

**Basic Political Terminology**  
(Primarily State Types)

- **State**
  - Known as having **four requirements**:
    1. defined boundaries
    2. a sovereign\* government
    3. a permanent population
    4. is recognized as a state by other states
  - States must be recognized as a state by other states before they have sovereignty
  - Ex: every “official” country
- **Nation**
  - A group of people with shared political goals and a common history  
(+ its heritage and history are linked to a specific territory)
  - Ex: Kurds, Palestinians, Japanese, French, Germans, and Koreans

- **Nation-State**
  - An area where the boundaries of a nation and a state coincide with one another (in present times these are often more isolated, globalization-resistant, and/or states with a strong desire to preserve their culture)
  - Ex: Japan, France, Germany, and the Koreans

- **Stateless Nation**
  - When a nation does not have a state or coincide with one
  - The **Kurds are an important example** of a stateless nation

- **Multinational States**
  - A state with a population consisting of two or more nations
  - Conflicts are more likely to occur between nations within multinational states
  - Ex: United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom

- **Multistate Nations**
  - A nation that transcends the borders of two or more states
  - Ex: Kurds, Koreans (North Korea and South Korea)

- Political boundaries are solid lines because they are more solid, whereas ethnic boundaries are dotted lines because they depend on the locations of individual people, versus an official and set boundary.
- Political Boundary: \_\_\_\_\_
- Ethnic Boundary:        - - - - -

**Tip:**  
Use the terms “state” and “nation” if you are confused between state types. Break apart the word and define each part and you will be able to decipher the whole definition. For example, “stateless nation” are “nations” without a “state”.

**Other Common Things to Know:**

- \*Sovereignty- the ability of a state to decide affairs in its own territory
- Nation-States are created by cultural, historical, lingual, territorial, nationalistic, and/or religious-based bonds within a group

For more information on basic political terminology, see pages 194-198 in your textbook

## The Cold War and The Fall of Communism

**The Cold War** : War "fought" by the USA and USSR over world dominance (capitalism vs. communism.)

- Neither countries actually fought each other, but instead, used **client states** to fight on their behalf.

**Bipolar World**- a world divided into two opposing groups

### US Allies: (Capitalists)

- **NATO Nations (Western Europe and Canada)**
- **Japan**
- **Taiwan**
- **Israel**
- **South Vietnam**
- **South Korea, etc.**



*mid-1940s to late 1980s*

### USSR Allies: (Communists)

- **Warsaw Packed countries**
- **East Germany, etc.**
- **Indirect allies- China, North Korea, North Vietnam**

### Other Terms

**Shatterbelt Regions**: Regions that are caught between conflict between two superpowers. Their boundaries are often changed due to these conflicts.

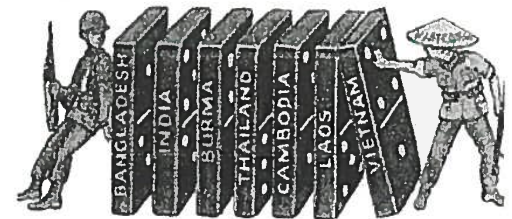
*example*: East Asia (during Korean and Vietnam wars)

**Buffer States**: Countries that remain neutral between two conflicting countries.

*example*: Mongolia (between China and Russia)

**Domino Effect**: Idea that once a few countries fell into communism, others would follow as well.

- Never actually existed but was theorized.



### Fall of Communism

- Historians disagree on when it happened, but the fall was marked by:
  1. The Falling of the Berlin Wall
  2. Breakup and loss of USSR territory

### Democratization

1. Reformation of **Poland, Hungary** and **Bulgaria**
2. Ousting of communism in **East Germany** (marked by falling of Berlin Wall) and **Czechoslovakia**.
3. Reformation of **Romania**

### Formation of New States

Including:

Bosnia	Herzgovinia
Croatia	Macedonia
Serbia	Montenegro

Total of 23 New States

### Communist Countries Today

China, Vietnam, Laos, Cuba and North Korea remain communist countries.

# Political Power

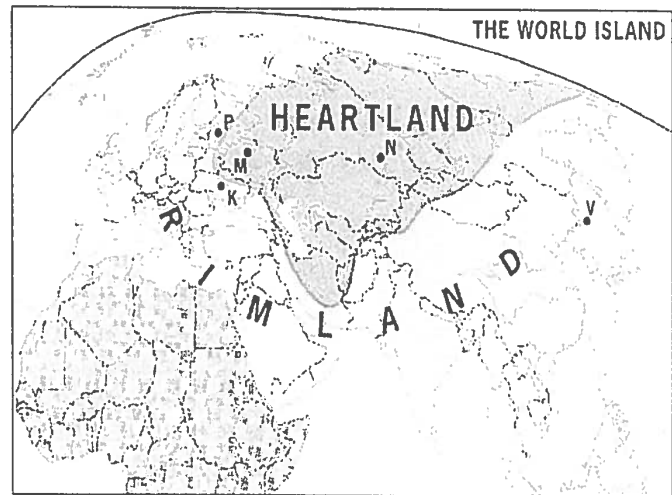
## Territoriality

- ✦ Having a strong attachment to or defensive control of a specific area

For more information on these topics see pages 194, 213-214 of the textbook

## Ratzel's Theory

- ✦ Developed by Friedrich Ratzel
- ✦ He compared a state's growth to that of an organism
  - » States needed some type of resource to grow
  - » States needed space to grow
  - » States developed and grew stronger by gaining new territory
  - » States competed against one another for resources and space
- ✦ His theory is an example of environmental determinism



Source: [antimedocratie.org/?p=627](http://antimedocratie.org/?p=627)






## Mackinder's Heartland Theory

- ✦ Developed by Halford Mackinder
- ✦ He believed if the balance of power among states was upset, one or a combination of states could become the dominant world power
- ✦ He labeled the interior of Eurasia as the heartland
- ✦ The heartland, he claimed, had the best geographic factors for world domination:
  - » It could not be attacked by sea
  - » Had a sizeable amount of resources
- ✦ His theory could be said to involve environmental determinism, because of his belief that location is a crucial factor in political power
- ✦ Criticism of this theory: It oversimplifies the intricate factors that determine who has political power in the world

## Spykman's Rimland Theory

- ✦ Developed by Nicholas Spykman
- ✦ Countered Mackinder's theory
- ✦ He labeled the area surrounding the heartland, the edge of Eurasia, as the rimland
- ✦ He believed that the rimland had the best geographic factors for world domination, instead of the heartland:
  - » Had varied resources
  - » Coastal access\*\*\*
  - » Access to interior (the heartland)

## Boundaries and State Shapes

State Shape	Image	Description	Pros	Cons	Examples
Compact		Circular or square shape	Good communications and transportation	Lack of natural resources/ variety of natural resources	Uruguay, Poland
Elongated		A stretched out shape — long and skinny	Easy transportation of materials to industrial centers	More difficult communication between people leading to possible unrest	Nepal, Italy, Gambia, Chile
Fragmented		Broken up into two or more parts	More difficult for another country to occupy the country	Difficult communication and transportation across country	Japan, Philippines
Perforated		Contains a sovereign state within the state	The ethnic groups of the enclave state have their own state so there is less chance for tension	The enclave state might make transportation and communication more difficult	South Africa (Lesotho), Italy (San Marino and the Vatican City)
Porupt		A piece of the state hanging off or a “panhandle”	Better access to resources and more trade	Poruptions are often fought over	Thailand, Burma, Namibia

Enclave	A state that is completely surrounded by another state. Example: Lesotho, San Marino, and the Vatican City.
Exclave	An area completely separated from its state by another state. Example: Alaska, Kalainingrad.

### Types of Boundaries

Physical	Boundaries that are natural features such as rivers and mountains. Ex: U.S./Mexico border
Cultural	Boundaries formed by cultural features
Geometric	Boundaries that are formed using longitude and latitude lines. Ex: U.S./Canada border
Antecedent	Boundaries made before an area is settled by humans.
Subsequent	Boundaries that are formed with the development of the culture. Ex: Ireland/Northern Ireland.
Superimposed	Boundaries formed that ignore the culture of the area. Ex: North Korea/South Korea, Africa
Relict	A boundary that does not exist anymore. Ex: Great Wall of China/ Berlin Wall

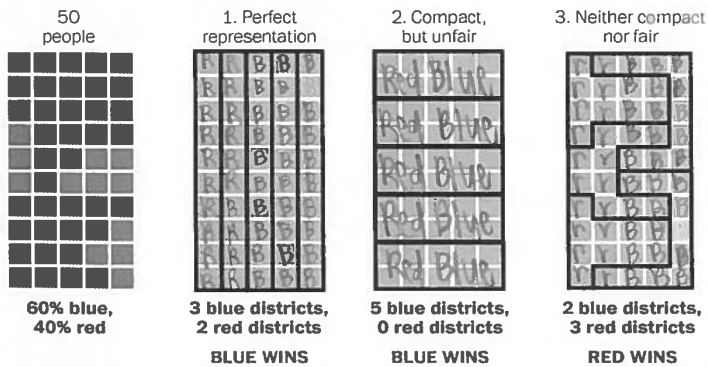
See textbook pages 202-205

Images taken from: <https://apmodels.wikispaces.com/>

# Internal Boundaries

## Gerrymandering, explained

Three different ways to divide 50 people into five districts



<http://static.ijreview.com/wp-ghcontent/uploads/2015/03/image5-1024x760.jpg>

## What is Gerrymandering?

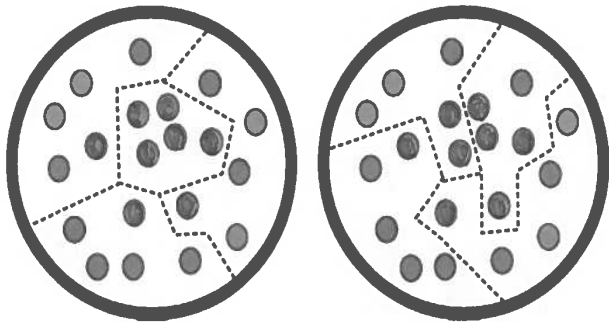
- Came from a tactic made by Elbridge Gerry in 1812
  - The manipulation of boundaries of an electoral area to make them favor one party over the other
    - Ensures a win for the party in favor or greatly increases the chances of it winning
    - Word comes from salamander + Gerry, because the district made looked like a salamander (see below)
    - Can have racial motivations
- Ex. Texas's separation of blacks and Hispanics from the rest of the voting arena

## History of Gerrymandering

- Every 10 years, reapportionment occurs to even out the number of people in each district.
- To make sure each House of Representatives member has an equal number of voters, redistricting follows.
- The term was coined in 1812 when Elbridge Gerry redistricted Boston to benefit his political party.
- Though this process is frowned upon, it is not illegal.
- The resulting district was in the shape of a salamander on the map.
- These new districts gave Gerry's party an advantage, leading to its win.



<http://static.ijreview.com/wp-ghcontent/uploads/2015/03/image5-1024x760.jpg>



<http://www.debitage.net/humangeography/images/gerrymander.png>

## Types of Gerrymandering

- **Packing-** Placing as many voters of one type in a single district to minimize the number of elections they can influence. (left)
- **Cracking-** Spreading voters of one type over many districts where they will comprise minorities that are unable to influence elections. (right)
- **Hijacking-** Separating an incumbent candidate from his constituents and placing him or her in a district where he or she has no name recognition.
- **Kidnapping-** Drawing two incumbent candidates into the same district, so they must run against each other.

# UNCLOS

(United Nations Conference on the Law of the Seas)

- Created standard water borders for all UN states

## Territorial Waters:

- 12 nautical miles from shore
- Sovereign territory of a country

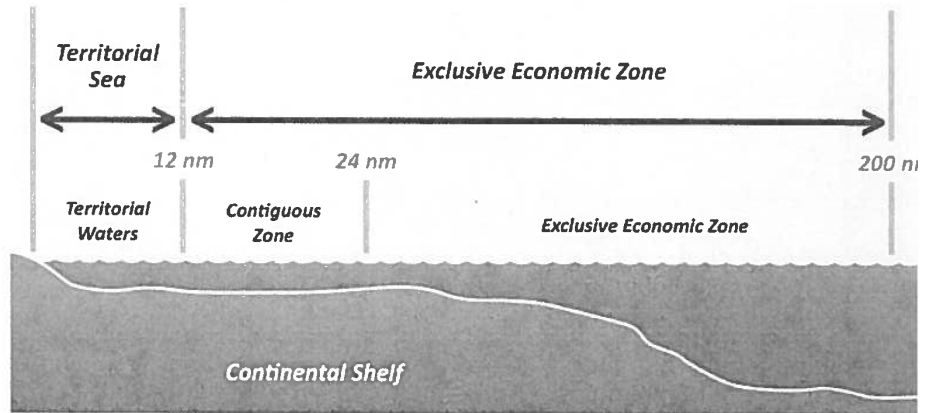
## Contiguous Zone:

- 24 nautical miles from shore
- State has power to enforce their laws and control over water and airspace

## Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ):

- 200 nautical miles from shore
- State has control over resources but not over passage through the territory

(1 nautical mile= 1.508 miles)



<http://securefisheries.org/faqs-illegal-fishing>

## High Seas

- The area beyond the EEZ
- Anyone can use the resources and pass through it

## Median Line Principle

- Divides EEZs equally if they overlap
- **Ex:** Islands have large EEZs that often overlap but the median line principle divides them

## Boundaries:

- Vertical plane represented as a line on a map that marks the territory of a state

**Delimited:** lines on a map

**Demarcated:** physical signs of a



**Demarcated Border**



**Delimited Border**

\*\*\*For more information see page 202 in the textbook

# FORMS OF GOVERNMENT



## UNITARY SYSTEM

CONCENTRATES POWER IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

EX: UNITED KINGDOM → PARLIAMENT

*ABSOLUTE MONARCHY, DICTATORSHIP, OLIGARCHY, THEOCRACY*



## FEDERAL SYSTEM

DISTRIBUTES SOME POWER TO TERRITORIAL SUBDIVISIONS

EX: UNITED STATES → STATES

*DEMOCRACY, LIMITED MONARCHY*

<http://www.clipartbest.com/king-with-crown>, <http://redlionssci.wikispaces.com/TWT>



## UNITARY

- Sense of unity
- Everyone follows the same laws
- Everyone has the same policies
- Fewer government conflicts (ex: between national and local)

- Central government is overwhelmed (ex: cannot keep up with local issues)
- Difficult to meet needs of every individual
- Citizens' voices are limited

## FEDERAL

- Citizens are represented
- All issues get handled
  - ↳ National and local
- Leaders are elected by the people

- Conflict between national and local levels
- Lack of unity
- Different laws and policies everywhere



Example of Unitary Gov. – China

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/pecial/2014-03/14/c\\_133187027.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/pecial/2014-03/14/c_133187027.htm)



Example of Federal Gov. – USA

<http://www.maximumachievementprogram.org/US-Government.html>



## UNITARY

- Centralized (Central government has complete authority)
- Local government has little power



## FEDERAL

- Not as centralized (Central government does **not** have complete authority)
- Power is divided between central and local government

# Supranationalism

Multiple states working together for a common economic, military, or political purpose.



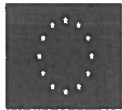
## United Nations (UN)



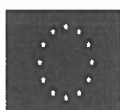
- Founded In 1945
- **Main Goal:** wanted to promote peace in the world as well as building cooperative relations among states, and handling conflicts among countries in a peaceful and fair way.
- **Countries:** Most countries are involved with the UN , except for Taiwan, Palestine, Kosovo, and a few others.

## North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

- Founded in 1949
- **Main Goal:** Protect Allies security and freedom through political and military services
- **Countries:** (total of 28) mainly in Western Europe, U.S, and Canada.



## European Union (EU)



- Founded in 1993
- **Main Goal:** want to create a free-trade zone that enhances more economic wealth and gaining more profit in the market zone
- **Achievements:** successful supranational economic organization, contains a parliament, central bank, and flag
- **Countries:** Majority of Europe except Switzerland and Norway (total of 28 countries)

## Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

- Formed in 1967
- **Main Goal:** wanted to improve economic growth, cultural development, social progress, and promote regional peace.
- **Countries:** majority of SE Asia (total of 10 countries)



## North American Trade Association (NAFTA)

- Formed in 1994
- **Main Goal:** wanted to remove barriers, and trade goods with all three countries in North America.
- **Countries:** North America (total of 3 countries)



## Pros and Cons of Supranationlism

- **Pros:** increase of political security, more trade, gained more allies, shared wealth
- **Cons:** Loss of sovereignty( a country giving away some of its political power in order to keep peace among countries)



## DEVOLUTION

Definition: The transfer of some power to one or more regional units (weakening the central government)

Examples: Quebec (Canada), Scotland (United Kingdom)

Even though Scottish independence failed Scotland has gained some additional autonomy since the referendum



Cartoon From: [http://media.cagle.com/139/2014/09/19/153973\\_600.jpg](http://media.cagle.com/139/2014/09/19/153973_600.jpg)

The key cause is **ethnonationalism**- in multinational states, ethnic communities often desire to have more say, especially if they feel like they aren't represented or are underrepresented in the current structure

Advantage: If some power is transferred to one or more local regions and the people feel they are represented then **balkanization** (the break-up of a state into two or more units) becomes less likely. If people feel heard then **ethnic separatism** has less of a basis. Likewise, **irredentist** claims by surrounding powers are less likely to have traction with the ethnic group.

Changes that often result from devolution include:

- More local policy control
- The encouragement of other groups to fight for some degree of sovereignty
- A less unified state identity
- Financial costs due to often redundant political structures

See textbook pages 207-208

## Centripetal and Centrifugal Forces

**Centripetal Forces-** events or circumstances that help unite the people of a state

Examples include:

- ❖ Equality
- ❖ Cultural Homogeneity
- ❖ Shared Language
- ❖ Patriotism
  - Armed Forces
  - Binding together of the country after the 9/11 attacks
- ❖ Good Leadership
- ❖ Geographic Boundaries keeping people inside
  - Ex: Pakistan is an isolated river valley surrounded by mountains
- ❖ Flourishing Economy
- ❖ Uniform Government Policies
- ❖ Strong Infrastructure
- ❖ Raison D'etre



<http://uncmain.sites.unc.edu/files/20>

**Raison D'etre-** the purpose or reason for the initial existence of a state

- ❖ Literally translated in French as “the reason for being”
- ❖ It is the most significant centripetal force

Example: Israel's Raison D'etre → to create a homeland for the Jews

Pakistan's Raison D'etre → to create a Muslim majority state apart from India

**Centrifugal Forces-** events or circumstances that divide and split the people of a state.

Examples include:

- ❖ Discrimination & Inequality
- ❖ Cultural Diversity
- ❖ Various Languages
- ❖ Various Religions
  - Ex: Hindus and Muslims in India
- ❖ Economic Disparities
- ❖ Government policies that exclude one or more groups
- ❖ Geographic Boundaries splitting a country
  - Ex: Mountains that spread across Nepal can split communities
- ❖ Multinational States
- ❖ Poor Leadership
- ❖ Poverty
- ❖ Weak Infrastructure
- ❖ Lack of a Raison D'etre
  - Ex: Yugoslavia was created as a multinational state with split religions and languages and did not have a Raison D'etre. Eventually, the country broke apart.

For more information, see textbook pages 206- 207