

# Geography of Europe



# Satellite View of Europe



# Size Comparison of Europe to the United States

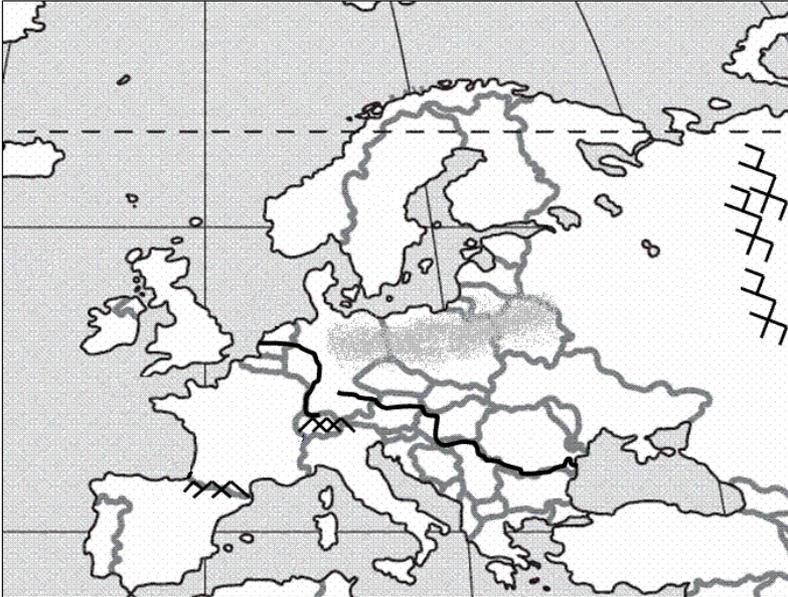


# Activating Strategy

Use the Europe Physical Features and Nations summarizer to activate student's prior knowledge of the physical features and nations located in Europe.

Identify the following physical features and nations on the map below:

<u>Physical Features</u>		<u>Nations</u>	
Alps	English Channel	Italy	Poland
Pyrenees	Ural Mountains	Spain	Belgium
Rhine River	Iberian Peninsula	Russia	Ukraine
Danube River	Mediterranean Sea	France	Germany
European Plain	Scandinavian Peninsula	Poland	United Kingdom



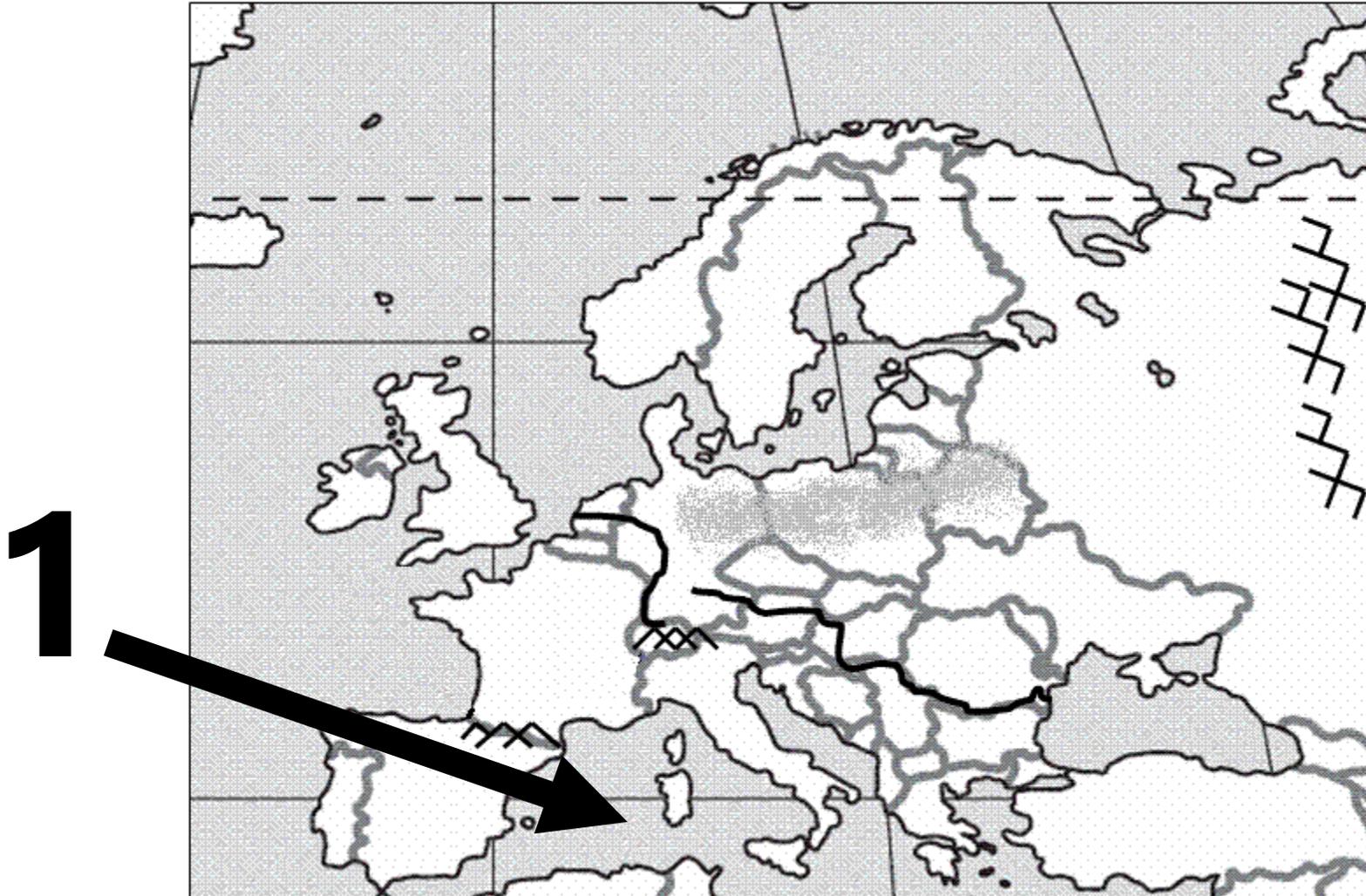
**What do you notice is different about the physical features of Europe on your map?**



## Physical Geography of Europe

Physical Feature	Relative Location	Surrounding Nations	Appearance
Mediterranean Sea			
Iberian Peninsula			
The Pyrenees			
The Alps			
English Channel			
Rhine River			
European Plain			
Danube River			
The Urals			
Scandinavian <u>Pen.</u> ***			
Arctic Ocean***			
Atlantic Ocean***			

# Mediterranean Sea



*Atlantic  
Ocean*

EUROPE

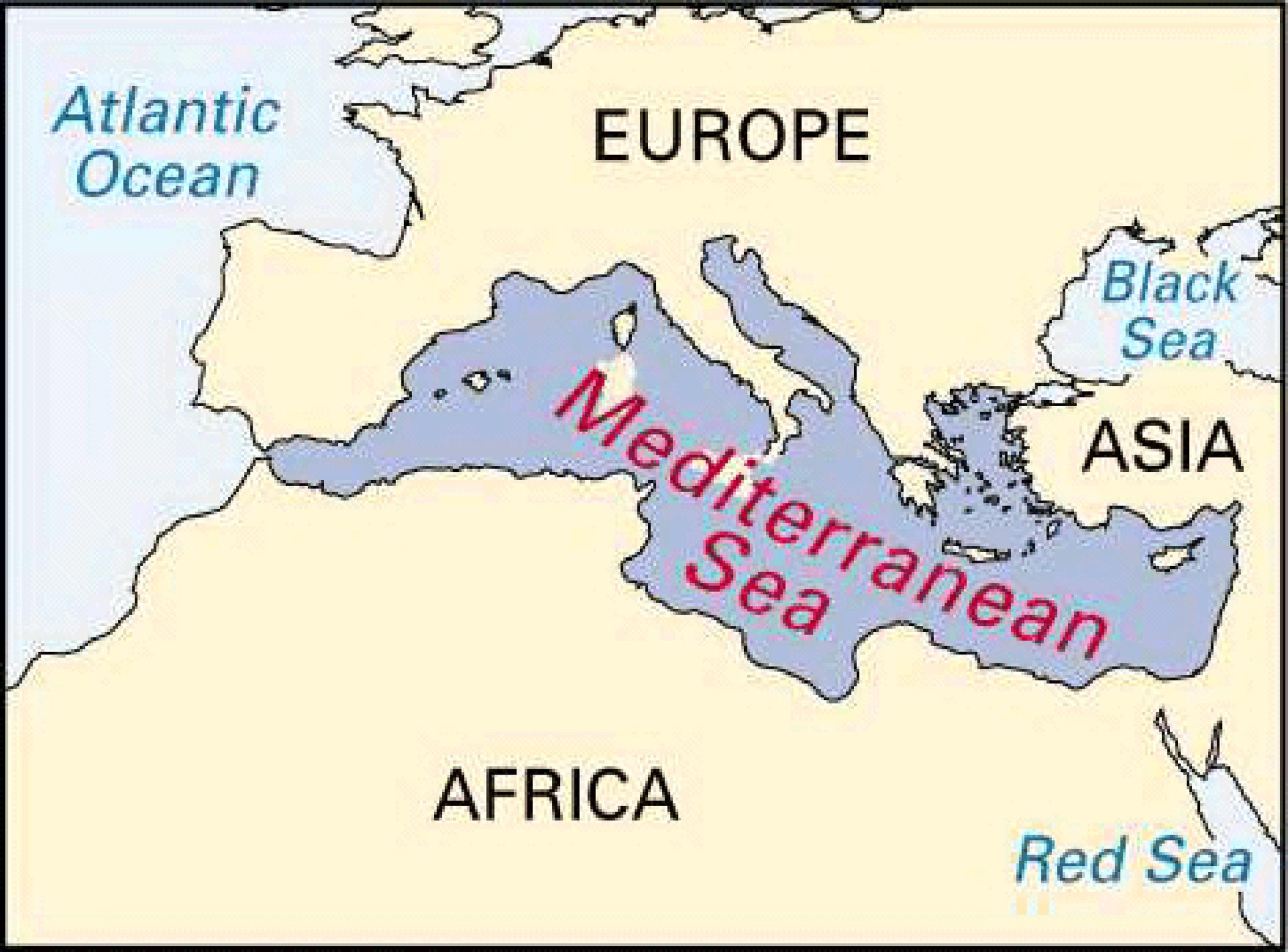
*Black  
Sea*

ASIA

*Mediterranean  
Sea*

AFRICA

*Red Sea*



The Mediterranean Sea is a large body of water with Europe to the north, northern Africa to the south, and southwestern Asia to the east. The narrow Strait of Gibraltar to the west is the only outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. Its total area is 970,000 square miles, and its greatest depth is off the coast of Greece, where it is 16,800 feet deep.

Because of the Mediterranean's size and central location, it borders 21 countries on three continents. Europe has the most nations with coastlines along the Mediterranean Sea with 12; including, Italy, France, Spain, and Greece.







Located on the southwestern tip of the European continent, the Iberian Peninsula, includes the countries of Andorra, Portugal and Spain, and the British Crown colony of Gibraltar. At the nearest point, it is only 5 miles (8km) from the continent of Africa.



An aerial photograph showing the Strait of Gibraltar, a narrow waterway connecting the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. The land on the left is Europe (Spain), and the land on the right is Africa. The water is a deep blue, and the land is a mix of brown and green. The sky is clear and blue.

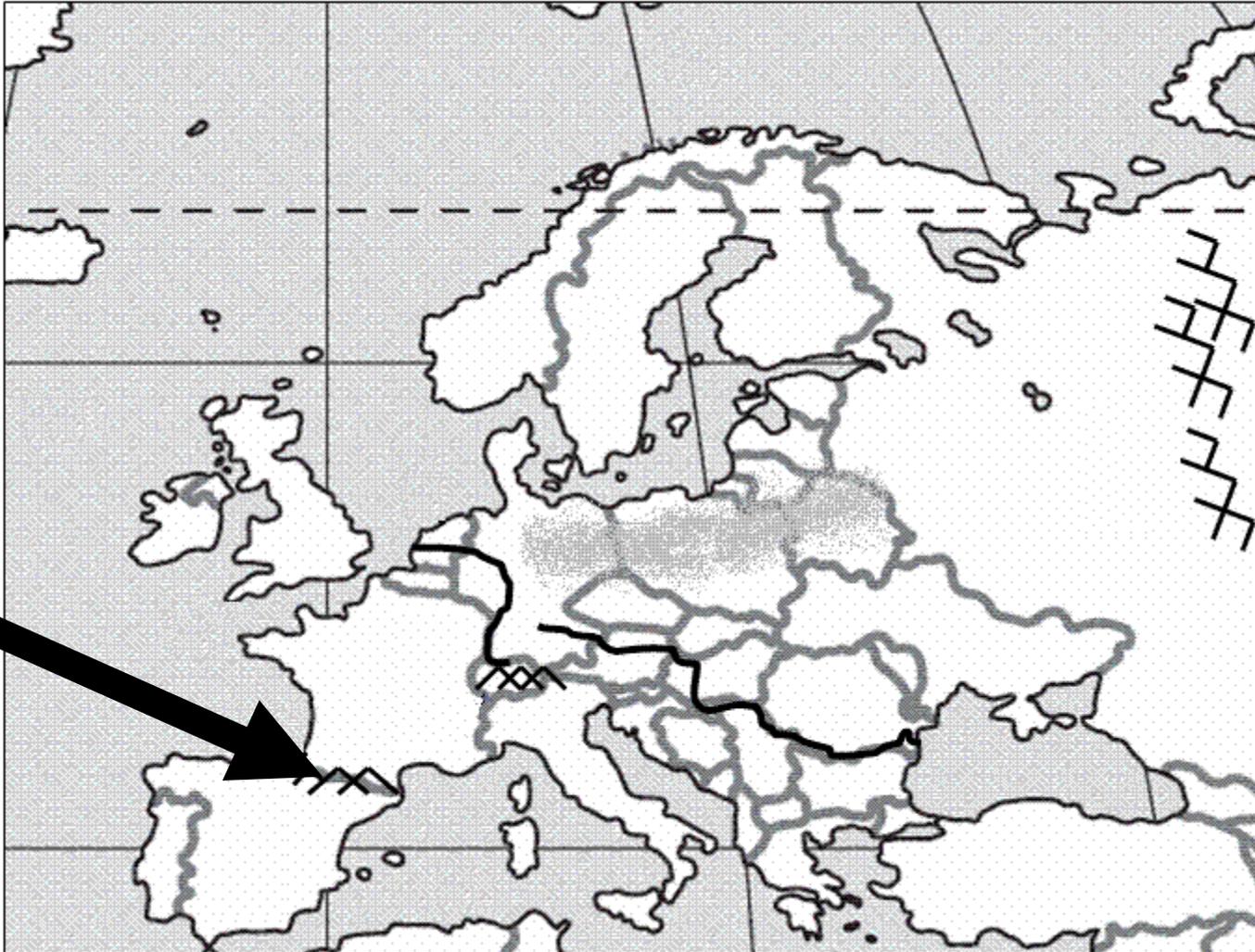
Europe  
(Spain)

The Strait of Gibraltar

Africa

# Pyrenees [Mountains]

3



The Pyrenees mountains stretch 450km between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, forming a natural boundary between France and Spain.

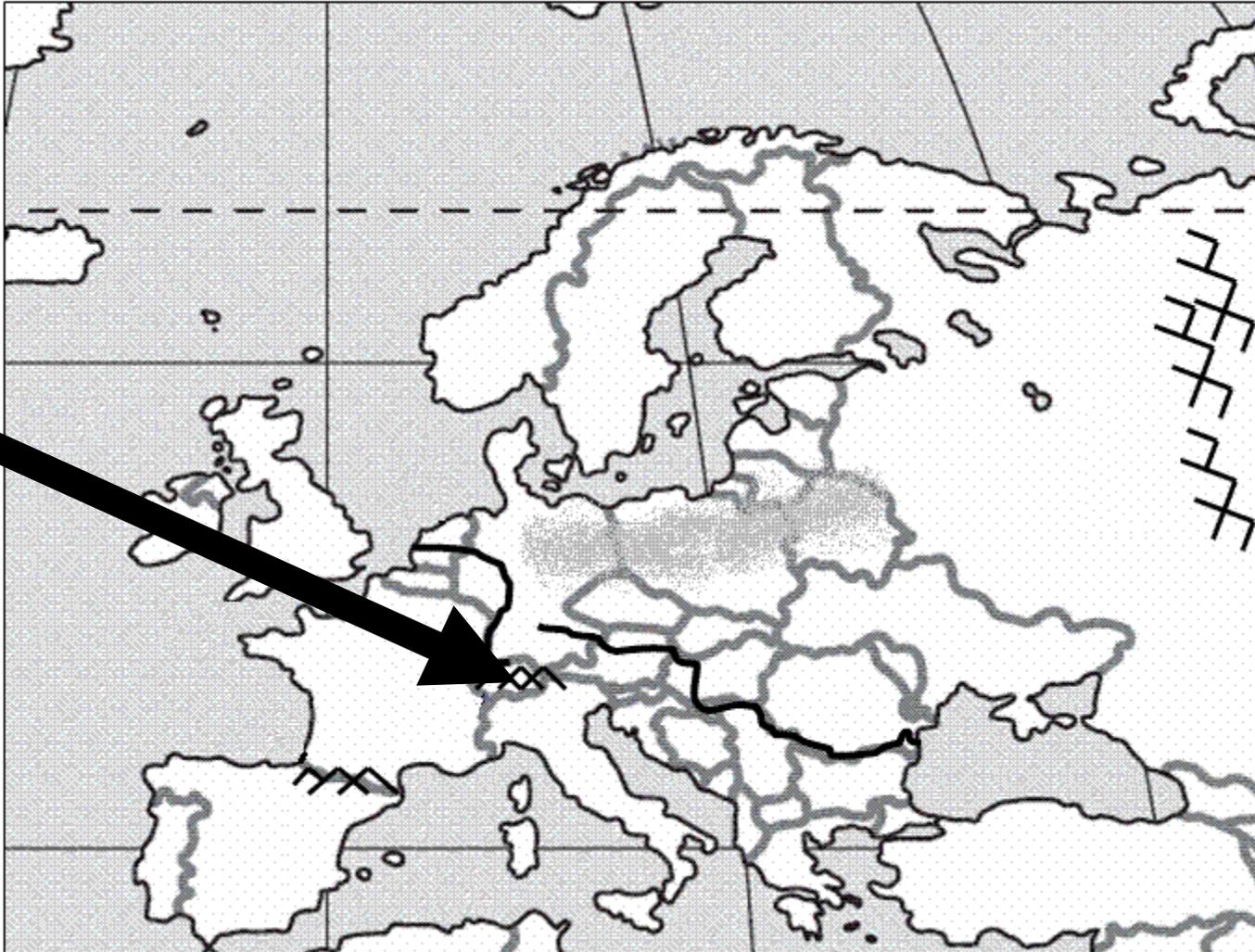
In the Pyrenees, the border between these two countries is a high ridge of wild peaks, often more than 3000m high.

This mountainous barrier divides the dry, baked landscape of Northern Spain from the green and fertile hillsides of Southern France, where even the weather and plant life differ greatly on each side.



# Alps [Mountains]

4





The Alps are a mountain system located in south-central Europe, immediately north of the Mediterranean Sea. They extend for almost 700 miles in a crescent shape from the coastline of southern France (near Monaco) into Switzerland, then through northern Italy and into Austria, and down through Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro - then ending in Albania on the rugged coastline of the Adriatic Sea.



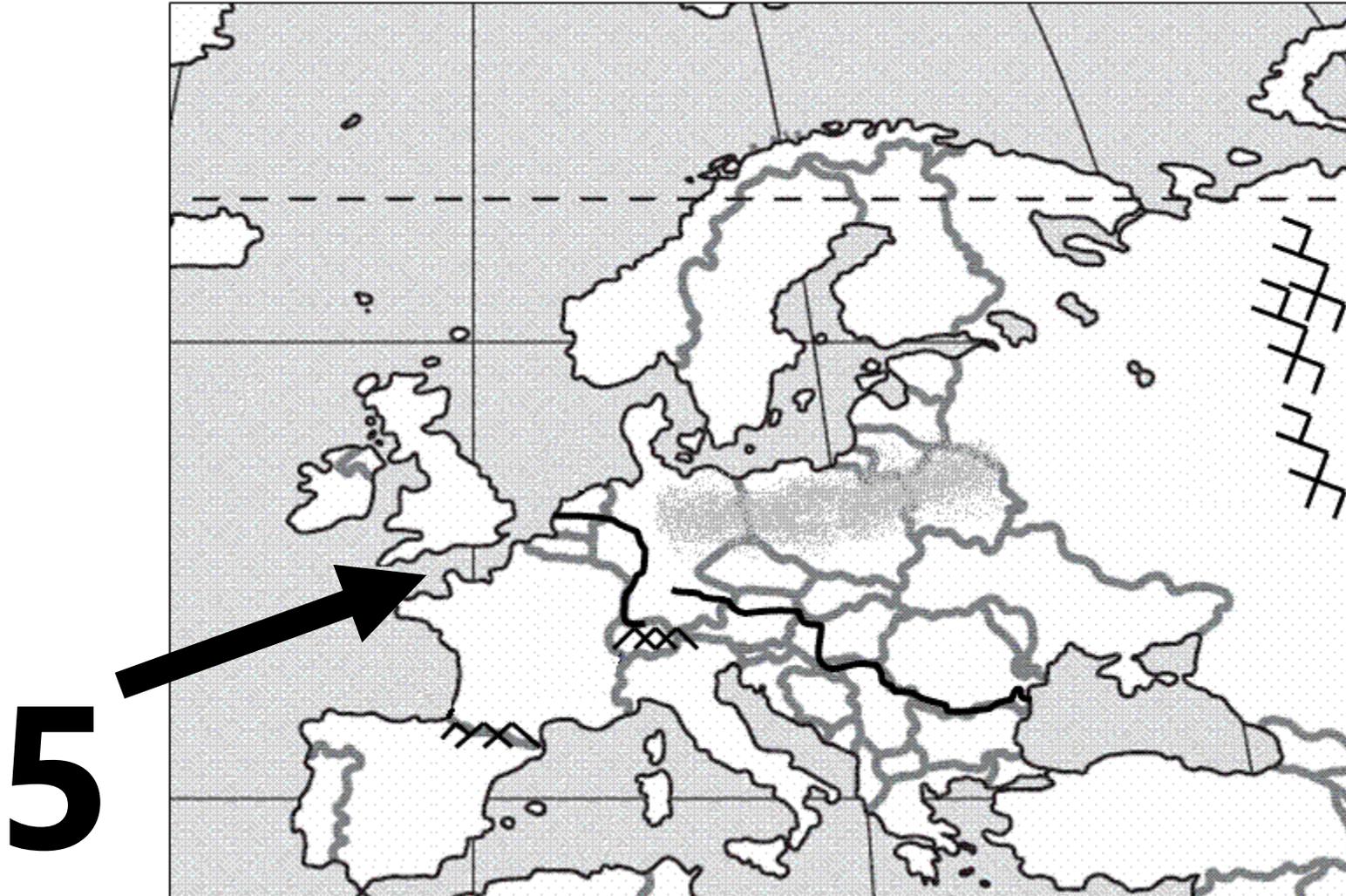
# Mt. Blanc in the Alps



It's the highest mountain in Europe: 15,771 feet



# English Channel





The English Channel is a part of the Atlantic Ocean, and it separates the island of Britain (part of the UK) from northern France and joins the North Sea to the Atlantic Ocean. It is today one of the busiest shipping lanes on the planet. It's approximately 350 miles long and 20-150 miles wide. It's somewhat shallow, with an average depth of less than 50 meters

One of the most difficult open-water swimming challenges on the planet...successfully crossing the English Channel is a rarer feat than climbing Mount Everest. Only 1,912 people have crossed the channel. It takes most swimmers around 13-15 hours to swim 30-40 miles.



Completed in 1994, the Channel Tunnel, a 31-mile long rail tunnel beneath the English Channel at the Straits of Dover, connects France and England.





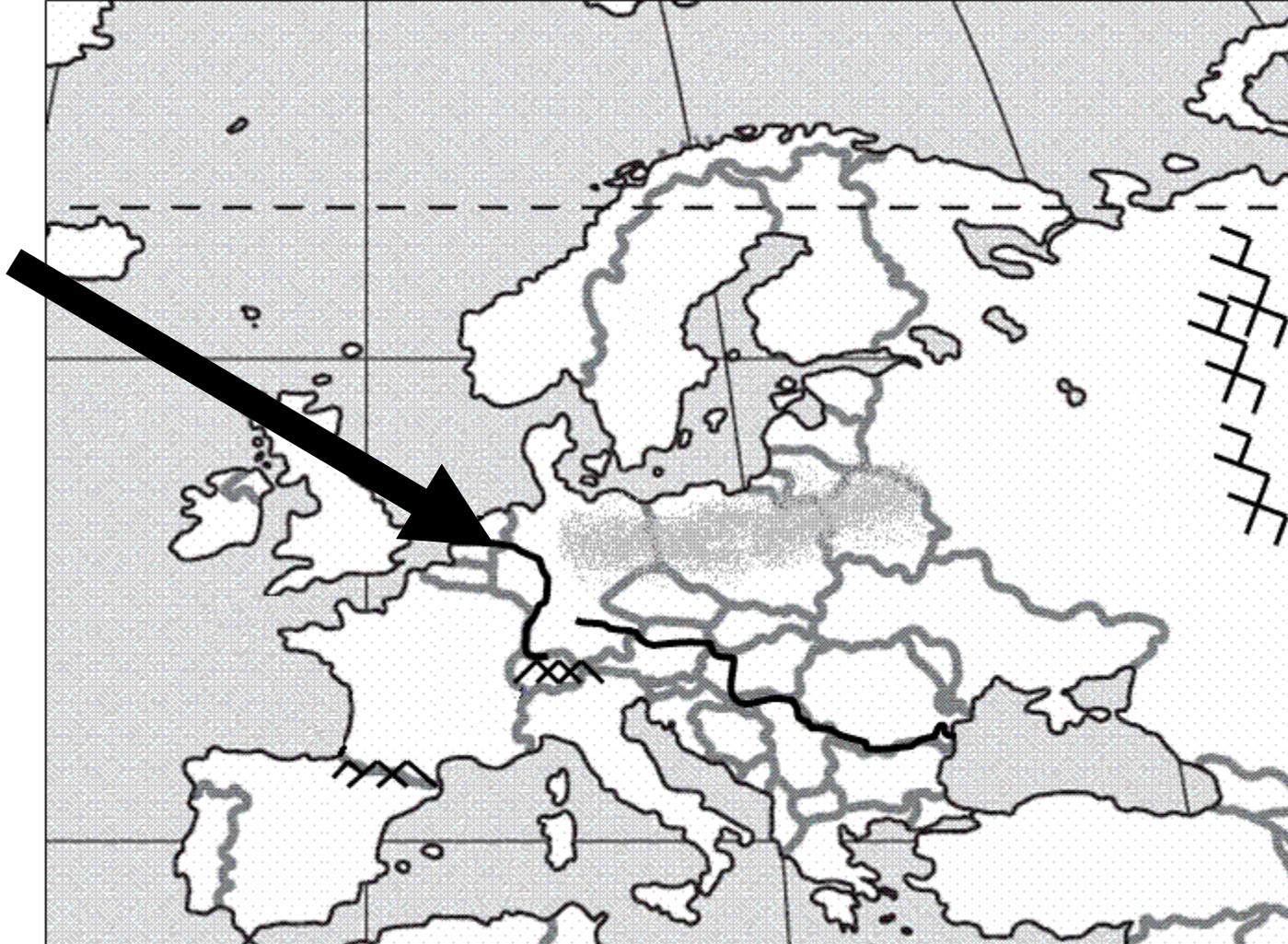
UNITED  
KINGDOM

FRANCE



# Rhine River

6



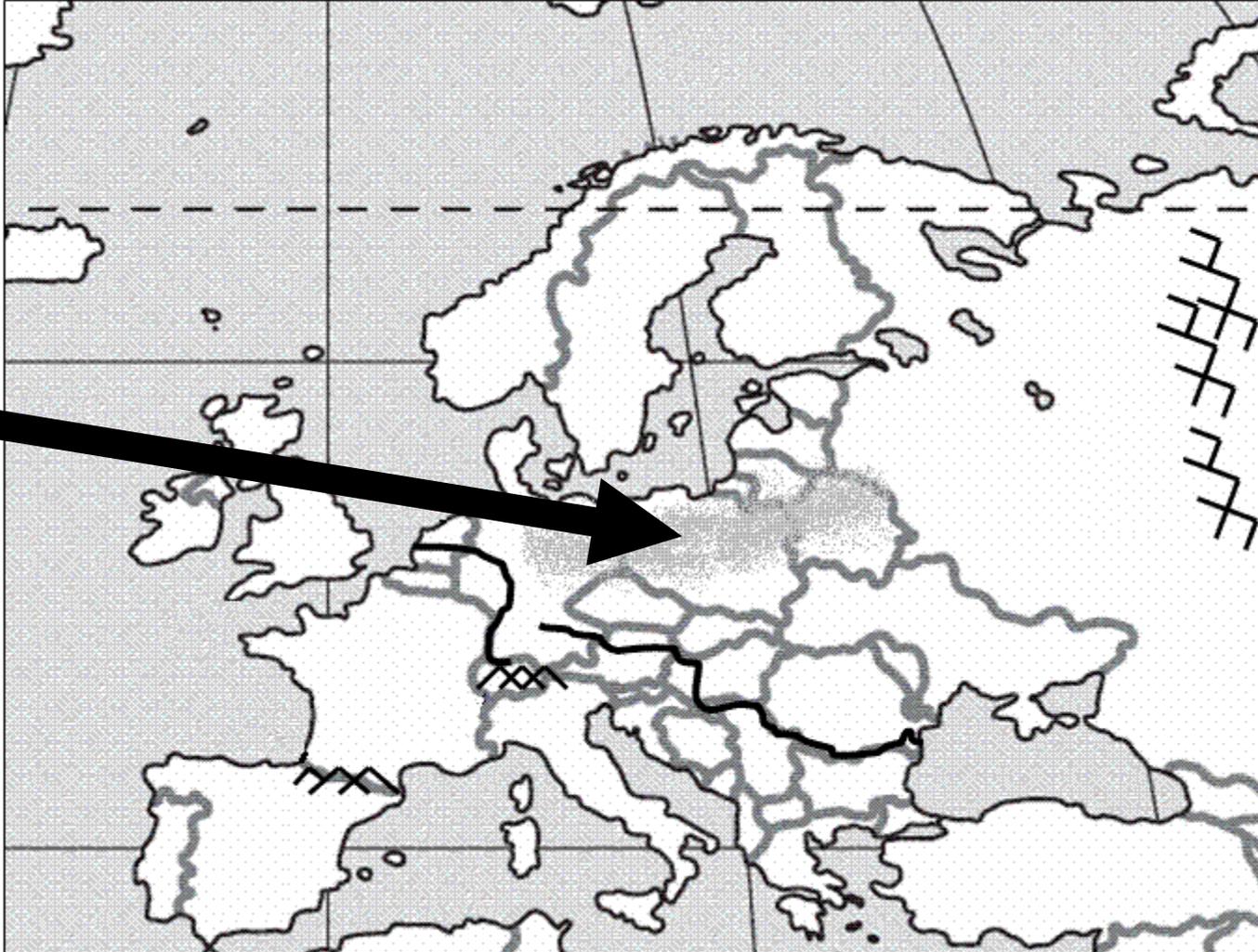
At 820 miles, the Rhine is the longest river in western Europe and flows through nine nations. It begins as a stream in the Swiss Alps and flows into the Netherlands and into the North Sea. The Rhine has served as a natural border for nations throughout European history, marking Germany's borders between Switzerland and France. Approximately 58 million people live in the communities along the river, which serves as a major transport for goods throughout Europe.





# European Plain

7





European Plain

It sweeps from the Pyrenees Mountains on the French-Spanish border across northern Europe to the Ural Mountains in Russia. In western Europe the plain is narrow stretching 200 miles in width, but as it stretches eastward into Russia, it extends more than 2,000 miles.

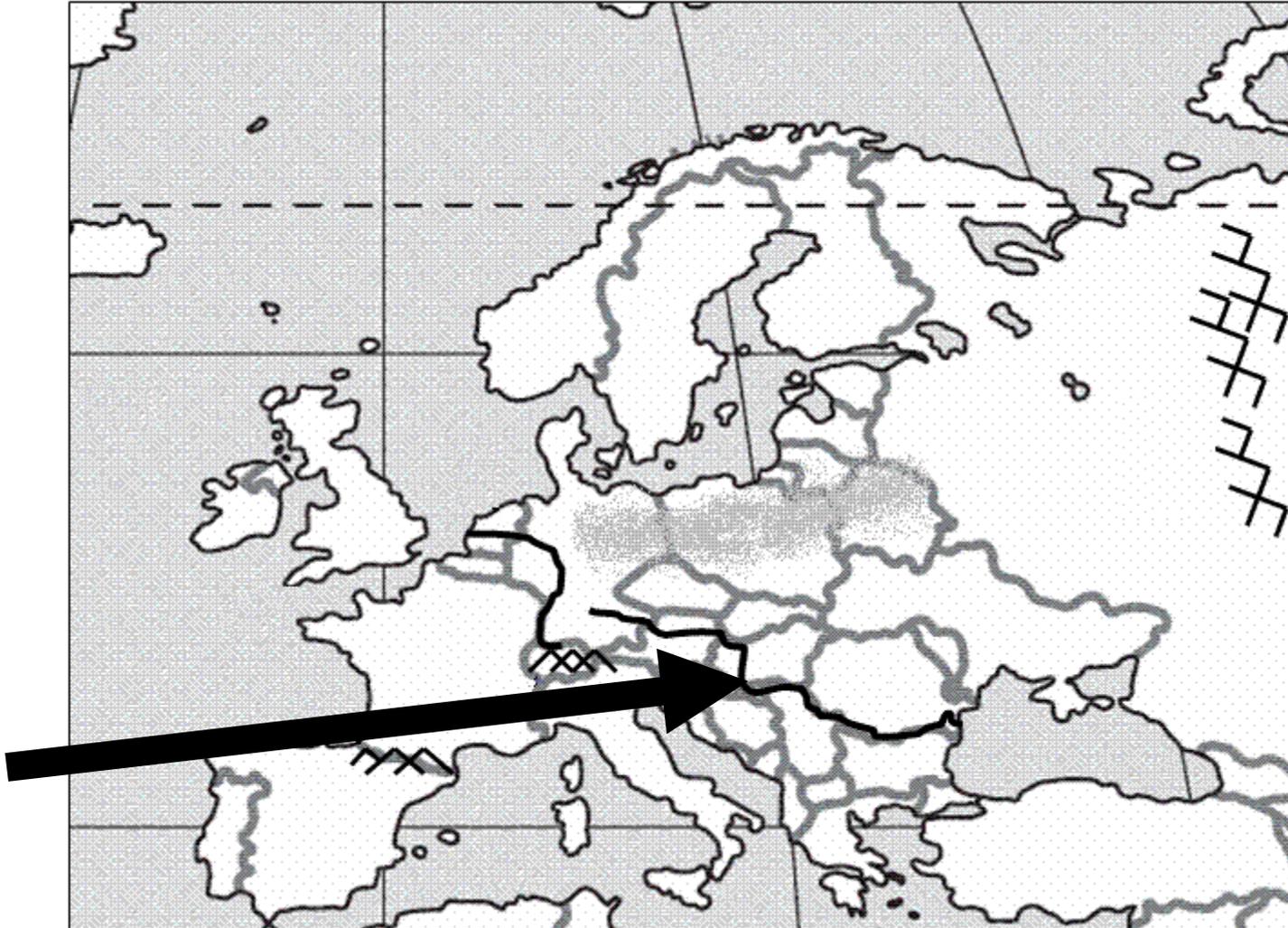
The European Plain has long been a region of major agricultural importance. Since the mid-19th century, however, the plain has also been one of the world's major heavy industrial regions. This has been especially true in Germany's the Netherlands, Belgium, and France. It has become Europe's most important center of coal, steel, and chemical production.





# Danube River

8



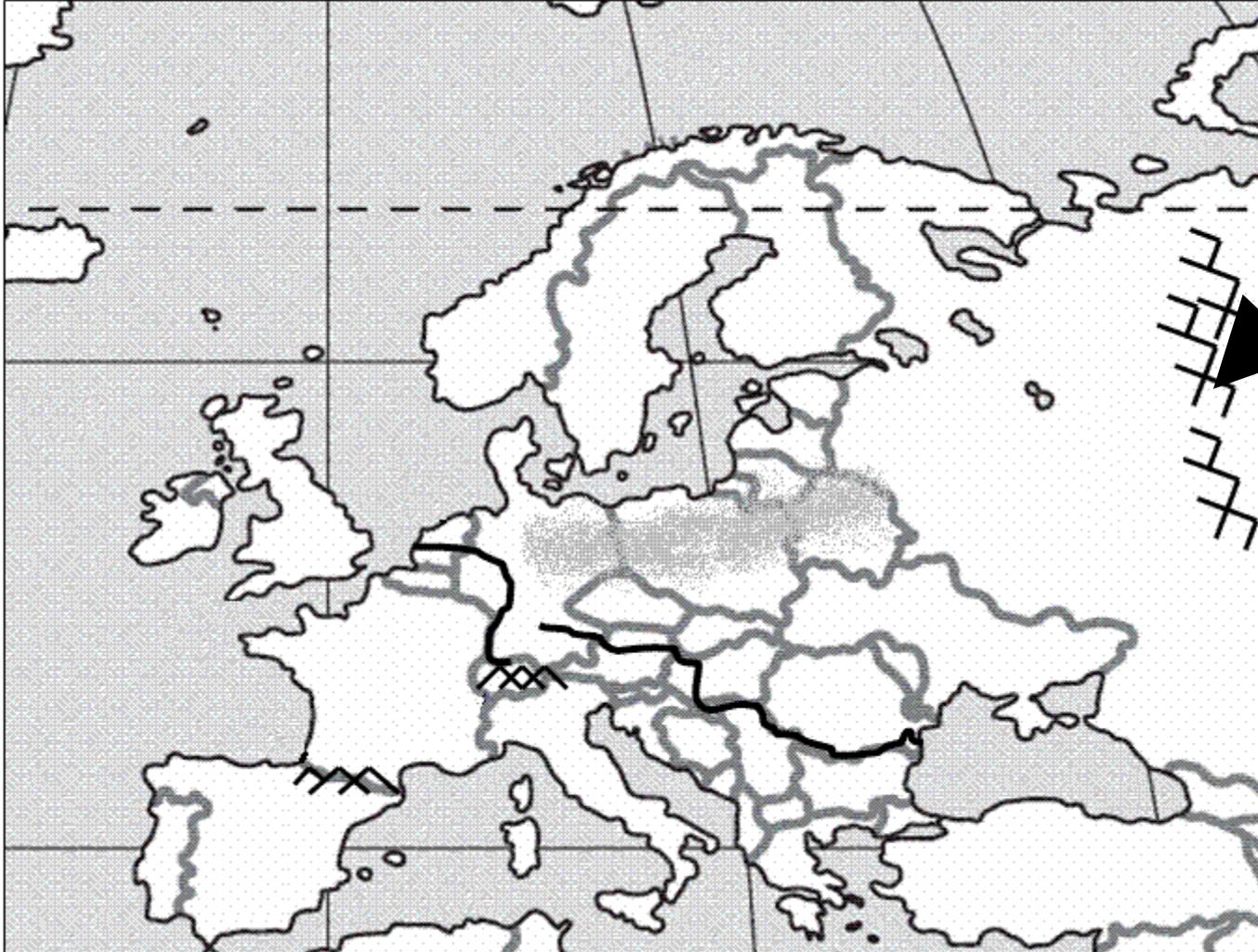
The Danube is the second longest river in Europe after the Volga. It rises in the Black Forest mountains of western Germany and flows for some 1,770 miles to its mouth on the Black Sea. Along its course it passes through 10 countries; including, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova, and the Ukraine. 2/3 of its water comes from water flowing out of the snow-covered Alps.

All of the surrounding nations use the river for freight transport, for hydroelectricity, for industrial and residential water supplies, for irrigation, and for fishing.





# Ural Mountains



9

# Ural Mountains: "The Great Divide"



It divides the European and Asian sections of Russia.

The Urals rise like a long and narrow spine across western Russia, forming a natural divide between Europe and Asia. The mountain range spans 2,500 kilometers (1,550 miles) passing through Arctic tundra to the north and through forested and semi-desert landscapes to the south.

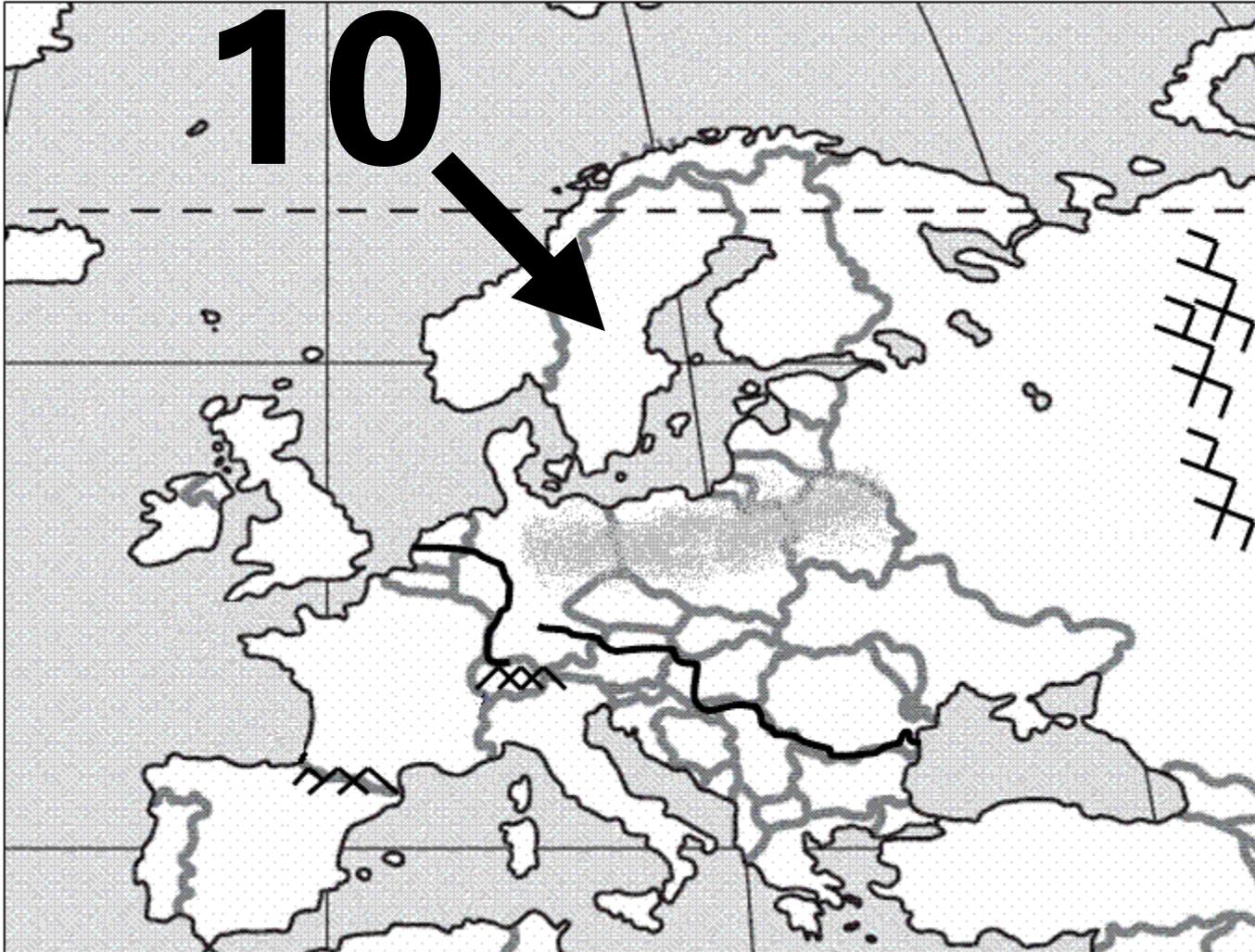
The Ural Mountains are among the world's oldest mountains, 300 to 250 million years old, and erosion has lowered them considerably. In many places, the mountains are little more than hills.

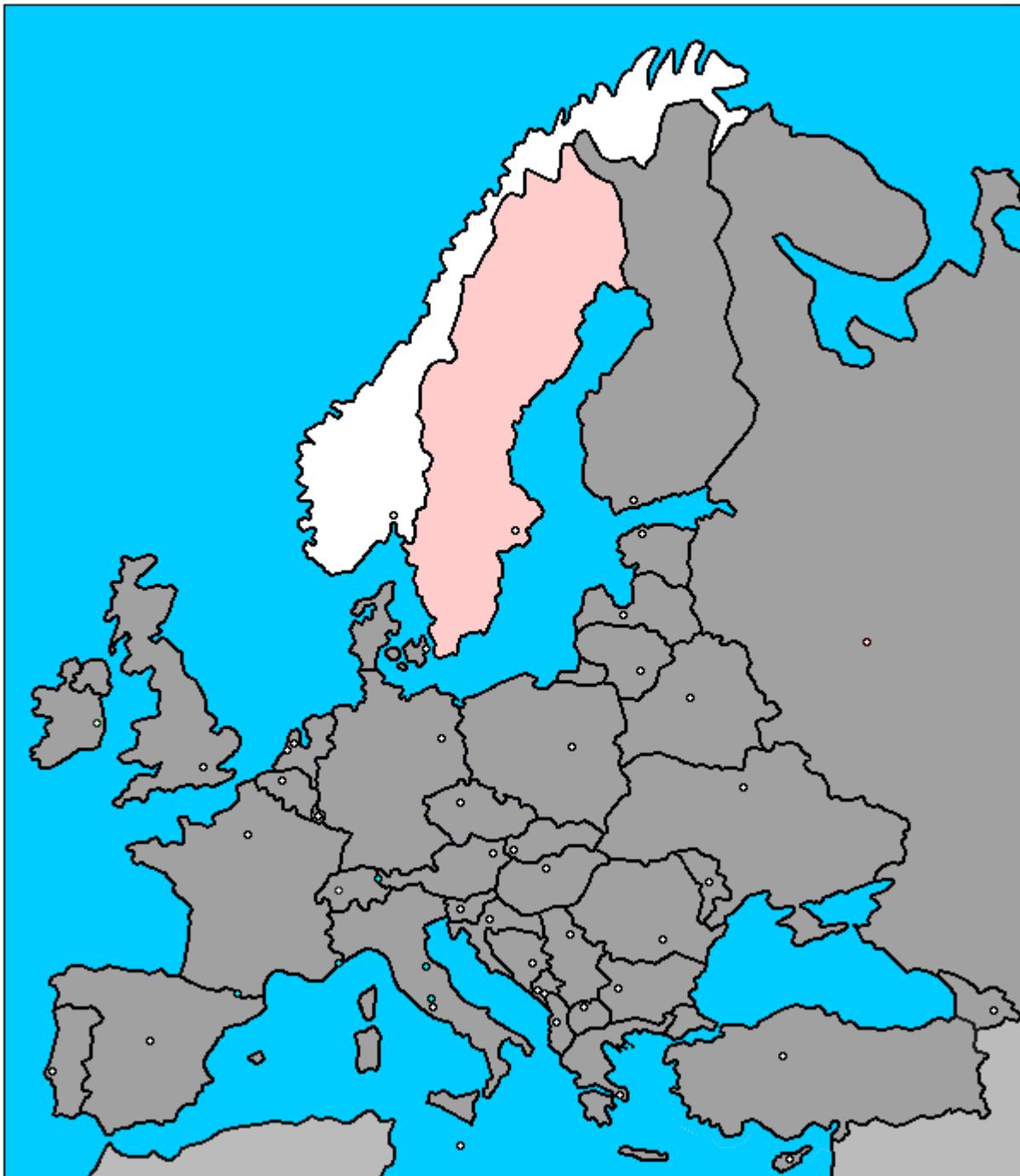
The mountains run through the polar lands of Russia through the semi-desert land of Kazakhstan.





# Scandinavian Peninsula





The Scandinavian peninsula is the largest peninsula in Europe. It lies south of the Arctic Ocean and North of the Baltic Sea and the North Sea. The peninsula includes the countries of Sweden and Norway, but the area north of Europe is called Scandinavia. This area includes Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, and Denmark.

Mining its greatest economic activity with the mining of Iron, Copper, Nickel, Steel, and Zinc.

The average temperature in Scandinavia varies depending on which country you visit, but the average temperature for the region is around 37° Fahrenheit.



## Iceland

*Speaks Icelandic*

REYKJAVIK

Norwegian Sea

## Sweden

*Speaks Swedish*

## Norway

*Speaks Norwegian*

## Finland

*Speaks Finnish*

HELSINKI

## Denmark

*Speaks Danish*

OSLO

STOCKHOLM

Baltic sea

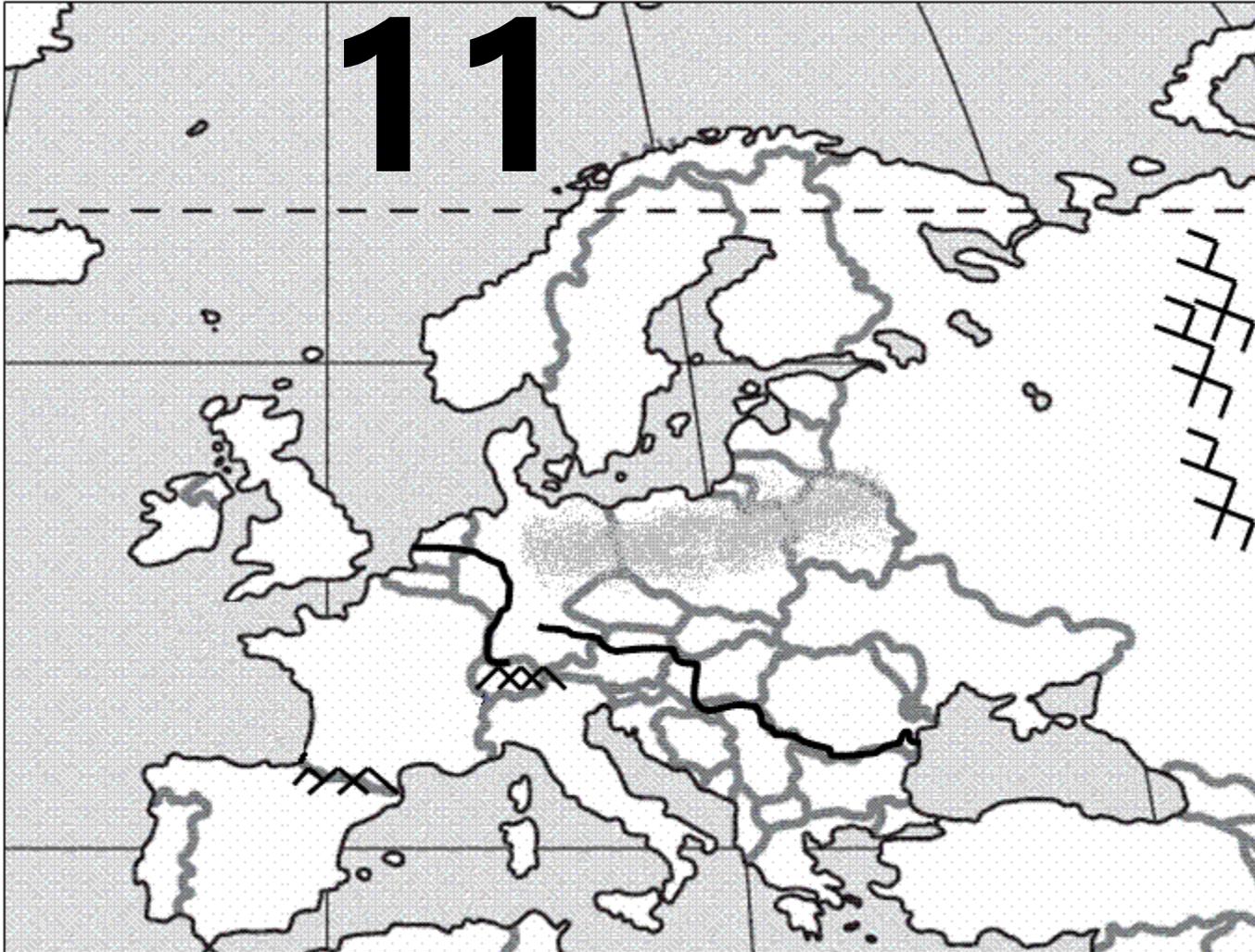
COPENHAGEN

North Atlantic Ocean

Bay of Biscay

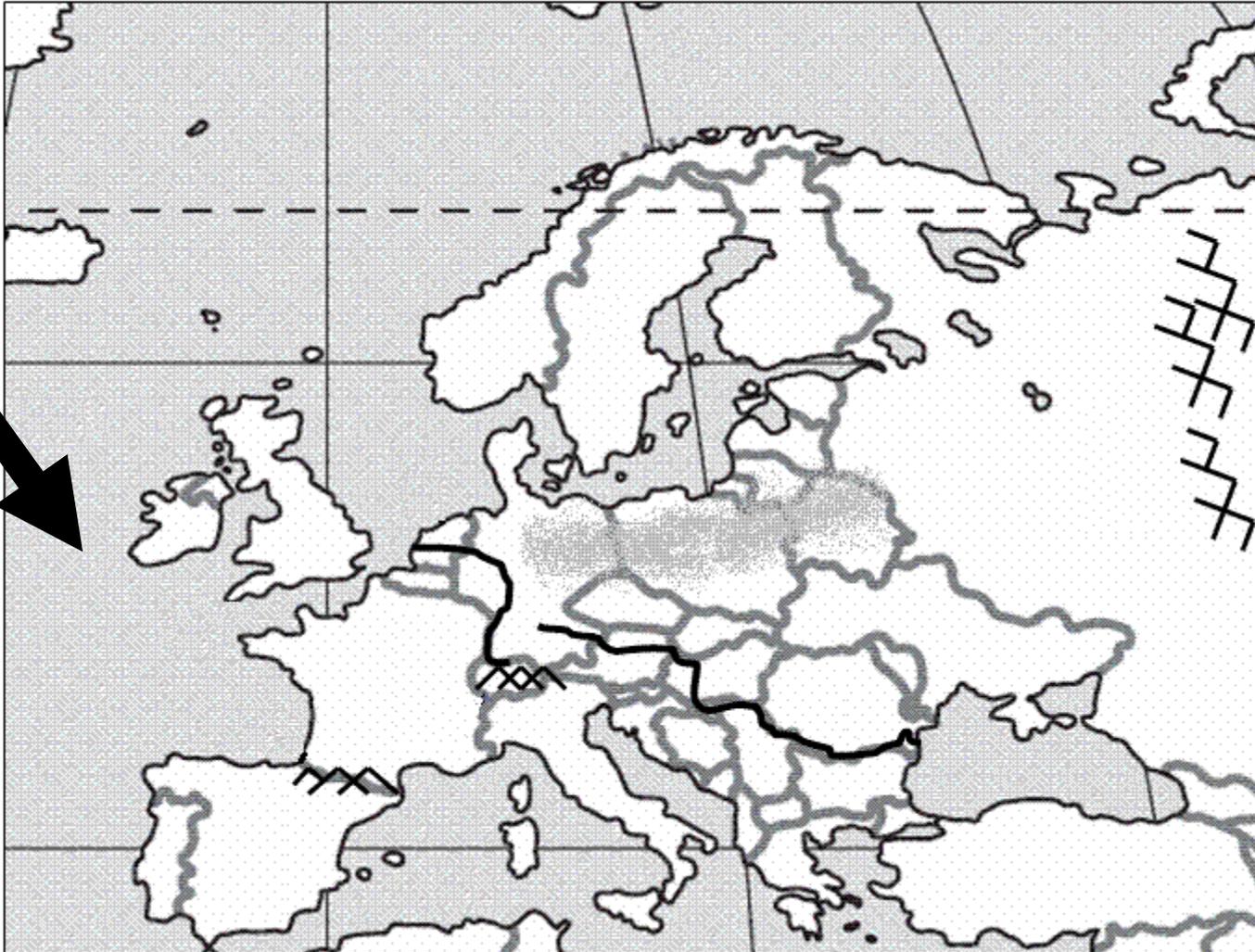


# Arctic Ocean

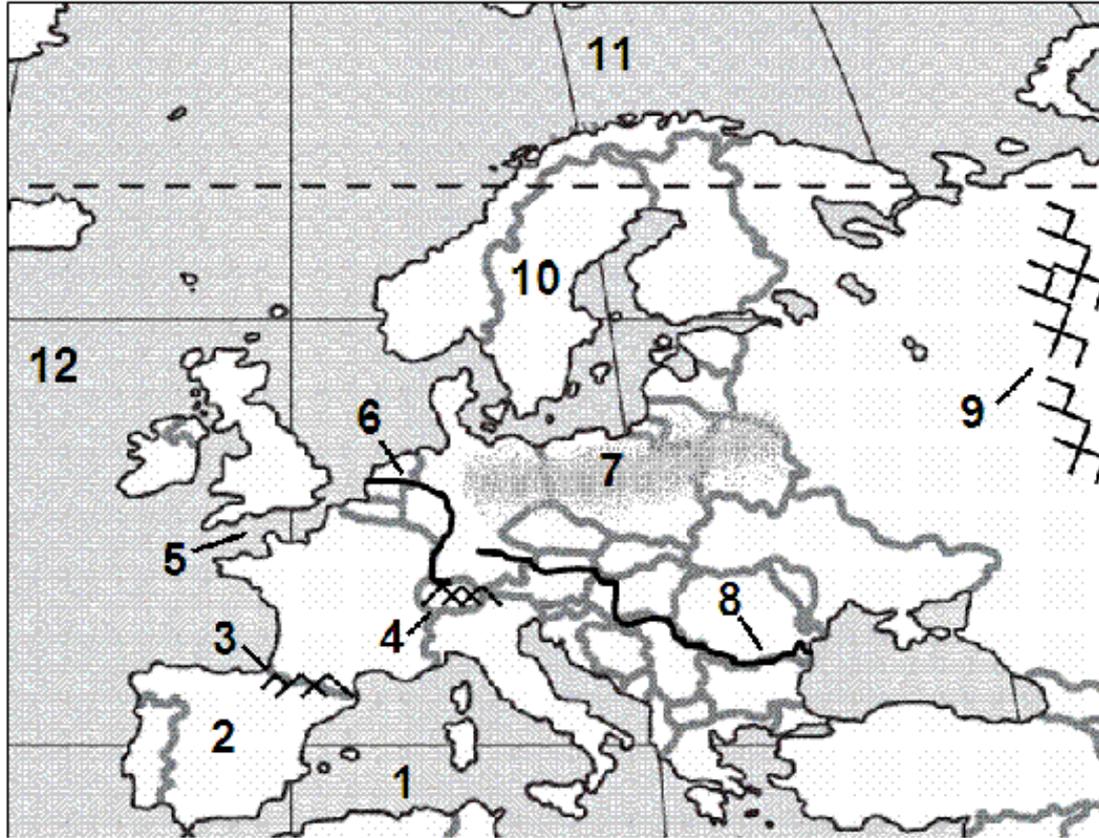


# Atlantic Ocean

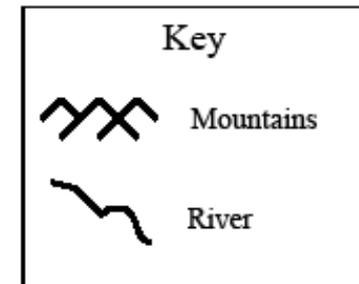
1  
2



# Use the European Physical Features Map

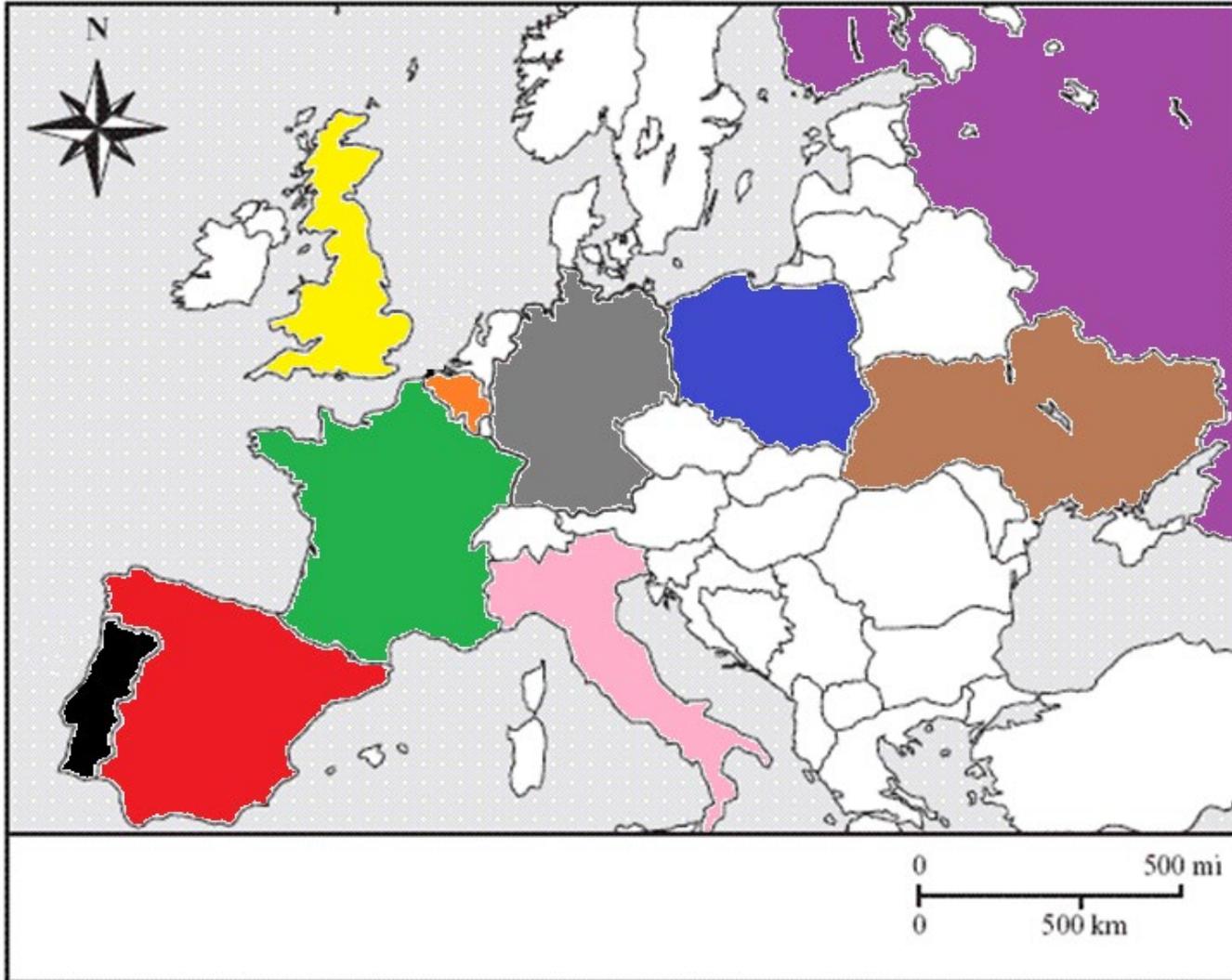


## European Physical Features



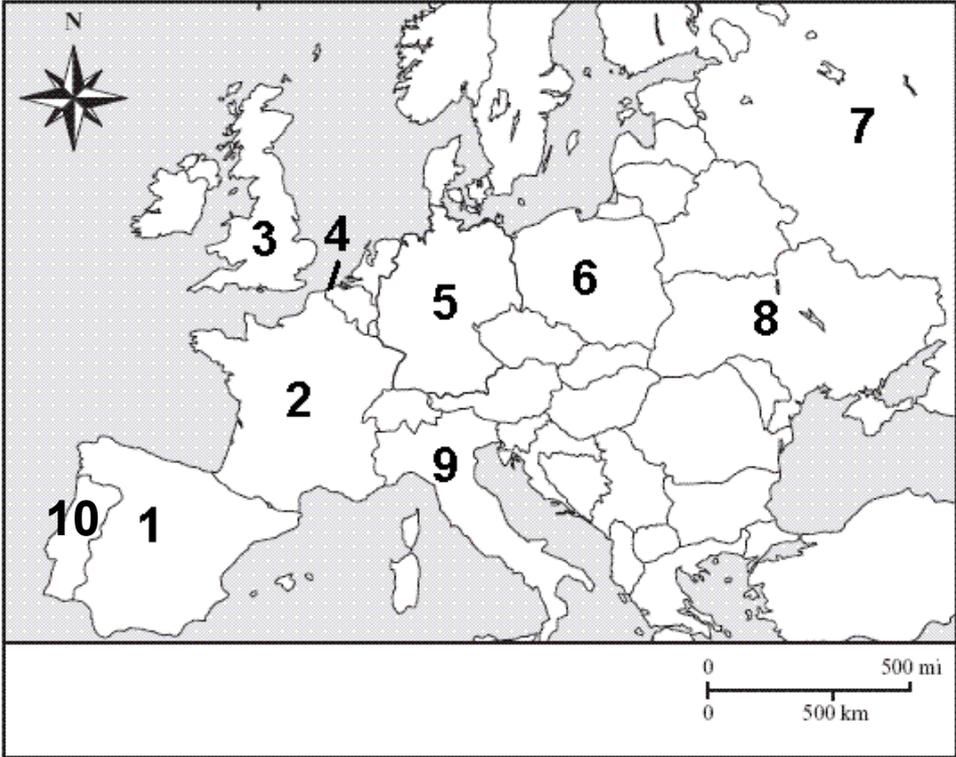
_____ Atlantic Ocean	_____ Arctic Ocean	_____ Alps	_____ Pyrenees
_____ English Channel	_____ Mediterranean Sea	_____ Ural Mountains	_____ Iberian Peninsula
_____ Rhine River	_____ Danube River	_____ European Plain	_____ Scandinavian Peninsula

# Political Map of Europe



**We will identify the nations in color.**

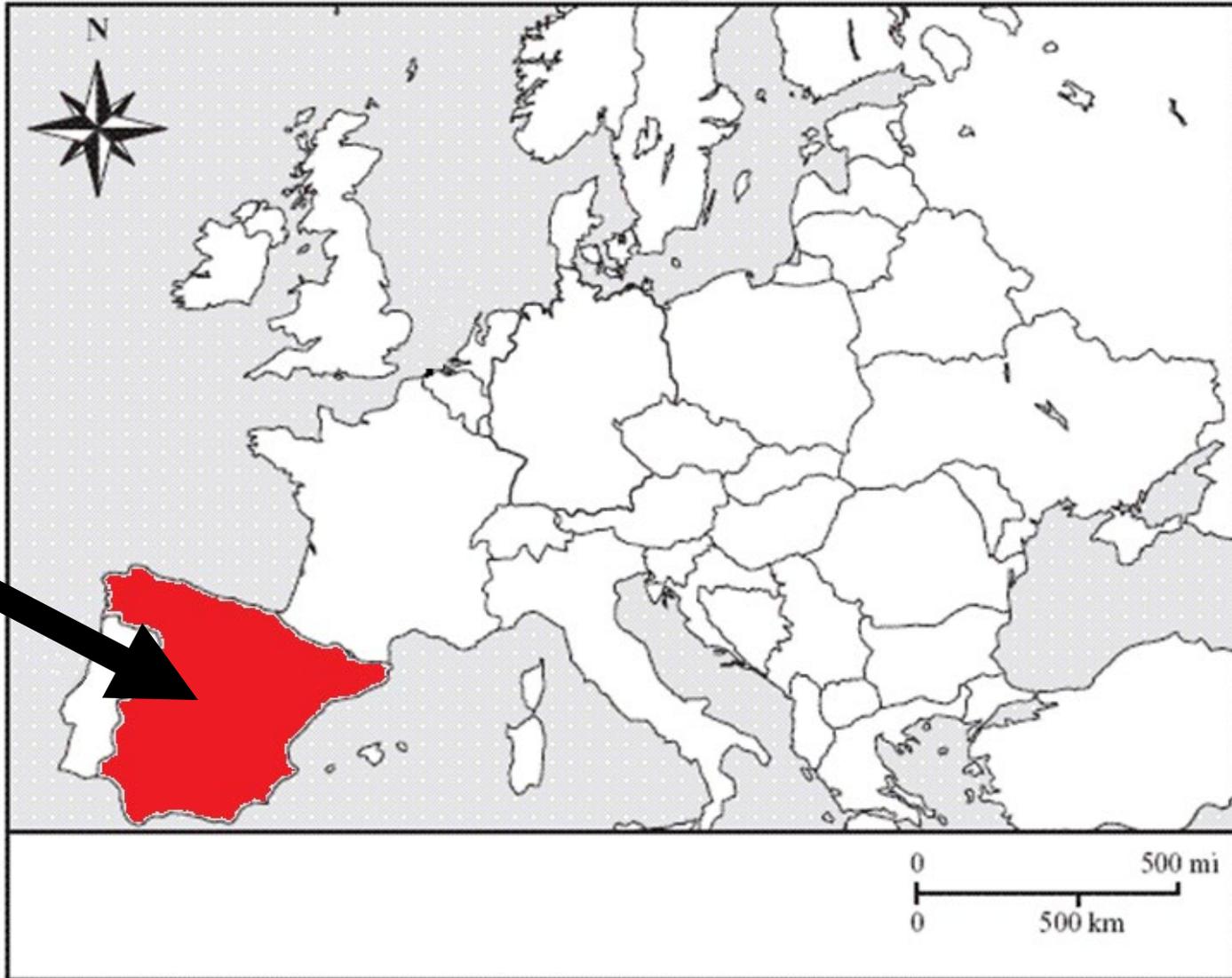
# Use the European Political Identification Map



\_\_\_\_\_ Belgium    \_\_\_\_\_ France    \_\_\_\_\_ Germany    \_\_\_\_\_ Italy    \_\_\_\_\_ Poland  
\_\_\_\_\_ Russia    \_\_\_\_\_ Spain    \_\_\_\_\_ Ukraine    \_\_\_\_\_ United Kingdom    \_\_\_\_\_ Portugal

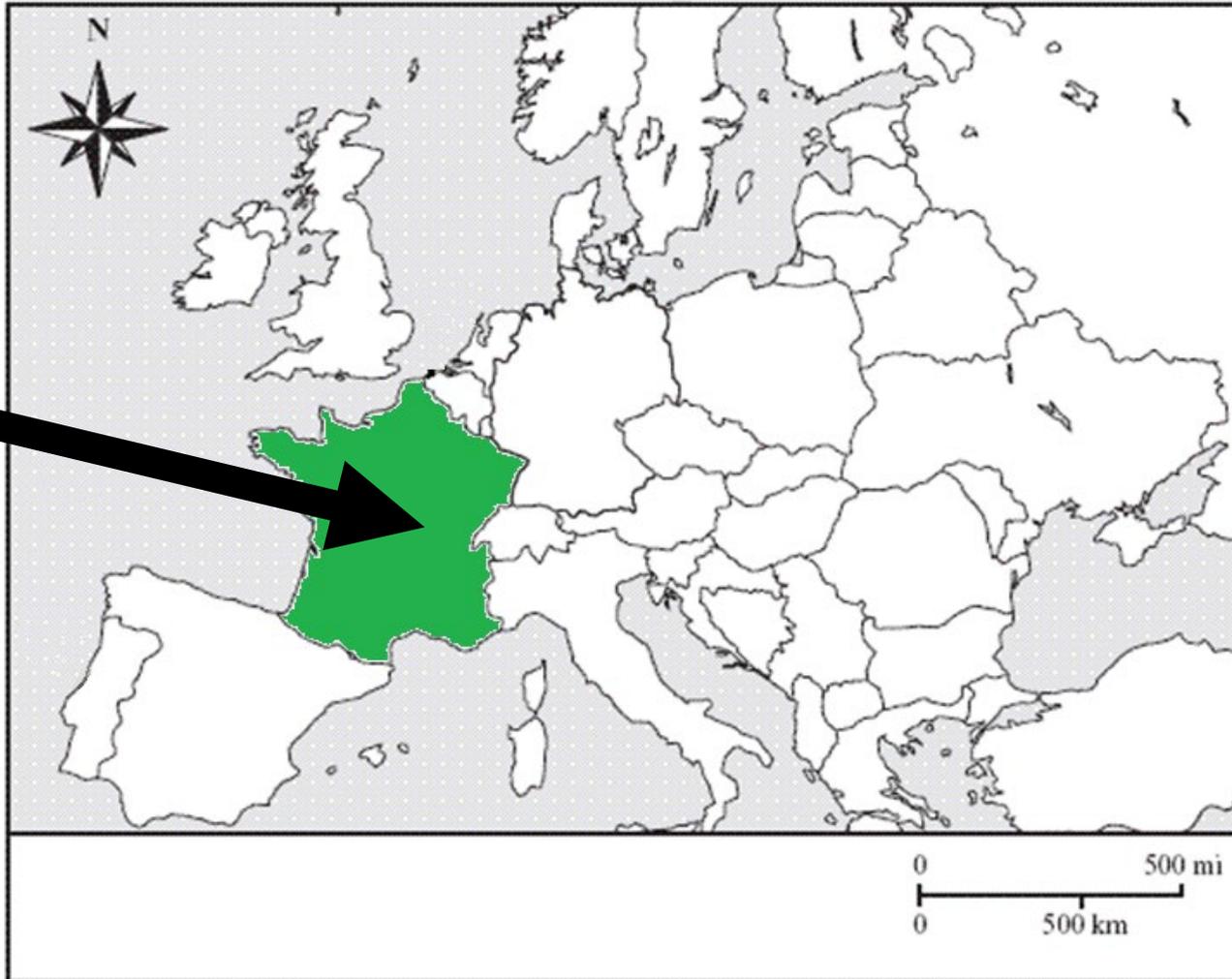
# Spain

1



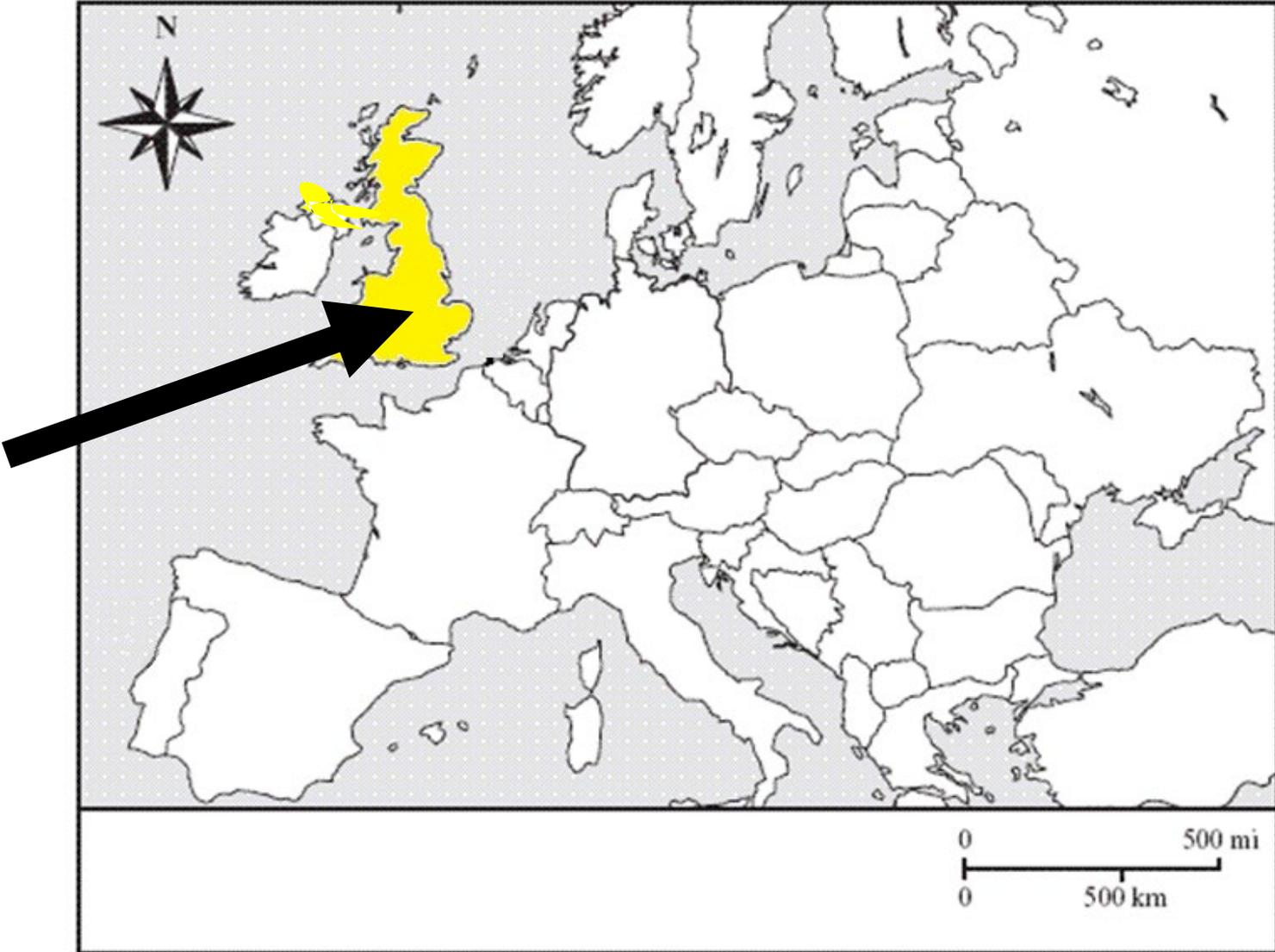
# France

2



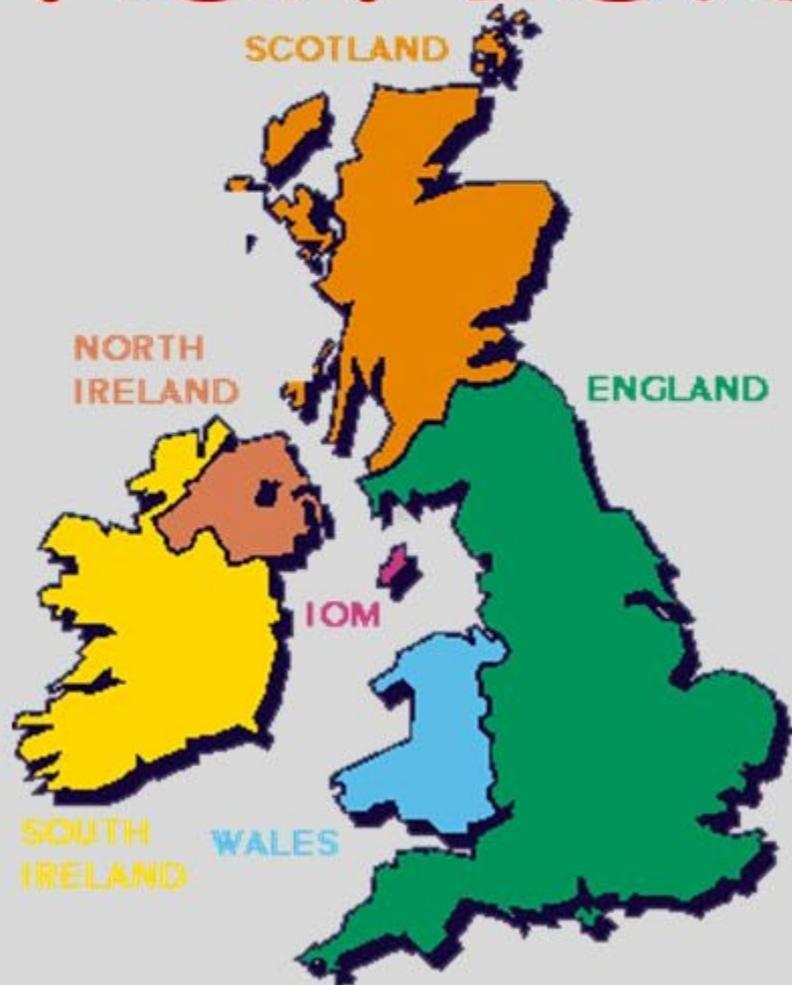
# United Kingdom

3





# British Isles



## Two Islands:

- Britain
- Ireland

## Two Nations:

- United Kingdom
- Ireland

## United Kingdom:

- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- Northern Ireland



Is it England?  
Is it Britain?  
Is it the United Kingdom?  
Is it Great Britain?  
Is it the British?  
Is it the UK?

**How can one place have all  
these different names?**

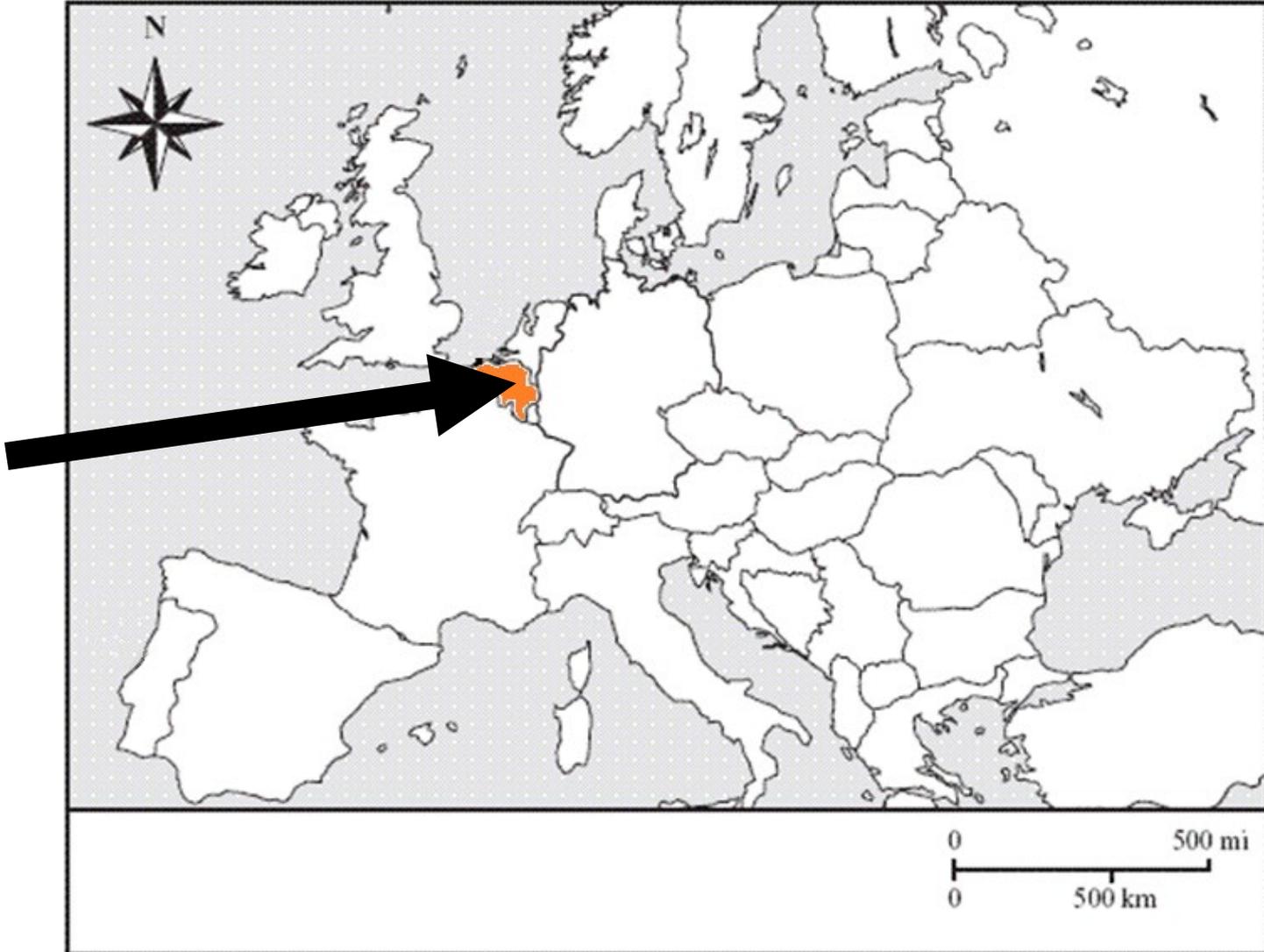


Hold onto  
your hat...

**More to come on this later  
in the week.**

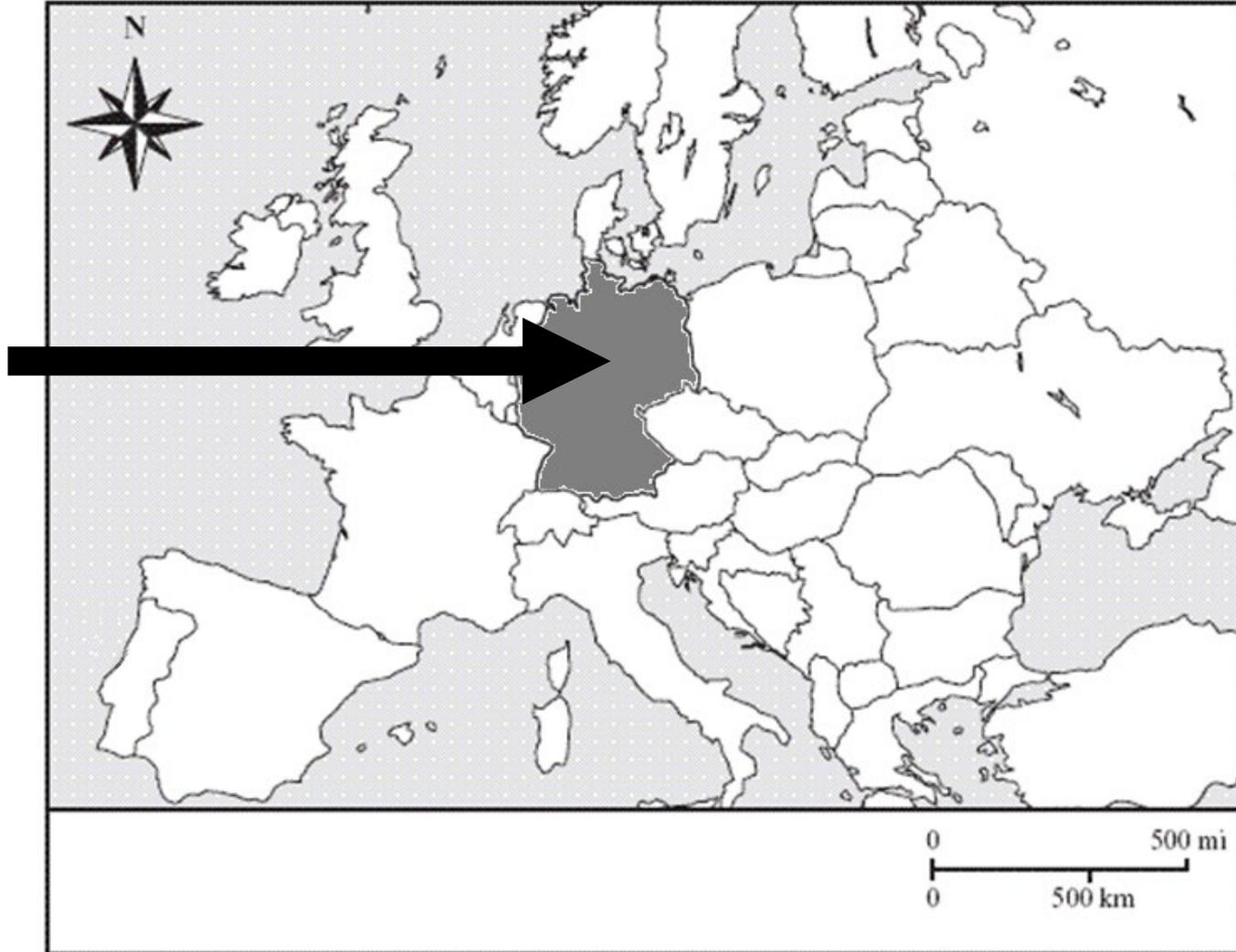
# Belgium

4

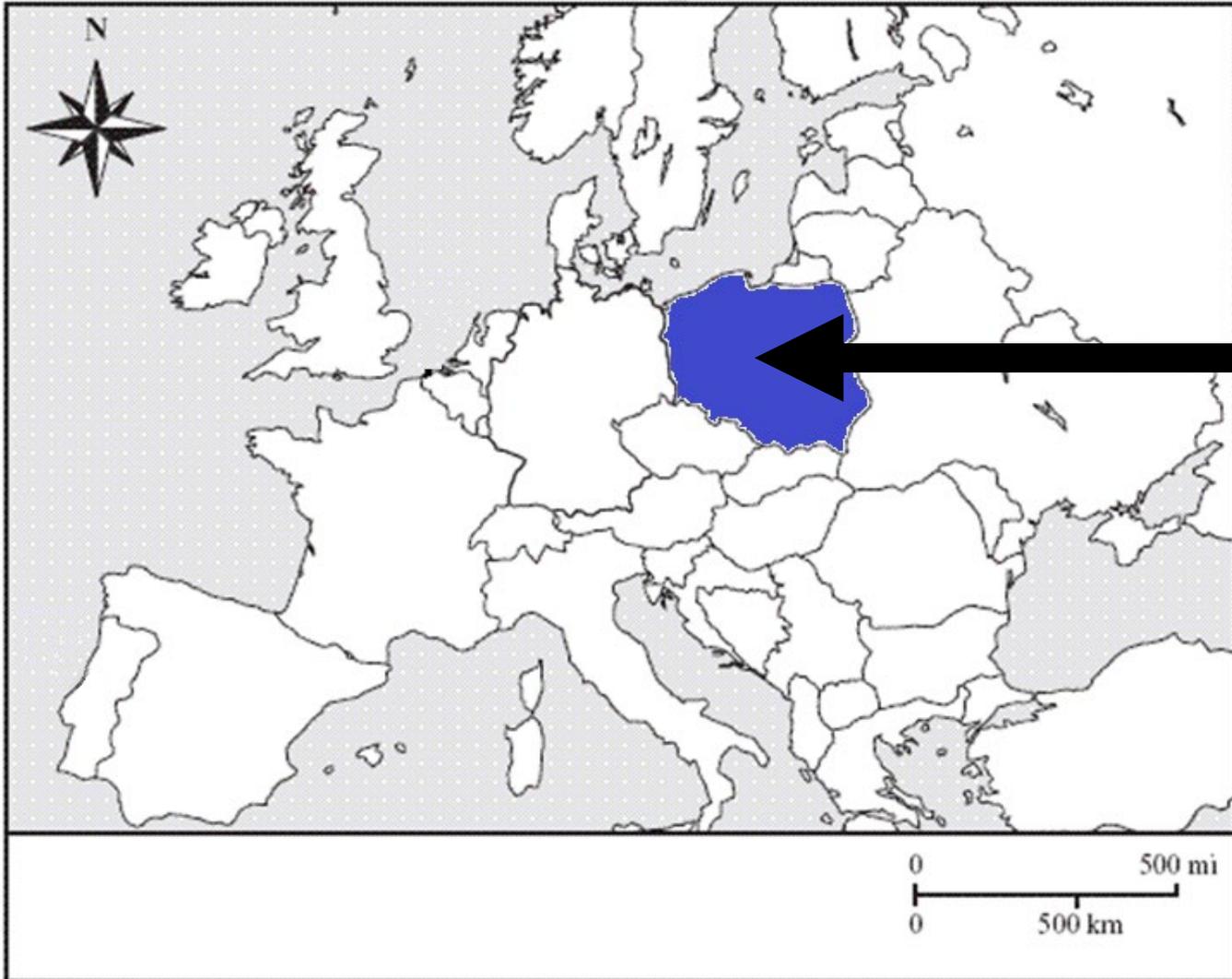


# Germany

5

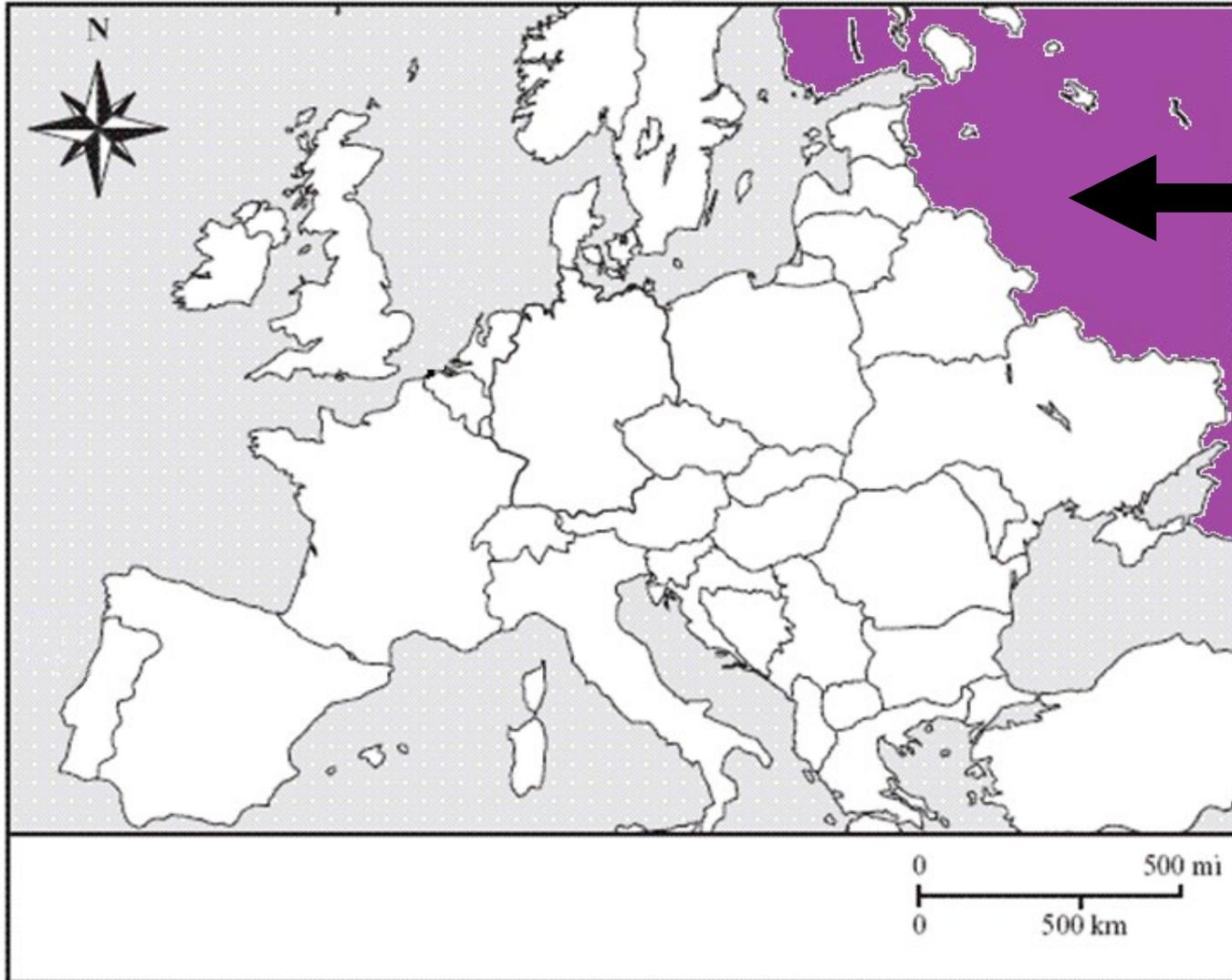


# Poland



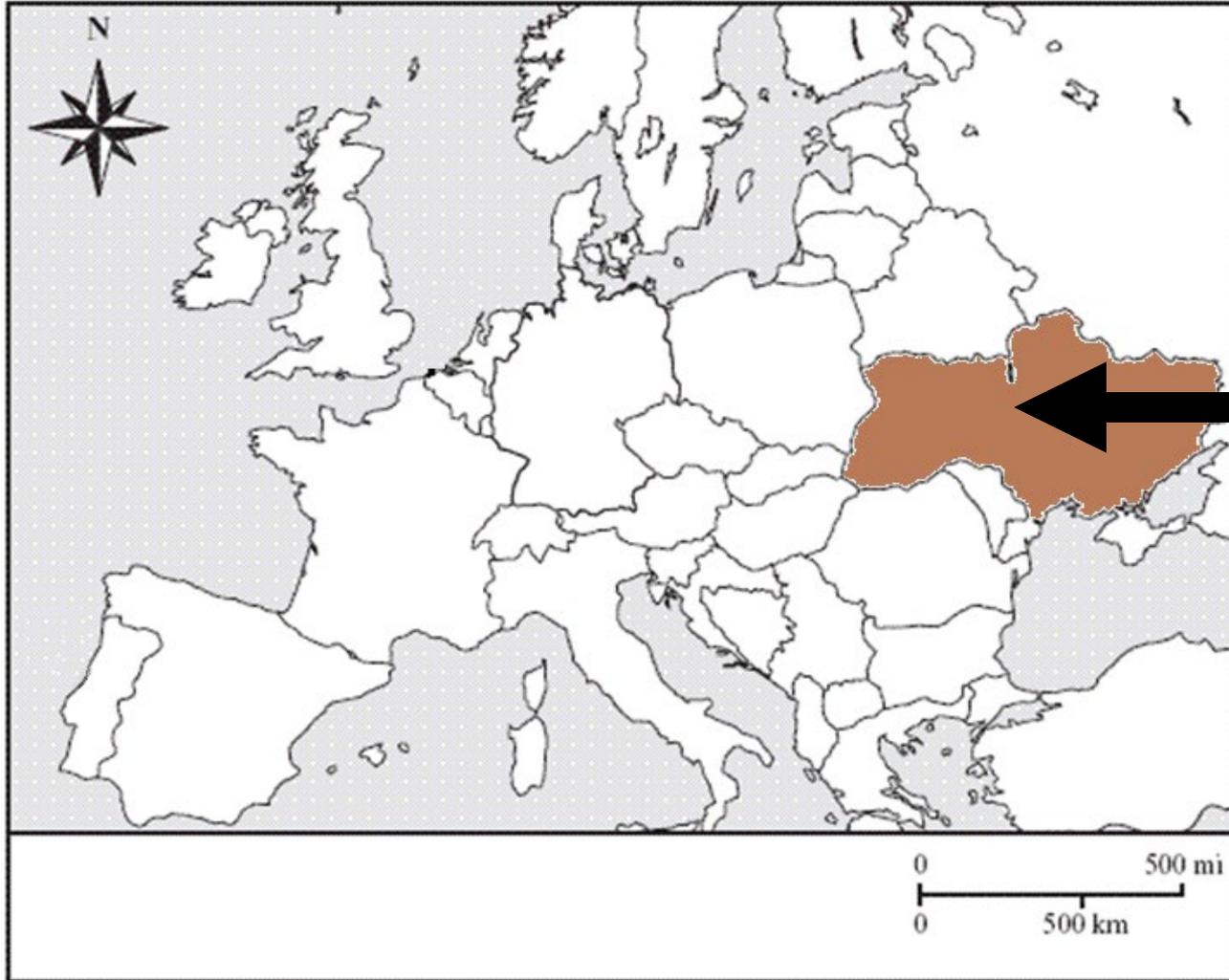
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# Russia



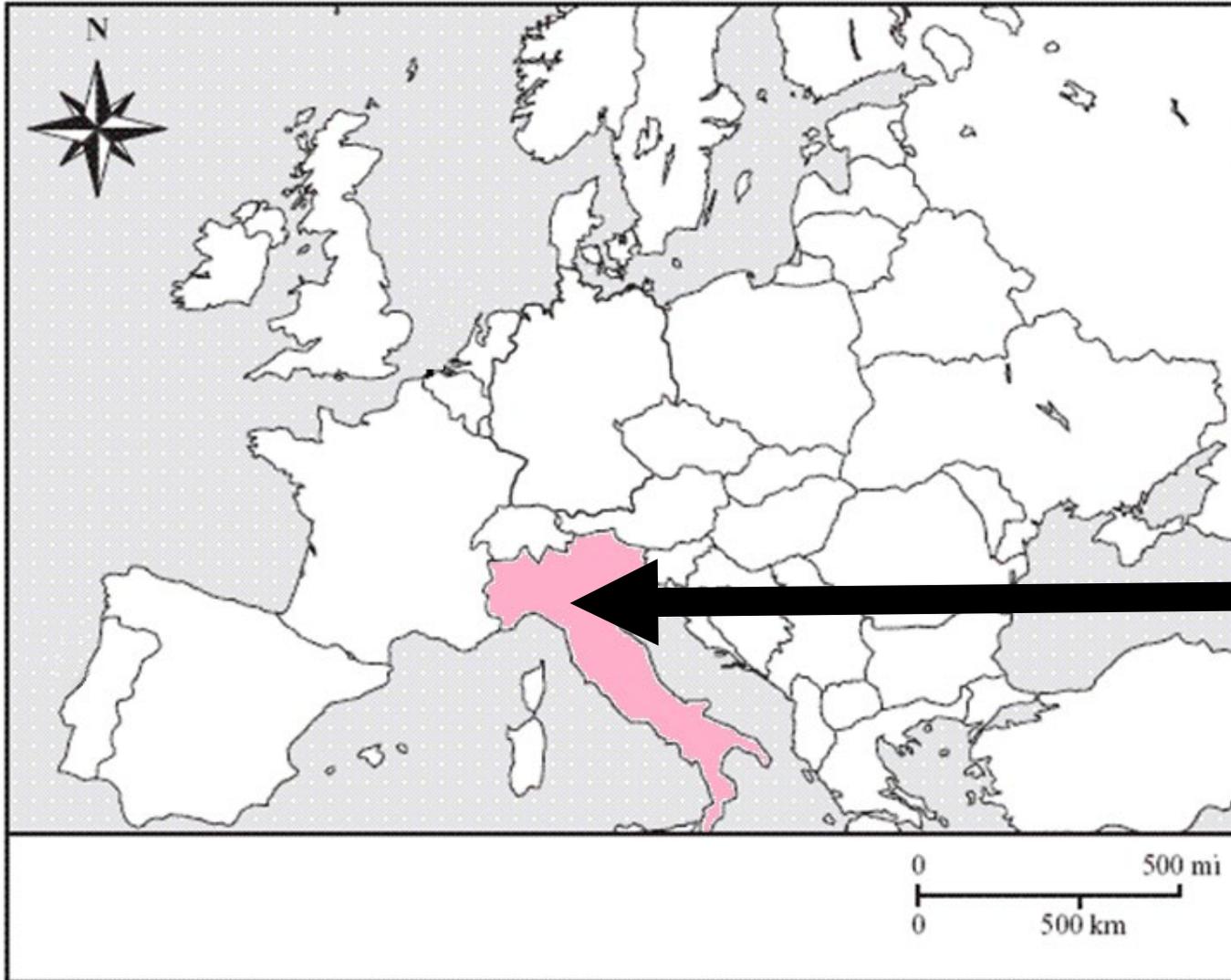
7

# Ukraine



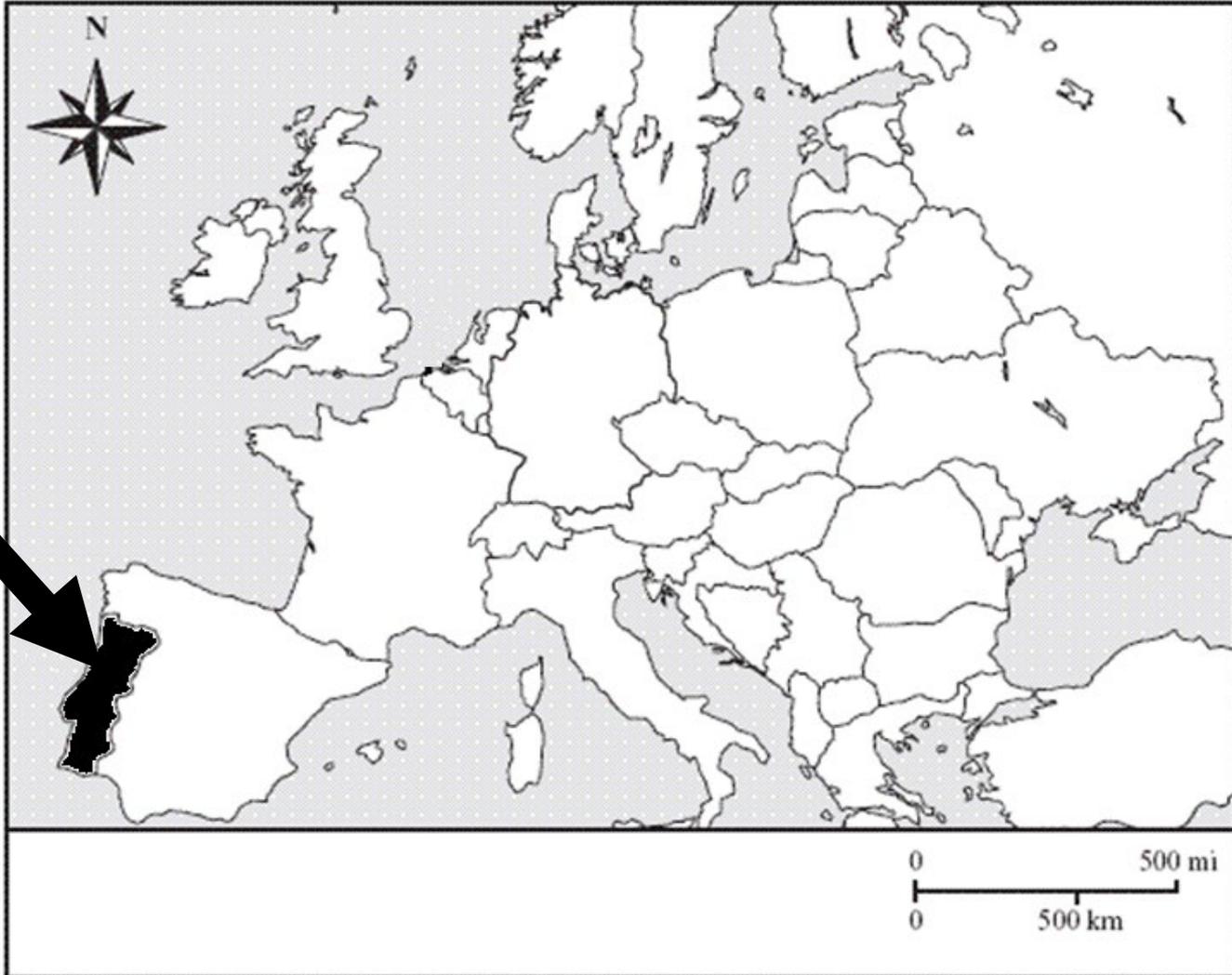
8

# Italy



9

# Portugal



10



Imagine that you took a European vacation and followed the path shown on the map below. Write a short letter to a friend describing the physical features that you visited or crossed during your trip.

