

# **European Governments:**

United Kingdom,  
Russia, & Germany

# European Governments

Country	System	Democracy Type	Title and name of leader(s)	Name of Legislative Branch	The Citizen's Rights
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Give the definition as well as the name of the system	Give the definition as well as the type of democracy			
<b>Germany</b>					
<b>Russia</b>					

**UNITED  
KINGDOM**

# Parliamentary System of the United Kingdom

- **Unitary System:** The central government has all the power
- **Democracy:** citizens of the country hold the power (voting)
- **Parliamentary Democracy:** leader is elected through the legislature, not directly by the people

# Parliamentary System of the United Kingdom

- Parliament is the lawmaking body of the United Kingdom
- Composed of the House of Lords and the House of Commons
  - The monarch is also part of Parliament

# Parliament: House of Lords

- In the past, these seats were passed down through wealthy families
- Now, Lords are elected by the House or are appointed by the monarch
  - Have **little** power
- Can only make suggestions of ways to improve a bill that is on its way to becoming a law



## Parliament: House of Commons

- Citizens elect these members
  - 646 members total: 529 from England, 40 from Wales, 59 from Scotland, and 18 from Northern Ireland
- This branch controls the countries budget (**lots** of power)
- The leader of the political party with the most members becomes the **Prime Minister**
  - Head of the government (chief executive) & runs the government on a day to day basis

# United Kingdom Parliament



# United Kingdom's Leadership

- **Prime Minister** is the chief executive with the MOST power
  - Leader of the British Parliament, works with legislative branch
  - Runs the government
- The **monarch** is the official head of state (a symbol for the country)
  - duties are mostly ceremonial
  - role is restricted by the constitution of the United Kingdom

# *Queen Elizabeth II*



# Prime Minister – Boris Johnson



# UK's Citizen Participation

- Citizens have personal freedoms like those in the United States
  - All citizens are threatened equally and have the right to worship as they choose.
  - British citizens have freedom of speech, right to a fair trial. The right to own property, and the right to security
- **Citizens do not directly elect the leaders (only the House of Commons)**

**GERMANY**

# Federal System of Germany

- **Federal System:** the power is shared between the central government and the governments of the 16 states
- **Democracy:** citizens of the country hold the power (voting)
- **Parliamentary Democracy:** leader is elected through the legislature, not directly by the people

# Germany's Leadership

- **Chancellor:** is the chief executive
  - Runs the government
  - Elected by the Bundestag (legislature)
- The **president** is the official head of state )
  - a symbol for the country
  - Duties are mostly ceremonial
  - Representatives of the legislature and representatives of the states choose the president

# German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier



*German Chancellor  
Angela Merkel*



# Germany's Citizen Participation

- Citizens have same basic freedoms like those in the United Kingdom
  - All citizens are treated equally and have the right to worship as they choose
  - Have freedom of speech, right to a fair trial, the right to own property, and the right to security
- Citizens do not directly elect the leaders (only the Bundestag)

**RUSSIA**

# Federal System of Russian Federation

- **Federal System:** the power is shared between the central government and the governments of the states
- **Democracy:** citizens of the country hold the power (voting)
- **Presidential Democracy:** leader is directly elected by the people

# Russian Federal Assembly

- Russia's legislature is called the **Federal Assembly** and is divided into two parts: the **Federation Council** and the **State Duma**
- **Federation Council**
  - States appoint the council's members
  - approve the president's choices of people to fill different government jobs
- **State Duma**
  - controls the budget and makes the laws
  - approves the president's choice for prime minister

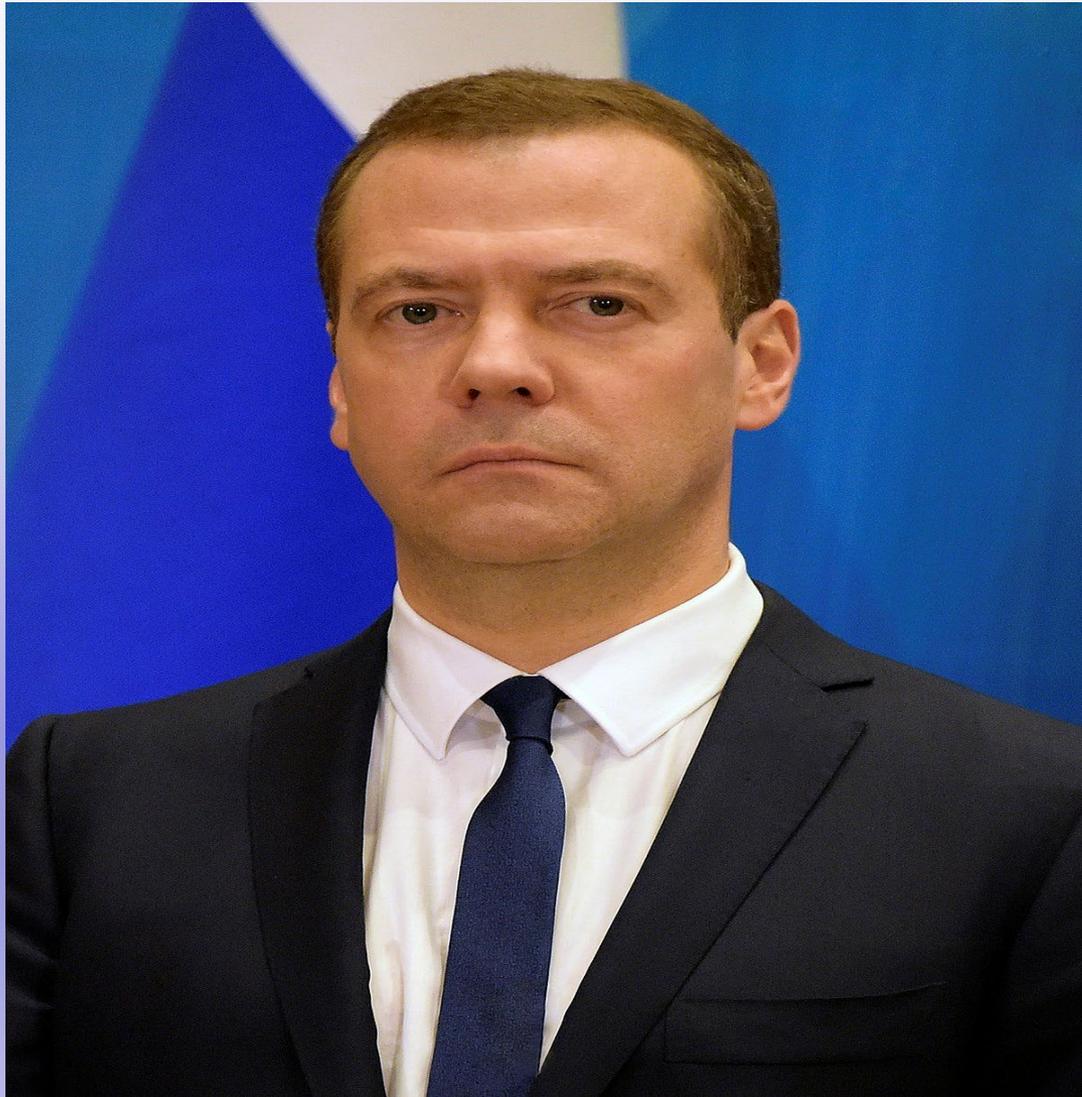
# Russia's Leadership

- **President** is the chief executive with the MOST power
  - Elected by the people (presidential democracy)
  - Can disband the legislature
- President also selects a **Prime Minister**
  - helps in the day-to-day running of the government
  - Similar to USA's vice president

# Russian President Vladimir Putin



# Russian Prime Minister Dimitry Medvedev



# Russia's Citizen Participation

- Russia's constitution guarantees human and civil rights for its citizens
  - All people are equal
  - Russians have the right to life and dignity, freedom of speech, and the right to privacy
- Citizens directly elect the leader

M  
GLASS



Country	System	Democracy Type	Title and name of leader(s)	Name of Legislative Branch	The Citizen's Rights
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Unitary	Parliamentary	Prime Minister- Boris Johnson (Head of Govt.) Monarch- Queen Elizabeth II	Parliament	Citizens have many personal freedoms Citizens vote for legislature Legislature elects leader
<b>Germany</b>	Federal	Parliamentary	Chancellor- Angela Merkel (Head of Govt.) President- Frank-Walter Steinmeier	Bundestag	Citizens have many freedoms (after Cold War). Citizens do not directly elect the Chancellor- Legislature does
<b>Russia</b>	Federal	Presidential	President- Vladimir Putin (Head of Gov) Prime Minister- Dimitry Medvedev	Federal Assembly	Citizens have many freedoms (after fall of Soviet Union) Directly elect President

# Let's Review

To be a prime minister in the United Kingdom, a person must first be elected to which governing body?

How is the Russian prime minister selected?

If you had to choose one country: Germany, Russia, or the United Kingdom to live in, which country would you choose? Provide two reasons why.