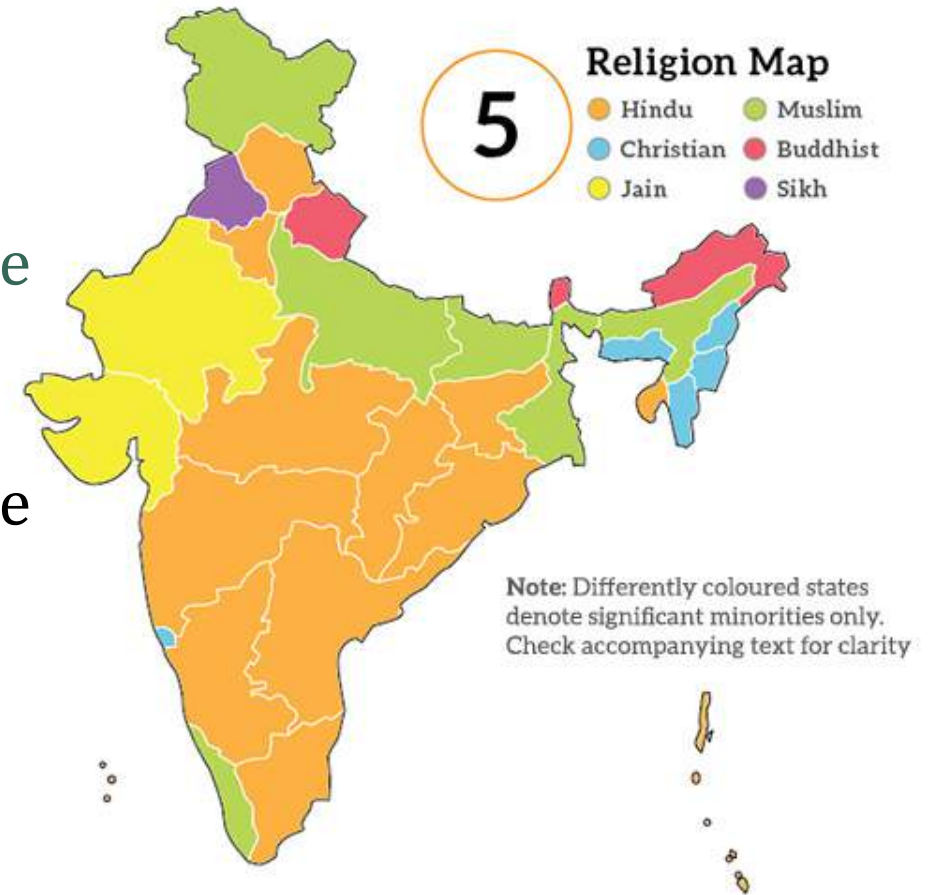
- As people move and boundaries change, so does language as dialects are developed on different sides of the borders
- This can sometimes complicate the process of unification
- Example: Italy – after 150 years of unification, people still speak several different languages



THE EFFECTS OF BOUNDARIES

Language and Religion

- Religion and boundaries cause conflict too
- Example: India – mostly Hindus but a large minority are Muslims
- Not all countries with different faiths have conflict, however.
- Non-examples: United States and South Korea



THE EFFECTS OF BOUNDARIES

Language and Religion

- Ireland
 - Won independence from the UK and formed the Republic of Ireland (95% Roman Catholic)
 - Northern Ireland remained part of the UK (mostly Protestant)
 - Divided Catholics who wanted to be together in one country
 - United Catholics and Protestants into one political entity leading to three decades of violence



THE EFFECTS OF BOUNDARIES

Ethnicity, Nationality, and Economy

- Superimposed boundaries may create conflict when space is being shared by two nations.
- Example: Sri Lanka – home to the Sinhalese (majority; Buddhists; southern) and the Tamils (minority; Hindus; north and eastern).
- The Tamils feel as if they are treated as second-class citizens and rebelled against the Sinhalese.
- They lost but around 75,000 Sri Lankans lost their lives.

