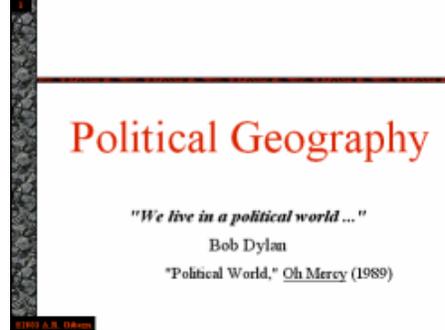


Political Geography



“States” & “states”

- ❖ “States”
 - States are **political units** that have:
 - Defined territories;
 - A permanent population;
 - Are fully independent and **sovereign**.
- ❖ “states”
 - States are **political units** that are:
 - Part of a federal government;
 - Have **limited independence** (or **sovereignty**).
- ❖ The term “**country**” is roughly equivalent to “**state**.”

“Nations” & “Nation-States”

- ❖ “Nations”
 - Nations are communities or groups of people:
 - Common culture;
 - Sense of unity, shared beliefs and customs;
 - Usually have a strong attachment to a place.
- ❖ “Nation-States”
 - A **State** occupied by a single **nation**:
 - Considered ideal;
 - No perfect examples, but some (e.g. Japan, Norway, Lesotho) come fairly close.
 - Can nation-states be created? *Maybe!*

Variations on “Nation” & “State”

- ❖ “Multinational State”
 - A **state** whose population is made up of two or more **nations**.
 - Examples: Cyprus, Russia

- ❖ “Part-Nation State”
 - A **state** whose population is only a portion of a **nation**.
 - Examples: Egypt, Syria
- ❖ “Stateless Nation”
 - A **nation** that has no state or sovereignty, or is divided among several **states**.
 - Examples: Basques, Kurds, Gypsies

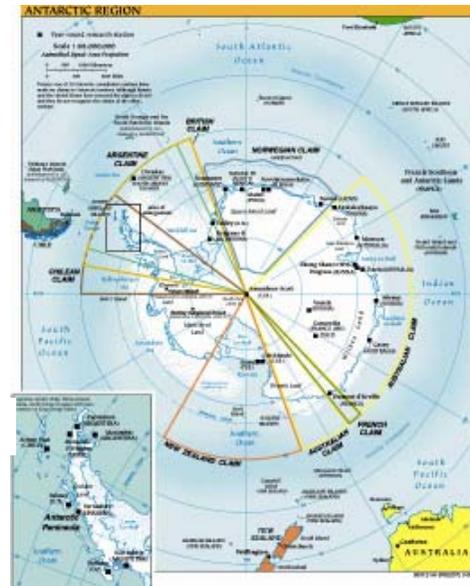
The Rise of States

- ❖ Nations have existed from time immemorial.
- ❖ States, in some sense at least, have existed for thousands of years.
 - “City-States” in Mesopotamia and Greece.
 - Early political empires (Agade, Egypt, Chin, Rome, etc.)
- ❖ The modern concept of the nation-state only dates back to Europe in the 17th-19th centuries.
- ❖ As recently as 1950 there were only about 50 internationally recognized independent countries; now there are nearly 200 (and more may be coming).

The World is *Almost* All States

- ❖ There is only one large piece of land anywhere on earth that is not controlled by a state – **Antarctica**.
- ❖ At least until 2041, all territorial claims (including overlapping claims) here have been suspended – but they have **not** been abandoned.

Source: http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/reference_maps/antarctic.html

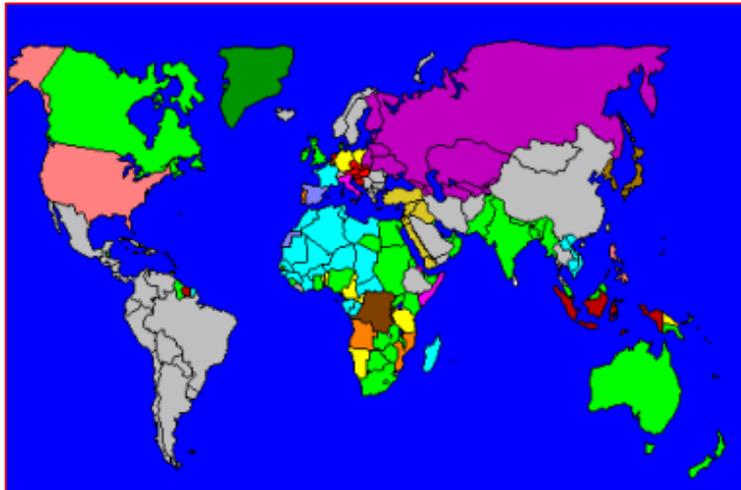


Colonies

- ❖ A **colony** is a territory that is legally joined to a sovereign state, and is not completely independent.
- ❖ The sovereign state may control the colony completely, or may just control some aspects (defense, foreign affairs).
- ❖ During the last 500 years, colonies were planted by European countries over much of the world.
- ❖ Why did Europe establish colonies?
 - GOD!
 - GOLD!
 - GLORY!

- ❖ The largest colonial powers were England, France and Spain.
- ❖ Colonial policies varied from integration to pure exploitation.
- ❖ There are very few colonies today – mostly islands.

The Colonial World, 1914



The Colonial World Today

- ❖ Most of the following aren't exactly "colonies": they're "overseas dependencies," or "subnational entities," or "in free association," or "special administrative regions"; in some cases exactly who or what is sovereign isn't clear.
- ❖ Nevertheless, the following list does make it clear that there are a lot of these little things, whatever you want to call them, out there:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Akrotiri (UK) | Faroe Islands (DENMARK) | Navassa Island (US) |
| American Samoa (US) | French Polynesia (FRANCE) | Netherlands Antilles (NETHERLANDS) |
| Anguilla (UK) | French Southern and Antarctic Lands (FRANCE) | New Caledonia (FRANCE) |
| Aruba (NETHERLANDS) | Gibraltar (UK) | Niue (NEW ZEALAND) |
| Ashmore and Cartier Islands (AUSTRALIA) | Glorioso Islands (FRANCE) | Norfolk Island (AUSTRALIA) |
| Baker Island (US) | Greenland (DENMARK) | Palmyra Atoll (US) |
| Bassas da India (FRANCE) | Guam (US) | Pitcairn Islands (UK) |
| Bermuda (UK) | Guernsey Island (UK) | Saint Helena (UK) |
| Bouvet Island (NORWAY) | Heard & McDonald Islands (AUSTRALIA) | Saint Pierre & Miquelon Islands (FRANCE) |
| British Indian Ocean Territory (UK) | Howland Island (US) | South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands (UK) |
| British Virgin Islands (UK) | Isle of Man (UK) | Svalbard (NORWAY) |
| Cayman Islands (UK) | Jan Mayen (NORWAY) | Tokelau (NEW ZEALAND) |
| Christmas Island (AUSTRALIA) | Jarvis Island (US) | Tromelin Island (FRANCE) |
| Clipperton Island (FRANCE) | Jersey Island (UK) | Turks & Caicos Islands (UK) |
| Cocos (Keeling) Islands (AUSTRALIA) | Johnston Atoll (US) | Virgin Islands (US) |
| Cook Islands (NEW ZEALAND) | Juan de Nova Island (FRANCE) | Wake Island (US) |
| Coral Sea Islands (AUSTRALIA) | Kingman Reef (US) | Wallis and Futuna (FRANCE) |
| Dhekelia (UK) | Mayotte (FRANCE) | |
| Europa Island (FRANCE) | Midway Islands (US) | |
| Falkland Islands (UK) | Montserrat (UK) | |

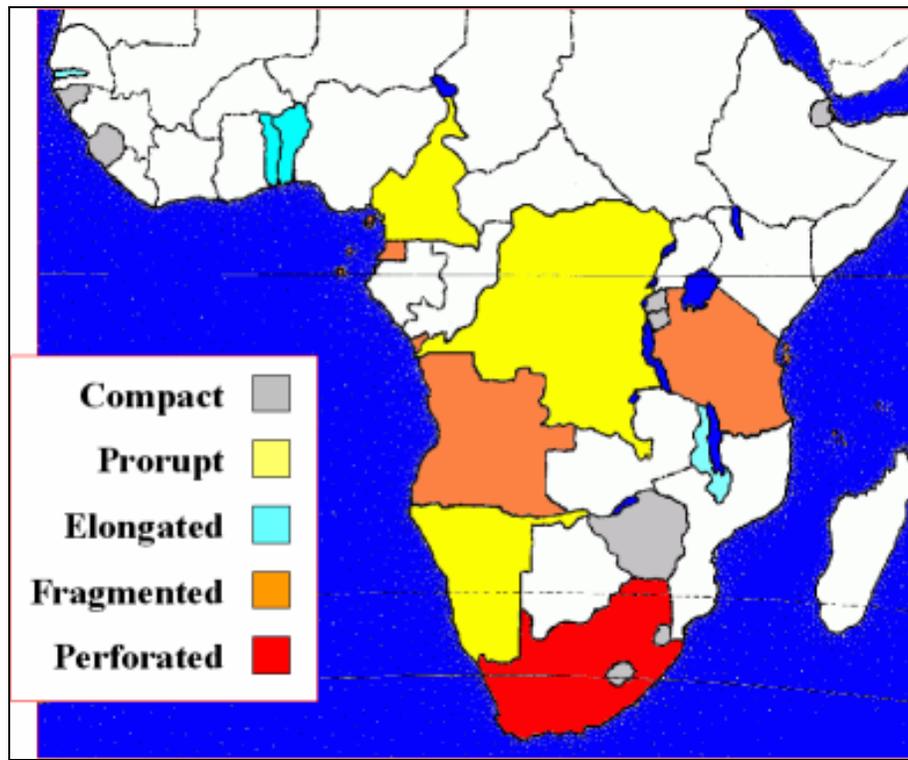
- ❖ Other areas of the world that also have issues of partial or disputed sovereignty:
 - Antarctica (as described above, all seven countries claiming territory have placed claims in suspension)
 - Hong Kong (Chinese special administrative region, autonomous entity that exists pursuant to international agreement and maintains its own government)
 - Kosovo (UN protectorate)
 - Liancourt Rocks (claimed by South Korea and Japan)
 - Macau (Chinese special administrative region, autonomous entity that exists pursuant to international agreement and maintains its own government)
 - Northern Mariana Islands (Commonwealth of the US)
 - Paracel Islands (claimed by China, Taiwan and Vietnam)
 - Puerto Rico (Commonwealth of the US)
 - Spratly Islands (claimed by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei)
 - Western Sahara (Controlled by Morocco, but claims are not universally recognized)

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_dependent_territories ; <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

Physical Characteristics of States

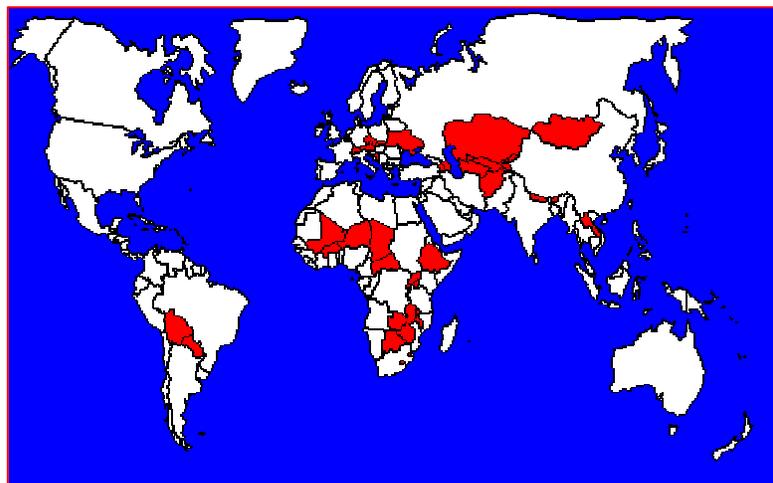
- ❖ Size
 - States vary enormously in size, from enormous to **microstates**:
 - Vatican City 109 acres (44 hectares, or about .17 mi²)
 - The Russian Federation – 6,592,850 mi² (17,075,400 km²)
- ❖ Shape
 - States have five basic shapes
 - **COMPACT** (ideal – theoretically very efficient)
 - **PRORUPT** (projecting extension – established to either prevent other states from contact, or to access resources)
 - **ELONGATED** (long, narrow shape – may cause isolation for a portion of the country)
 - **FRAGMENTED** (discontinuous territory – usually islands today)
 - **PERFORATED** (one state completely surrounds another – an **enclave**)

Shapes of States



Landlocked States

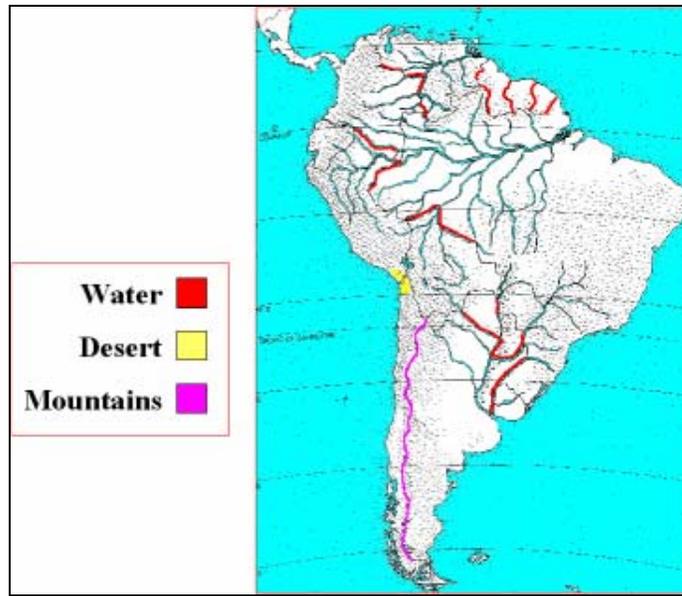
- ❖ **Landlocked states** have no direct access to the sea – so their access to international trade is severely limited.
- ❖ Landlocked states have to depend on the cooperation of their neighbors.



Boundaries

- ❖ Until modern times, most countries were divided from each other by **frontiers** – zones where no state has complete political control.
- ❖ Boundaries may be either **physical** or **cultural**.
 - PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES
 - Physical boundaries should be **easily distinguished, permanent,** and ideally **hard to cross**.
 - Examples: Mountains, deserts, bodies of water.
 - CULTURAL BOUNDARIES
 - Cultural boundaries also ought to be **easily distinguished,** and **permanent** – but that is not always possible.
 - Examples: Geometric, religious, linguistic.
- ❖ The best boundaries are those **everyone agrees on** – regardless of how they are drawn.

Physical Boundaries



Problems With Physical Boundaries

- ❖ Unless they are truly impassable – and with modern technology, nothing really is – physical boundaries only work well if everyone agrees on them.
- ❖ Defining boundaries is often contentious.
- ❖ Water boundaries have special problems:
 - Rivers shift courses.

Principles of Cultural Geography

- Oceans lack obvious boundaries – and nations claim large areas for security and economic reasons – for example, the US claims an enormous



amount of the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic Oceans under the Convention on the Law of the Sea:

- “In the exclusive economic zone, the coastal State has sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living ... The exclusive economic zone shall not extend beyond 200 nautical miles ...”

Convention on the Law of the Sea, Part V

Source (10-26-01): <http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st2/shipee.htm>

Cultural Boundaries

- ❖ GEOMETRIC (“Mathematical”)
 - Arbitrary lines drawn on the map, without regard to physical or other cultural factors.
 - Usually drawn before an area has a significant population.
- ❖ RELIGIOUS & LINGUISTIC (“Cultural”)
 - Boundaries drawn on the basis of cultural characteristics.
 - No country on earth has perfect cultural boundaries – because no country is a perfect **nation-state**.

Other Kinds of Boundaries?

- ❖ Relict
 - Former boundaries, which may no longer have much or any legal standing, but are still visible in the landscape.
 - Examples: Wales-England; Spain-Britain (the 42° boundary – now the California-Oregon boundary).
- ❖ Buffer and satellite states
 - Independent states used by major powers to reduce mutual conflict (“satellite” states are dominated by a major power – but are technically independent).
 - Examples: Eastern Europe during the Cold War; Mongolia; Nepal.

Internal Organization of States

- ❖ States may be organized in two ways:
 - Unitary States:
 - Strong central government;
 - Local governments have little or no power or responsibilities (except to implement central government policies);
 - May be democratic, but often totalitarian, one-party;
 - Theoretically, small, homogenous states, but many states today are unitary.
 - Federal States:
 - Contractual arrangement divides power between central and local governments — “**allocation of residual powers**”; how are those things that aren't spelled out in the contract going to be decided? Who's in charge?
 - Federal States may be “weak” or “strong”
 - Theoretically large, multinational states, but an increasing number of states today are federal.
 - It can be hard to tell the difference between a **strong** federal state and **weak** unitary state!

Constitutional Limits on Federal Power

- ❖ “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” *Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution*

Constitutional Limits on State Power

- ❖ “No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emits Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.
- ❖ “No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Control of the Congress.
- ❖ “No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.” *Article 1, Section 10, U.S. Constitution*

Electoral Geography

- ❖ In democracies (unitary or federal), there are many steps and many questions that have to be answered in determining how a state will be run:
 - **Who votes?** (Historical expansion of **suffrage**)
 - **Who can be elected?** (Eligibility – citizenship, party membership, poll tax, etc.)
 - **Who wins?**
 - Majority (or plurality) vs. run-off
 - Proportional vs. winner-take-all
 - How are electoral district boundaries drawn?

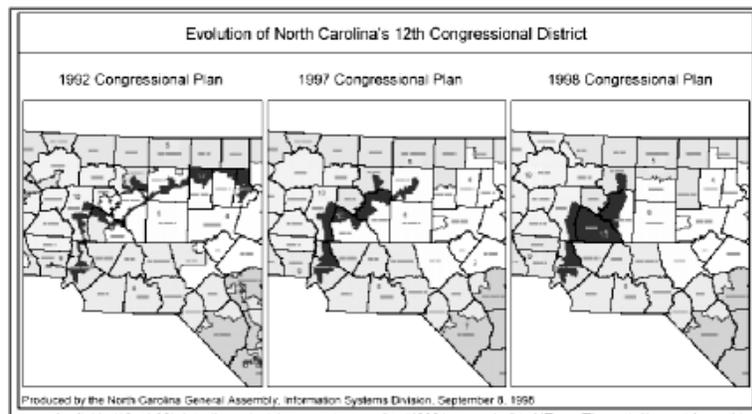
The Gerrymander

- ❖ “...the deliberate manipulation of political district boundaries to achieve a particular electoral outcome.”
- ❖ This is from an 1812 article protesting the creation of an odd-shaped legislative district in Massachusetts by Governor Elbridge Gerry.



Image source: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/collections/capsule/history.html>

Racial Gerrymandering



Source: <http://www.legislature.state.nc.us/html1999/geography/html4Trans/Thematic/thematchome.html>

But Are All Funny-Looking Districts Gerrymanders?

- ❖ “[U]nconstitutional discrimination occurs only when the electoral system is arranged in a manner that will consistently degrade a voter's or a group of voters' influence on the political process as a whole...[S]uch a finding of unconstitutionality must be supported by evidence of continued frustration of the will of a majority of voters of a fair chance to influence the political process.” (U.S. Supreme Court, *Davis v. Bandemer* 1986)
- ❖ Gerrymanders are **illegal** – but just because an electoral district is peculiar looking – even if it's drawn in order to give one group or political party an advantage – it isn't **necessarily illegal**.
- ❖ To see examples of odd-looking districts that are not considered Gerrymanders:

<http://www.fairvote.org/redistricting/irregularTX.htm>

<http://www.fairvote.org/redistricting/irregularWest.htm>

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/Misc/Chicago/534243.html>

The 2004 Presidential Vote



Data source: <http://clerk.house.gov/members/electionInfo/2004/2004Stat.htm>

- ❖ To see maps of the 2004 Presidential election that give a different view of the process, go to:

http://www.princeton.edu/%7Eervdb/JAVA/election2004/purple_america_2004.gif

http://www.esri.com/industries/elections/graphics/results2004_1g.jpg

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/%7Emejn/>

International Cooperation

- ❖ States frequently find it both possible and profitable to cooperate.
- ❖ There are **two** basic **scales** of interstate cooperation:
 - Regional
 - Global
- ❖ There are **three** basic **kinds** of interstate cooperation:
 - Political
 - Military
 - Economic
- ❖ Please note: political, military and economic associations are not new – for example, the Delian League (478 BCE), the Hanseatic League (13th Century), the Rome-Berlin Axis (1936).

Regional Alliances

- ❖ Military
 - **NATO** and the **Warsaw Pact** in Europe after World War II.
 - The **Allies** and the **Central Powers** in Europe during World War I.
- ❖ Political
 - Often based on propinquity (e.g. the Organization of American States, the Organization of African Unity), or on shared historical or cultural connections (e.g. the British Commonwealth of Nations, the Arab League).
- ❖ Economic
 - The European Common Market (which became the European Union), the North American Free Trade Association (NAFTA).

Global Alliances

- ❖ Until modern times the idea of global alliances was ridiculous. However, by the 18th century, interstate wars became global – the Seven Years War (1756-1763) between Britain and France was fought on almost every continent, and European countries were in an almost constant state of conflict on a global scale because of colonialism.
- ❖ After the disaster of the First World War (1914-1918), the **League of Nations** was formed in 1920 to try and prevent conflicts from becoming wars. At its height, the League had 63 member nations – but never included the United States, and was ultimately ineffective.
- ❖ After the Second World War (1939-1945) the League of Nations was replaced with the **United Nations**, which today has 192 member states (and over a thousand affiliated non-governmental organizations [NGOs] such as the International Red Cross, etc.). Vatican City and Taiwan are the only two well-known “states” that are not part of the UN today.

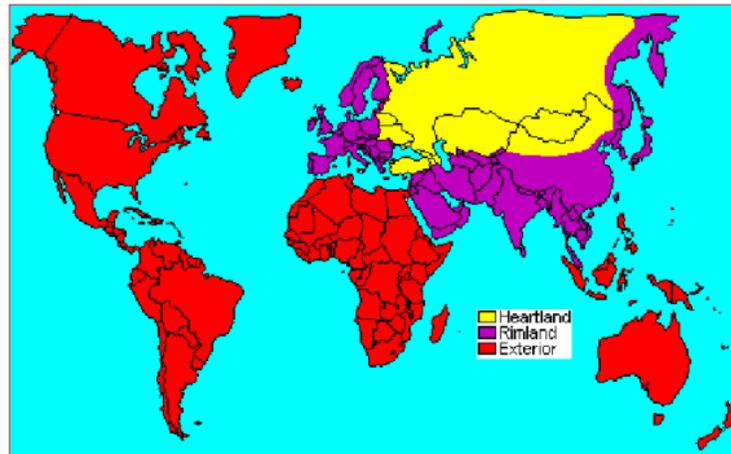
The UN Charter

- ❖ WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED
 - to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,
- ❖ AND FOR THESE ENDS
 - to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors, and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and to ensure by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,
- ❖ HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS
 - Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the United Nations.

Geopolitics

- ❖ Geopolitics is a branch of political geography that looks at the strategic relationships of land and sea and national concerns.
- ❖ During the 20th century a number of political philosophers considered how geography and politics come together.
- ❖ One of the most influential concepts was developed by the British geographer Halford J. MacKinder: **the heartland**.
 - Based on European history, MacKinder concluded that whoever controlled the Eurasian heartland would rule the world.
- ❖ One of the MacKinder's students, Nicholas Spykman looked at the same history and came to the exact opposite conclusion:
 - The Eurasian heartland is semi-arid and powerless – it was control of the Eurasian **rimland** that was key to world power.
- ❖ Does this matter? Directly no – but ideas affect politics (Nazi lebensraum, “domino theory” in Southeast Asia, etc.).

Heartland & Rimland



Terrorism

- ❖ Terrorism is the systematic use of violence by a group in order to intimidate a population or coerce a government into granting its demands.
- ❖ Terrorist acts differ from political assassinations in that they are mostly directed at ordinary people, not at political leaders or military targets.
- ❖ Historically, the use of the term “terrorist” has been applied to groups outside of any government (or at least not controlled by a government).
- ❖ Calling someone “terrorist” is often controversial; one faction’s “terrorist” can be another’s “freedom fighter.”

Individual Terrorists: Foreign Terrorist Organizations

- ❖ “Individual” terrorists usually work in groups.
- ❖ As of October 11, 2004 the US Department of State had designated 42 groups as “Foreign Terrorists.”
- ❖ According to the 2001 USA Patriot Act, to be legally designated a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO):
 - It must be a foreign organization.
 - It must engage in terrorist activity, or terrorism, or “retain the capability and intent to engage in terrorist activity or terrorism.”
 - The organization's terrorist activity or terrorism must threaten the security of U.S. nationals or the national security (national defense, foreign relations, or the economic interests) of the United States.

Principles of Cultural Geography

❖ US designated FTOs (as of October 2005):

1. Abu Nidal Organization (ANO) (International)
2. Abu Sayyaf Group (Philippines)
3. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade (Palestine)
4. Ansar al-Islam (Iraq, Kurdistan)
5. Armed Islamic Group (GIA) (Algeria)
6. Asbat al-Ansar
7. Aum Shinrikyo (Japan)
8. Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) (Spain, France)
9. Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA) (Philippines)
10. Continuity Irish Republican Army (Northern Ireland)
11. Gama'a al-Islamiyya (Translates: Islamic Group) (Egypt)
12. HAMAS (Islamic Resistance Movement) (Palestine)
13. Harakat ul-Mujahidin (HUM) (Kashmir)
14. Hizballah (Translates: Party of God) (Lebanon)
15. Islamic Jihad Group
16. Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) (Uzbekistan)
17. Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM) (Translates: Army of Mohammed) (Kashmir)
18. Jemaah Islamiya organization (JI) (South East Asia)
19. al-Jihad (Egyptian Islamic Jihad) (Egypt)
20. Kahane Chai (Kach) (Israel)
21. Kongra-Gel (KGG, formerly Kurdistan Workers' Party, PKK, KADEK) (Kurdistan)
22. Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LT) (Army of the Righteous) (Kashmir)
23. Lashkar i Jhangvi (Pakistan)
24. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) (Sri Lanka)
25. Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) (Libya)
26. Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GICM) (Morocco)
27. Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MEK) (Iran)
28. National Liberation Army (ELN) (Colombia)
29. Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) (Palestine)
30. Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) (Palestine)
31. Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) (Palestine)
32. Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command (PFLP-GC) (Palestine)
33. al-Qa'ida (Global)
34. Real IRA (Northern Ireland)
35. Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) (Colombia)
36. Revolutionary Nuclei (formerly ELA) (Greece)
37. Revolutionary Organization 17 November (Greece)
38. Revolutionary People's Liberation Party/Front (DHKP/C) (Turkey)
39. Salafist Group for Call and Combat (GSPC) (Algeria)
40. Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso, SL) (Peru)
41. Tanzim Qa'idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (QJBR) (al-Qaida in Iraq) (formerly Jama'at al-Tawhid wa'al-Jihad, JTJ, al-Zarqawi Network) (Iraq)
42. United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) (Colombia)

Data source: <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/fs/37191.htm>

Individual Terrorists: US Domestic Terrorists

- ❖ The FBI has 3 categories of domestic terrorist organizations in the US:
 - Right-wing extremist groups (mostly religious, racist, anti-government groups).
 - Left-wing and Puerto Rican extremist groups (anarchist, socialist, communist groups; Puerto Rican separatists).

- Special interest extremists (focused on specific issues: Animal Liberation Front (ALF), Earth Liberation Front (ELF), etc.)
- ❖ Note that “FBI investigations of domestic terrorist groups or individuals are not predicated upon social or political beliefs; rather, FBI investigations are based upon information regarding planned or actual criminal activity.”
- ❖ At present the US does not publish a formal list of domestic terrorist groups (although the Department of Homeland Security is reportedly preparing a draft for future release). However, The Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project counted 803 active hate groups in the United States in 2005. The top three States: Florida, Texas and California.

Data sources: <http://www.fbi.gov/congress/congress01/freeh051001.htm> ; <http://www.splcenter.org/intel/map/hate.jsp>

Domestic Terrorist Organizations & Hate Groups: A Short Selection

1. American Front
2. American Christian Nationalists
3. Animal Liberation Front (ALF)
4. Arizona Patriots (AP)
5. Armed Forces of National Liberation
6. Army of God
7. Aryan Nations (AN)
8. Aryan Resistance Army (ARA)
9. Black Panthers
10. Black Revolutionary Assault Team
11. Coalition to Save the Preserves (CSP)
12. Covenant Sword and Arm of the Lord (CSA)
13. Earth Liberation Front (ELF)
14. Evan Mecham Eco-Terrorist International Conspiracy (EMETIC)
15. Fourth Reich Skinheads
16. Hammerskin Nation
17. Jewish Defense League (JDL)
18. Ku Klux Klan (KKK)
19. May 19 Communist Order
20. Montana Freeman
21. National Association for the Advancement of White People
22. Oklahoma Constitutional Militia
23. Omega-7
24. The Order
25. Puerto Rican Armed Resistance
26. Revolutionary Force Seven
27. Sheriff's Posse Comitatus
28. Weather Underground Organization
29. White Aryan Resistance
30. World Church of the Creator

Data sources: <http://www.tkb.org/> ; <http://cfrterrorism.org/groups/american3.html#O16> ; <http://www.bcpl.net/~rfrankli/hatedir.htm> ; <http://www.au.af.mil/au/aul/bibs/tergps/tgdom.htm> ; <http://www.militia-watchdog.org/default.asp>

“But I HATE Politics!”

- ❖ “Politics is not a picture on a wall or a television sitcom you can decide you don't much care for. Is the person who prescribes your eyeglasses qualified to do so? How deep will you be buried when you die? What textbooks are your children learning from at school? What will happen if you become seriously ill? Is the meat you're eating tainted? Will you be able to afford to go to college or to send your kids? Would you like a vacation? Expect to retire before you die? Can you find a job? Drive a car? Afford insurance? Is your credit card company or your banker or your broker ripping you off? It's all politics, Bubba. You don't get to opt out for lack of interest.”

“What Difference Does it Make?” Molly Ivins October 29th, 2002

(<http://www.sacbee.com/content/opinion/national/ivins/story/4987177p-5996343c.html>)