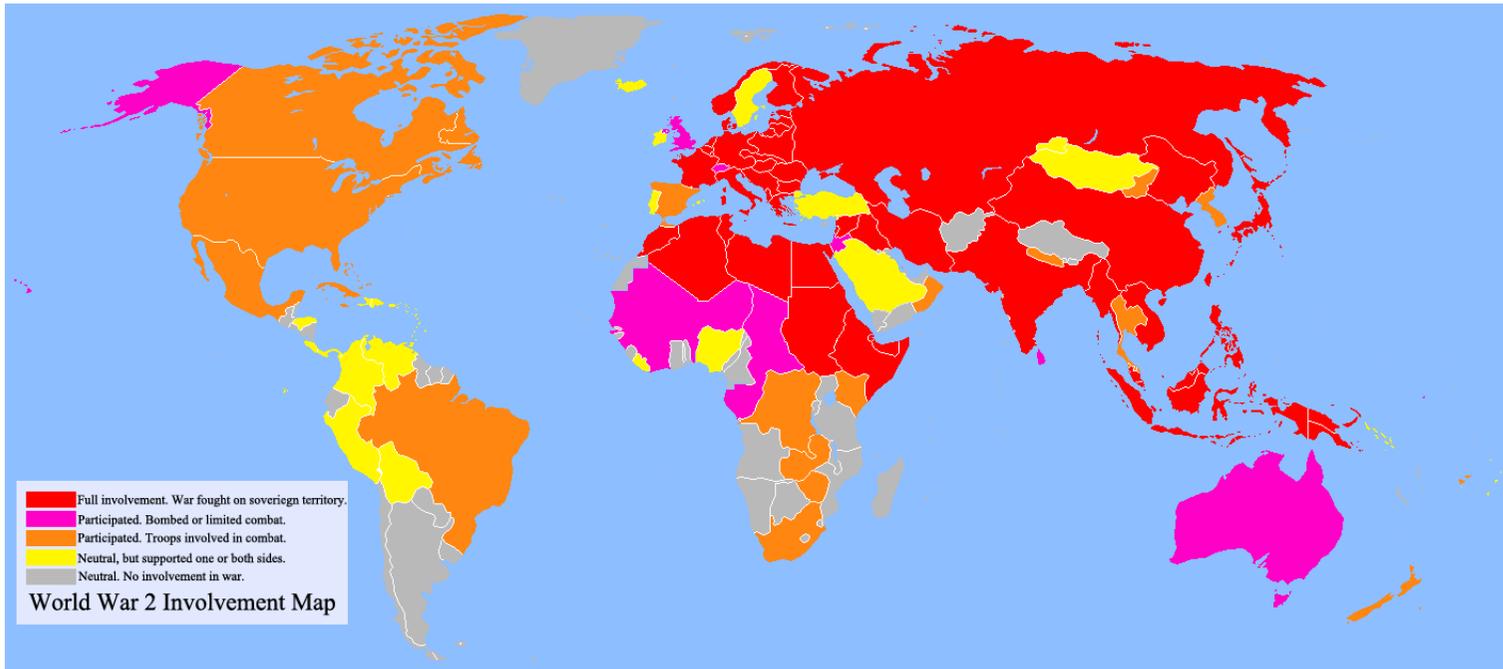




### Context

World War 2, also known as the Second World War, was a war which involved almost every part of the world between 1939 and 1945.



### Key Skills

- To identify the countries and capital cities of World War 2.
- To explain how borders have changed over time (UK and European).
- To describe how the UK has changed over time.
- To compare the human geography of Western European regions with regions of the UK.
- To explain how and why landscapes have changed over time.

### Who was involved?

Although most of the world had some involvement in World War 2, the main participants were the allies and the axis powers.

**Axis powers** – Germany, Italy and Japan.

**Allies** – France, Great Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union (made up of several countries including Russia) and China (for a small part).

### Capitals

#### **Allies** –

France – Paris  
Great Britain:  
England- London  
Wales – Cardiff  
Scotland – Edinburgh  
Northern Ireland – Belfast.

The United States –  
Washington D.C.  
The Soviet Union – Russia  
China – Beijing.

#### **Axis powers** –

Germany – Berlin  
Italy – Rome  
Japan - Tokyo



Figure 1 Map of Europe before WW 2

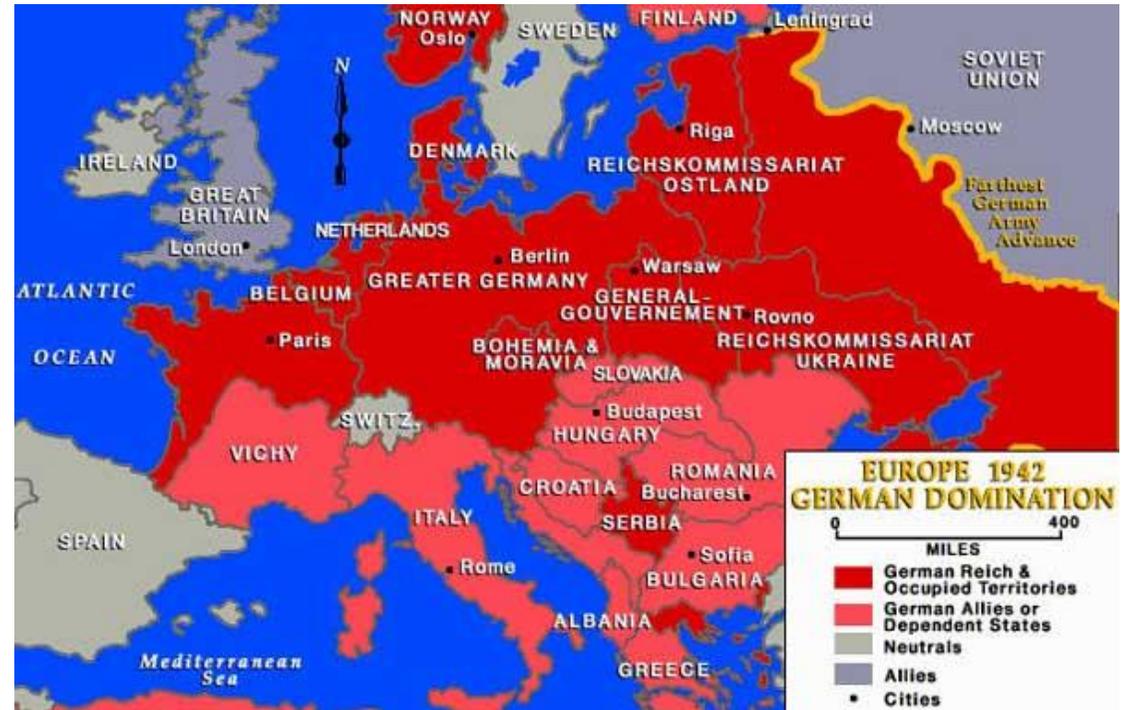


Figure 2 Map of Occupied Europe during WW 2

### Changing borders

The war resulted in several changes in the location of borders. During the war Germany, along with its allied powers, occupied several countries including: Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia and the Czech Republic), Austria, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, The Netherlands, France, Greece, Monaco, Lithuania, Ukraine.



Figure 3 Map of Europe after WW 2



Figure 4 – map of Berlin, Germany after WW 2

### Changing borders continued...

After the war, many of the countries occupied were returned to their sovereign status (back to who they belonged to), however some countries were divided up between the Allies.

The Soviet Union took control of several countries including parts of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Eastern Germany. East and West Germany were split by the construction of the Berlin Wall.

## Key vocabulary

**Allies** – the armed forces which fought against Germany, Italy and Japan in the war.

**Axis** – the Axis were the armed forces that fought against the UK, France and the USA.

**Border** – the line that separates one country, state, province etc. from another

**Ural Mountains** – a mountain range in Western Russia Federation, extending north and south from the Arctic Ocean. Forms a natural boundary between Europe and Asia.

**Atlantic Ocean** – an ocean between North and South America and Europe and Africa

**Pacific Ocean** – ocean bordered by North America, South America, Asia and Australia

**Middle East** – the area of land between Libya and Afghanistan which includes several countries

**North Africa** – area of Africa which contains Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and part of Egypt

**Egypt** – a country in Africa

**Occupation** – the act of occupying, settling or taking control of a land

**Invasion** – entering a land as an enemy in order to take possession

**Ordnance Survey** – a map of the lands around an area, usually a UK map

**Aerial photograph** – photo taken from the air

## Key vocabulary

**Maginot Line** – a line of concrete fortifications, obstacles and weapon installations built by France to put Germany off invading. Named after the French Minister of War, Andre Maginot.

**Peninsula** – a piece of land surrounded by water on three sides.

**Migration** – movement of people

## Physical geography

- **Peninsula** – Europe is often described as the peninsula of peninsulas. A peninsula is a piece of land surrounded by water on three sides.
- Europe's main peninsulas are the Iberian, Italian, Balkan and the Scandinavian and Jutland
- **Arctic Ocean** – ocean located to the north of Europe
- **Atlantic Ocean** – ocean located to the west of Europe
- **Mediterranean sea** – sea located to the south of Europe
- **Black sea** – sea located to the south of Europe
- **Caspian sea** – sea located to the south of Europe
- **English Channel** -

## Human geography

- **Maginot line** – a line of concrete fortifications, obstacles and weapon installations built by France to put Germany off invading. Named after the French Minister of War, Andre Maginot.
- **Berlin Wall** –
- **Concentration camps** –
- **The Iron Curtain** –
- **Migration** –
- **The Blitz** -