Setting the Boundaries

- Northern half of Eurasia...
  - From Europe to Pacific Ocean
- Former
  - U.S.S.R.
  - AKA
  - Soviet Union
Environment

- Spans 2 Continents
  - Europe
  - Asia
- Russia is Largest Country in World

Europe/Asia Division
- Ural Mtns
- Caspian Sea
- Caucasus Mtns
- Black Sea

Pages 382-383
Environment - West

European...
- Russia
- Belarus
- Ukraine
- Moldova

Asian...
- Georgia
- Armenia
Environment - West

- North European Plain
  - W of Urals
  - Volga River
  - Canals to...
    - Baltic Sea
    - Black Sea
      - Don River

- Baltic Sea
- Black Sea
- Caspian Sea

Map showing the North European Plain, Volga River, and canals to the Baltic and Black Seas.
Environment - West

- Caucasus Mtns
  - Highest in...

- Ural Mtns
  - ~ 2,000’
  - Barrier?
  - More a cultural boundary
  - Minerals +++

North European Plain

page 382
Caucasus Mountains

- Georgia

  - Mt. Elbrus
    - 18,500’
Environment - Siberia

- East Russia
- East of Urals

West Siberian Plain
- Ob River flows North
  - Spring Floods blocked by...
- Major Oil Production

Siberia

Southern Russia, Southern Russia’s yamalnik (sparse grassland) is one of the largest in the world. Siberia’s yamalnik is one of the largest in the world. Siberia’s yamalnik is one of the largest in the world. Siberia’s yamalnik is one of the largest in the world.

Development across much of central and eastern Siberia is severely limited by permafrost. The unstable, seasonally frozen ground makes even the simple construction of roads and rail lines challenging.

Pages 382-383
Eastern Siberia

- Lake Baikal
  - 400 miles long
  - Deepest Lake...
    - 1 mile deep

- Verkhoyansky Range
  - Boundary of...
    - Eurasian Plate
    - North American Plate

- North American Plate

Eurasian Plate

Pages 382-383
Far East Russia

- Kamchatka Peninsula
- On Pacific Ring of Fire
- Volcanoes

North American Plate

Siberia

Pacific Plate

Pages 382-383

Siberia, Development across much of central and eastern Siberia is severely limited by permafrost. The unstable, seasonally frozen ground makes even the simple construction of roads and rail lines challenging.
Environment - Climate

Cold Continental Climate

Coldest - North & East

Driest - South

pages 388-389
Climate – Siberia

- Most extreme temperatures...
  - Between Winter & Summer
- Verhoyansk
  - Coldest Temp. in Northern Hemisphere
    - -90°F
- Sparsely Populated
Vegetation

- Climate limits Agricultural areas

- Most of Siberia...
  - Taiga
    - Largest Forest...

- Arctic Coast...
  - Tundra Grasses
  - Permafrost...

Pages 390-391
Agriculture

- Climate limits Agricultural growing season
  - South of Taiga...
    - “Fertile Triangle”...
      - Baltic & Black Sea → Siberia
  - Longest Growing Season in South

pages 390-391
Agriculture

- “Fertile Triangle”
- Grassland Steppe
- Chernozem Soil - Ukraine
- Grains

Ukraine Wheat

pages 390-391
Agriculture

- "Fertile Triangle"
- Slavic Coreland...
  - "Mother Russia"
  - Europe
- Most of Population

Pages 390-391
Population

1. Russia - 140 mln
2. Ukraine - 45 mln

Most in West
Big Cities

- 10+ Million
  - Moscow

- 4+ Million
  - St. Petersburg
### Population Characteristics

#### Urban...
- **73%** – Russia
- **41%** – Moldova

#### Family Size...
- Russia = 1.5 TFR
- Below 2.1 replacement

---

**TABLE 9.1 Population Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population (Millions, 2007)</th>
<th>Population Density (per Square Kilometer)</th>
<th>Total Fertility Rate</th>
<th>Percent Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Low 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>141.7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Population Trends

- Population Loss due to...
  - Low Total Fertility Rate
  - Shorter Life Expectancy...
    - Male = 62 yrs.
  - Death Rate > Birth Rate
  - Emigration out of country...
    - Due to uncertain economy
Population Trends

- **Negative Growth Rate**
- **Total Population is Shrinking**

**Birth and Death Rates**

*per 1,000 population*

**Russia**
- Birth
- Death

**United States**
- Birth
- Death
Languages

- **Slavic**
  - Russian
  - Ukrainian
  - Belorussian

- **Indo-European**
  - Romanian
  - Moldova
  - Armenian

- **Georgian**

- **Turkic**
  - Tatars
Languages - Caucasus

- Complex mix due to isolation
- Caucasian...
  - Georgian
- Indo-European...
  - Armenian
- Turkic
  - Azerbaijan

page 410
Religion - Christian

- Orthodox Christian...
  - Byzantine (Greek) links
    - Cyrillic Alphabet
  - Russia...
    - 1000 CE
  - Ukraine
    - Roman Catholic in West

- Armenia...
  - Christian - 300 CE
Religion - Non-Christian

Islam...
- 20 mln – Sunni Muslim
  - Tatars
  - Immigrants to cities

Atheism...
- During Soviet years...
  - 1917-1991
- Many are now Secular
  - No return to Religion
Growth of Russia

- European Core
  - Principality of Russia – 1300 CE (around Moscow)
- Domination of Slavic people
  - Eastward expansion of Russian Empire
  - Trans-Siberian Railroad

pages 406-407
Trans-Siberian Railroad

- Moscow-Vladivostok
  - 6,000 miles
  - Completed 1904

- 2nd BAM line (N)...
  - Completed 1984

Pages 382-383
Russia - Political History

Before 1917...

- Russian Empire
  - Led by a Czar (King)

Revolution in 1917

- Overthrew Czar

- Bolsheviks...
  - Led by Vladimir Lenin

- Soviet Union began
  - Communist until 1990s
U.S.S.R. – Soviet Union

  - 15 separate Republics
    - Based on Language/Ethnic Groups
- Now 15 separate Countries
  - 6 in Central Asia

pages 414-415
Russia - Ethnic Minorities

- Given autonomous powers – 1992
  - Tatars (Western Russia)
  - Yakuts (Siberia)
  - Chechnya (Caucasus)

- Renewed Centralization since 2002

pages 416-417
Ukraine & Russians

- Crimean Peninsula settled by Russians
- U.S.S.R. transferred to Ukraine in 1950s
  - Russian Naval Base located here
- Now tension from Russian majority...
Russian Enclave

- Kaliningrad...
- Formerly Germany
  - East Prussia
- Now surrounded by...
Income (GNI) per person...

- World range...
  - $47,000 – USA
  - $2,000 – Sub-Saharan Africa

- Similar to East Europe...
  - $16,000 – Russia
  - $7,000 – Ukraine

- Lowest...
  - $3,000 – Moldova
Soviet Agriculture

- Peasant Agriculture under Czars
- Soviet Development after Revolution...
  - Centralized Economic Planning...
    - “Collectivized” Agriculture (not successful)
    - New Farm Lands ("Virgin & Idle Lands Project")
- Farmers – currently 11%
Soviet Industry

- Soviet Development...
  - Centralized Economic Planning...
    - Emphasized Heavy Industries (Steel & Machinery)
    - Built Infrastructure (Dams, Canals, Roads, RRs)
- Privatized after fall of Soviet Communism

Volga-Don Canal
Resources & Industry

- **Resources**
  - Metals – Urals
  - Coal – Ukraine
  - Hydropower – Volga

- **Industrial Areas**
  - Urals
  - Ukraine
  - Volga
  - St. Petersburg
  - Moscow
  - Siberia
**Russia - Resources**

- Oil & Natural Gas – Siberia...
  - Has provided new wealth
    - Now 25% of Russian Economy
  - 35% of World’s Natural Gas reserves (Siberia)
    - Major supplier for W Europe

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*pages 422-423*
Recent Problems

- Economy imperiled by...
  - Corruption
  - High Unemployment
  - Rising Housing costs
  - Wealthier cities vs. poorer rural areas
  - Collapse of Health Care system
    - Higher infant mortality in rural areas
    - Alcoholism & Smoking
    - HIV & AIDS
Russia - Cities

- Moscow
- St. Petersburg
Russia - Moscow

- Capital...
- Largest city in all Europe
  - 14 mln
- Sprawling
Russia - Moscow

Concentric development

- Historical core
- Public housing
  - Apartments
- Suburbs
  - Single houses
  - Shopping malls
Russia - Moscow

- Historical Core...
- Revitalization & New Construction
Russia - St. Petersburg

- # 2 City – 4 mln
- Capital – 1700s–1917
  - “Window to West”
    - Baltic Sea
- Soviet – Leningrad

[Map of St. Petersburg]
Russia - St. Petersburg

“Venice of the North”
Russia - St. Petersburg

- Hermitage Museum
  - Old Imperial Palace

Leonardo da Vinci

Picasso

Gauguin

Rembrandt
  - "Portrait of an Old Man"