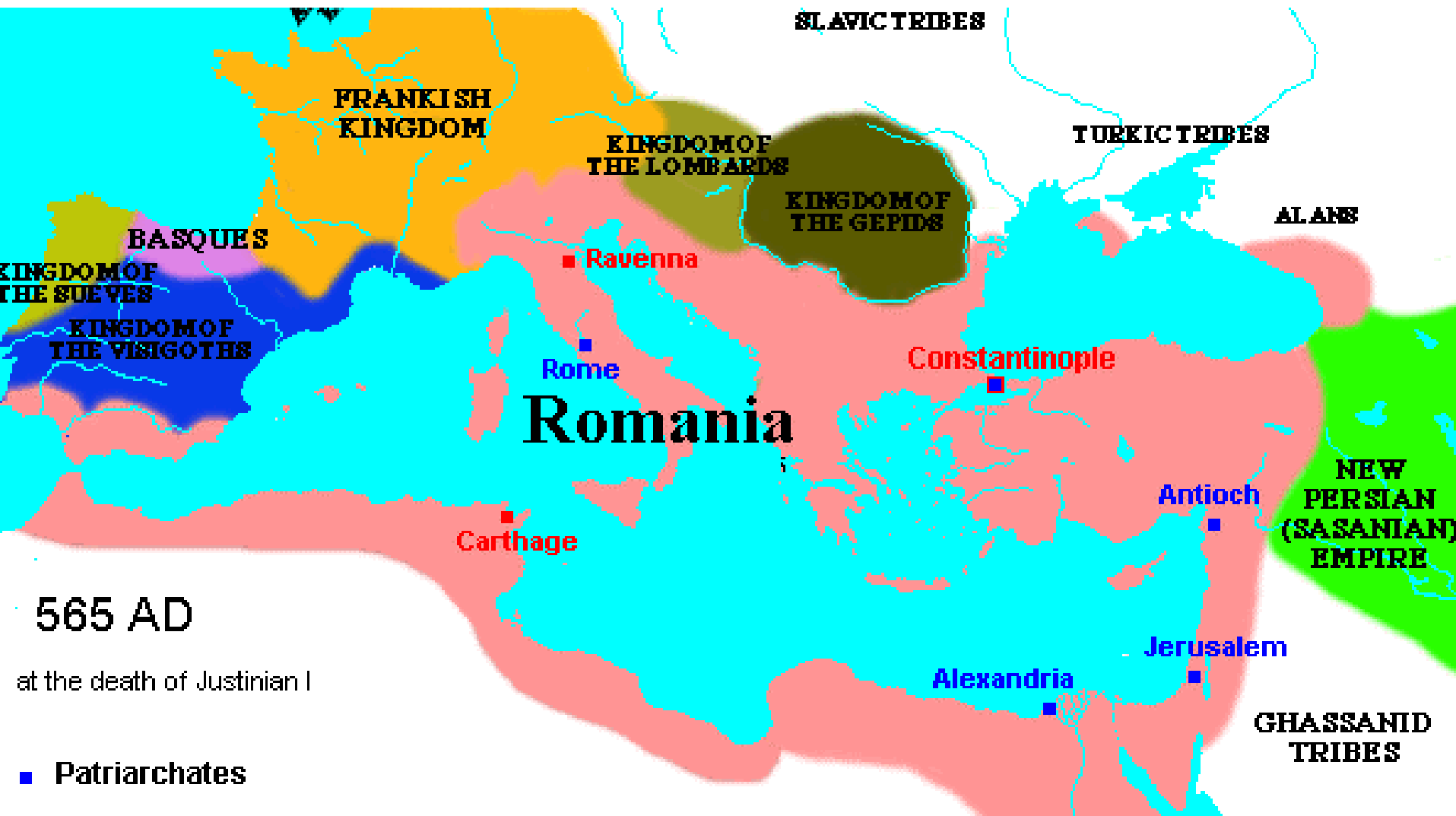


The Byzantine
Empire and Russia
(330 CE - 1613 CE)

The Byzantine Empire



- Germanic invasions caused the Roman Empire to "fall"
- Constantine had relocated the capital to Byzantium and renamed it Constantinople →
- Eastern Roman Empire is now referred to as the Byzantine Empire
- Constantinople is the center of the empire (not location, but most important area)

Let's review!



Why would we consider Constantinople to be the “center” of the Byzantine Empire?

- Great location: surrounded by water for trade
- Links Europe and Asia for trade.
- Protected by the water from invaders.

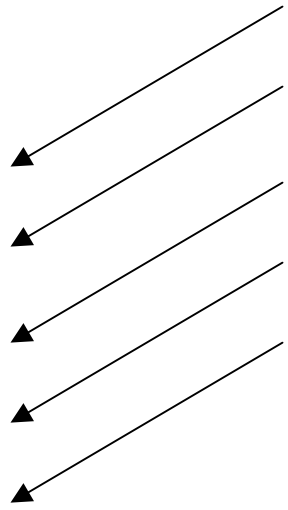


EUROPE AND THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE, C. 526 CE

- The most important contribution of the Roman Empire to the West was **law** and **justice**



- We call the Roman Empire after its' fall the “Byzantine Empire”



Justinian

- Ruled from 527-565 CE as Emperor
- Regained land of western empire, but his successors lost the areas.
- Wanted to bring back Roman glory (*Strength and Greatness*)





- Church Justinian had built
- Elaborately structured (grand)
- Extravagantly decorated inside

Hagia Sophia



Political and Spiritual Authority

- Justinian was an autocrat (sole ruler with complete authority)
- Had spiritual authority - “Christ’s co-ruler on Earth”



Justinian Code

- *What is it?*
 - A collection of laws
 - Justinian changed and organized the laws of the Byzantine Empire (clarified and updated them)
- *Impact of Justinian Code*
 - Spread to the west and throughout the world
 - guided other law writers in creating laws
 - important for our law today



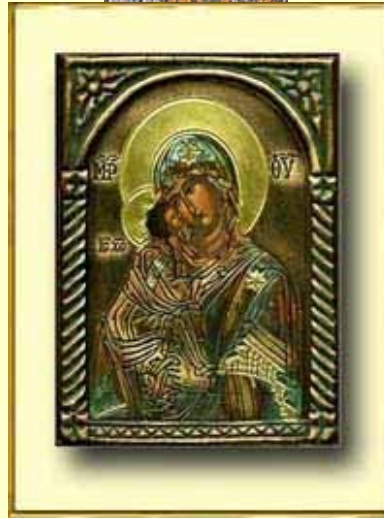
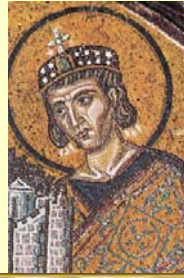
Byzantine Empire Endures

- *Empire fought off invaders* (Arabs and others) helped unintentionally to protect weak and divided European territories
- *Peasants held the empire together*: worked the land, paid taxes, served in military
- How did it ward off the invaders, when the rest of the Mediterranean world fell?
 - 1) *strong central government*
 - 2) *prosperous economy* - had coin trade instead of bartering (to trade goods without the exchange of money)

Byzantine Christianity

Byzantine Christians (East)

- Patriarch - highest church official
- Clergy can marry
- Mass spoken in Greek
- Easter = holiest day
- Veneration of icons is acceptable



Roman Catholics (West)

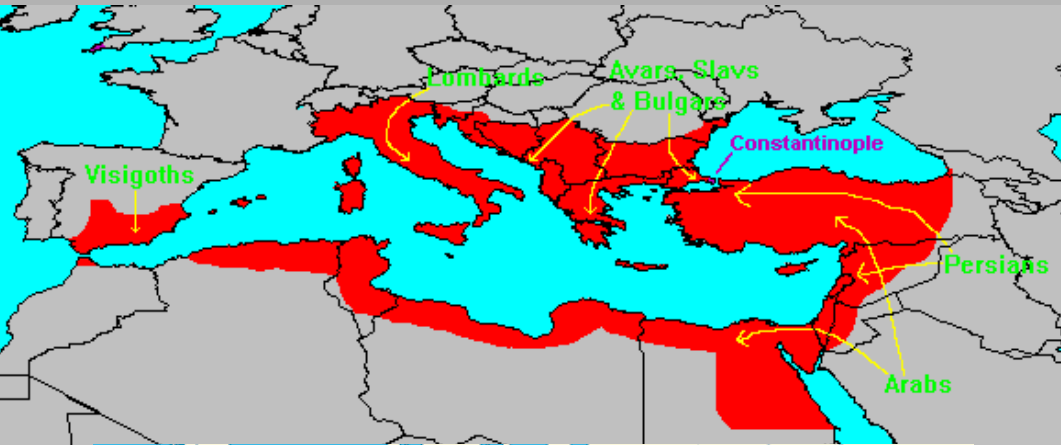
- Pope - has authority over all Christians
- Clergy can't marry
- Mass spoken in Latin
- Christmas = holiest day
- Veneration of icons is unacceptable

The Great Schism - permanent split of the Roman Catholics and Byzantine Christians

Pope in West excommunicates Byzantine Emperor over veneration (praying to) of icons. Icon veneration is later accepted. However, the patriarch excommunicates the Pope. *Result = Rival churches*

• Internal Problems

- 1. Empire is declining due to schism



• External Problems

1. Enemies are attacking surrounding areas *ie.* Seljuks - Muslim nomads from central Asia
2. Emperors respond with the Crusades
3. Ottoman Turks, finally overthrew the empire in 1453
 - a. made Constantinople the capital of their empire - renamed it Istanbul,
 - b. Istanbul became the center of Muslim culture

The Fall of the Byzantine Empire

Byzantine Heritage

- **Impacted by Hellenistic World**

- Blended Christian beliefs with Greek contributions, science, philosophy, art, and literature
- Advanced Roman achievements in engineering and law



- **Contributions in Art**

- Icons gave viewers a sense of personal contact with the sacred
- Mosaics brought scenes from the Bible to life
- Palaces and churches blended Greek, Roman, and Persian styles



- **Literature**

- Greek works were still admired and preserved

The Russian Empire



Why would we study Russia along with the Byzantine Empire?

Dnieper River flows southward into the Black Sea - at the southern end of the Black Sea is Constantinople.

- Two *main rivers* in Russia are the *Volga River* and the *Dnieper River* (flows southward into Black Sea - gives easy access to Constantinople)
- Transporting of goods and people = **TRADE!**
- Kiev chosen as the center of the first Russian state because it is located along Dnieper River



Impact of Byzantine Christianity on the Russian people



- Russians acquired a *written language*
- Class of *educated priests* emerged
- Russians adapted *Byzantine religious art, music, and architecture*
- *Close ties between church and state* (emperor controlled the church)
- The name of the Christian Church in this area is the *Russian Orthodox Church*

3 Reasons for the Decline of Kiev in the 1100s



- *Rival families* fought over control of the throne
- *Byzantine prosperity fell*
- *Mongol invaders* from central Asia attacked (were ripe for invasion and the Mongols took advantage of this)

The Mongols (Tartars) and Russia

- ***Mongol treatment of those they ruled***
 - *Tolerant rulers* who were Muslims but allowed Christianity
 - Forced conquered people to *pay tribute* (forced payment) to Mongol tribes
 - Russian *princes were left to rule* their land, as long as the tribute was paid
- ***Important impact of Mongol rule in Russia***
 - Mongol rule *cut Russia off from Western Europe* when Western Europe was making rapid advances in arts and sciences



The Rise of Moscow's Power

- **Ivan the Great (Ivan III)**

- He *refused to pay the tribute* to the Mongol leader (Tatar khan) and the Golden Horde (as the Mongols were called)
- He *conquered lands*, purchased land, and demanded loyalty from weaker princes
- He *modeled his rule after Byzantine rulers*, limiting the power and privileges of princes and aristocrats
- Took the title of “*Czar*”, which means “Caesar” in Russian

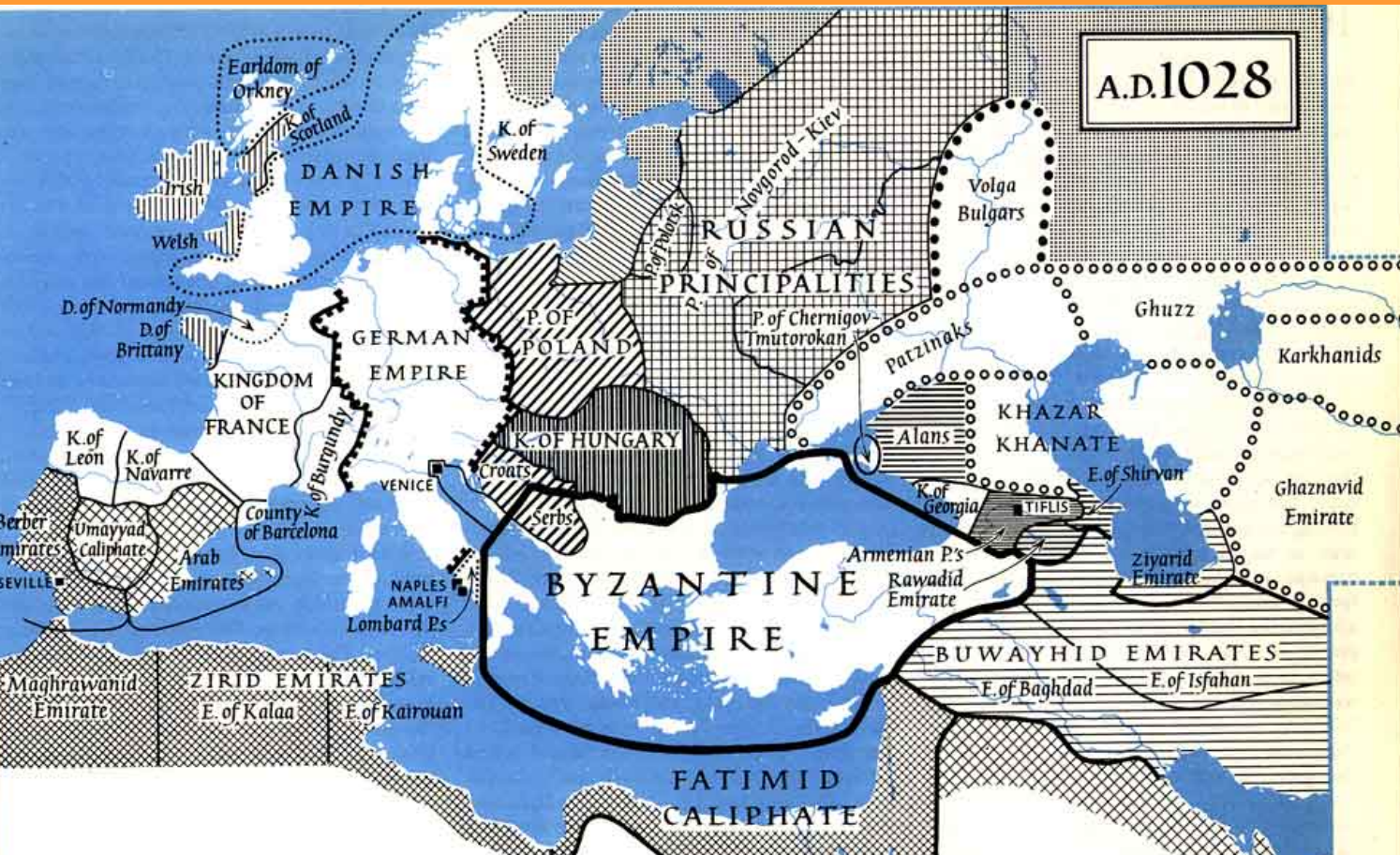


Ivan IV – “The Terrible”



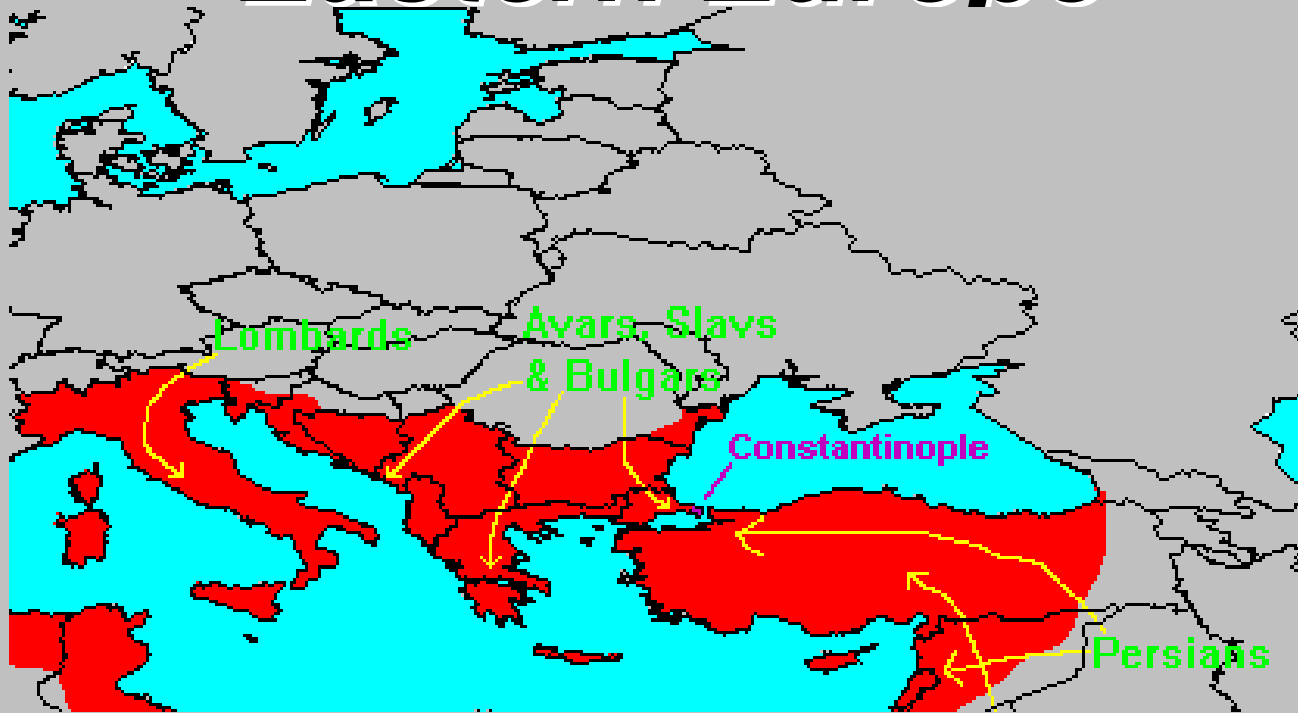
- People refer to Ivan IV as Ivan the Terrible because he:
 - *Killed thousands* whom he feared were conspiring against him
 - *Killed his own son* (his eldest and favorite)
- Ivan IV's accomplishments:
 - Russia experienced one of the *greatest periods of internal reform* and expansion
 - He also *centralized royal power*

- Eastern Europe stretches from German-speaking Central Europe (west) and Russia (east)
- Climate in Eastern Europe varies from the *north being very cold* around the Baltic Sea (permafrost) and the *south being very warm* (Mediterranean)



Shaping Eastern Europe

Impact nomads from Asia had on Eastern Europe



- *Migrated across Europe* causing turmoil and slowed the growth of prosperous, stable states
- Nomads have consistently *caused problems* for settled people: Huns, etc.

The Rich Balkans



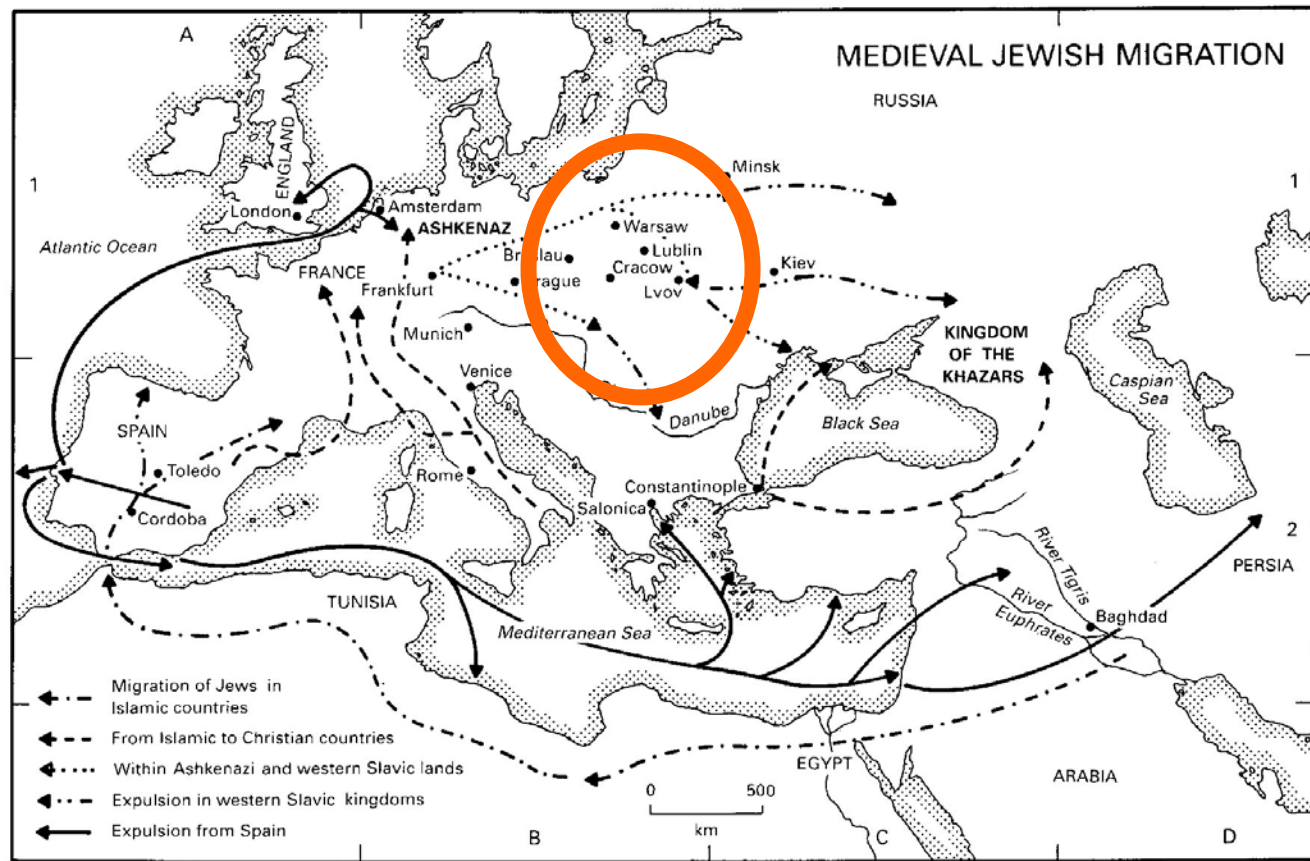
Borders the Mediterranean and Black Seas - *trade with Byzantine Empire and later Muslim Ottoman Empire*

Northern Balkans region formed *close ties with Germany and Western Europe*

Ethnic Groups = *large group of people who share the same language and cultural heritage*

- **Ethnic makeup** of Eastern Europe
 - **Mixed**: Huns, Avars, Bulgars, Khazars, Magyars, Vikings, and other Germanic people
- **Impact** = *different people, languages, and traditions*
- **Outside factors** led to the *increase in the diversity* of Eastern Europe
 - **From the south**: *Byzantine missionaries brought Orthodox Christianity & Byzantine culture*
 - **From the west**: *German knights and missionaries spread Roman Catholicism*
 - **Ottomans** *spread Islam throughout the region*

Jews establish Poland as their new homeland



- European *Christians launched attacks on Jews* during the Crusades and Black Death
- *Jews were expelled* from many areas: France, Spain, etc.
- *Polish kings were tolerant* of Jews and allowed them to settle
- *Jews helped Poland economically and culturally*
- Areas they were forced out from missed out on this

Histories of Poland, Hungary, and Serbia

Similar

- For a time, *they were powerful kingdoms*, but eventually they were overrun by ambitious neighbors

Different

- Poland and Hungary became mostly *Roman Catholic lands*, while Serbia became mostly *Eastern Orthodox*
- They were *conquered and absorbed* by different empires