

Europe Subregion Lecture

Subregions:

1. Mediterranean
2. Western
3. Northern
4. Eastern

MEDITERRANEAN

Italy
Greece
Spain
Portugal
Malta

WESTERN

Germany
France
Belgium
The Netherlands
Switzerland
Austria
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg

NORTHERN

United Kingdom
Ireland
Iceland
Denmark
Norway
Sweden
Finland

EASTERN

Poland
Czech Republic
Hungary
Slovakia
Romania
Bulgaria
Albania
Croatia
Slovenia
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Serbia (Yugoslavia)
Macedonia

Subregion: Mediterranean

Characteristics

1. Contains THREE peninsulas: Balkan, Italian, & Iberian.
2. Mild climate made survival easier than other places = cultures flourished!
3. Access to the sea helped with trade!
4. Many parts have lots of poverty.

Economy

- Less factories/manufacturing than other parts of Europe ... economies based on agriculture and fishing because of the warmer weather.
- However, manufacturing is increasing – textiles and cars.
- Service industries are increasing – banking and tourism.

Problems

- Poor energy resources – subregion has to import a lot which costs a lot of \$\$\$.
- Increasing manufacturing = increased URBANIZATION – people moving to cities.
 - Not enough housing
 - Pollution
 - Traffic

Subregion: Western

Characteristics

1. Lots of natural resources, ports, and trade routes.
2. This subregion is *VERY* wealthy and modern with 3 top manufacturing countries.
 - France
 - Germany
 - The Netherlands
3. Good agricultural land because of the Northern European Plain.
4. Crimes rates are lower than the U.S.A.

Economy

- Agriculture and dairy/livestock farming is a major part.
- LOTS of natural resources = many manufacturing centers in Europe.
- Luxury goods such as watches, high fashion clothing, and cars are produced.
- High-tech/electronics industries that are centered in this subregion are also a major part of Europe.
- Switzerland is one of the World's banking centers.
- Lots of historic sites = popular with tourists.

Problems

- Culture-clash = Immigrants from poor countries move here to find manufacturing jobs. The citizens don't really like them.

Subregion: Northern

Characteristics

1. Contains TWO peninsulas: Jutland & Scandinavian.
2. Far northern part has few inhabitants because of COLD climate.
3. Lots of natural resources and ports – *Industrial Revolution* began in this subregion.
4. Wealthy.
5. Not a lot of ethnic diversity (aside from the U.K.).

Economy

- Lots of natural resources = manufacturing.
- Agriculture = logging and fishing.
- High-tech industry in Ireland and The United Kingdom.

Problems

- Areas of lots of manufacturing in the U.K. = high unemployment when demand for products decreases.
- Culture-clash = Immigrants from poor countries move to the U.K. to find manufacturing jobs. The citizens don't really like them.

Subregion: Eastern

Characteristics

1. "Cultural Crossroads"... Sandwiched between Asia and the rest of Europe = lots of traders and migrants came through area. LOTS OF ETHNIC/CULTURAL DIVERSITY!!!!
2. Last major war in Europe happened in this subregion (1990's).
3. Plains in the north and mountains in the south.
4. Slowly modernizing after decades of communist control from the Soviet Union. Lots of poverty remains.

Economy

- Agriculture in the Northern European Plains.
- Manufacturing is increasing in the cities, but factories and equipment can be old & outdated.

Problems

- Lots of cultural diversity = lots of conflict between the groups.
- Conflict can lead to armed fighting = economies are unstable.