

# 15-3: Fascism Rises in Europe

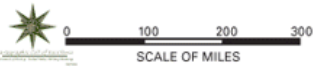


## ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

WHY DID ITALY AND GERMANY TURN TO  
TOTALITARIAN DICTATORS?

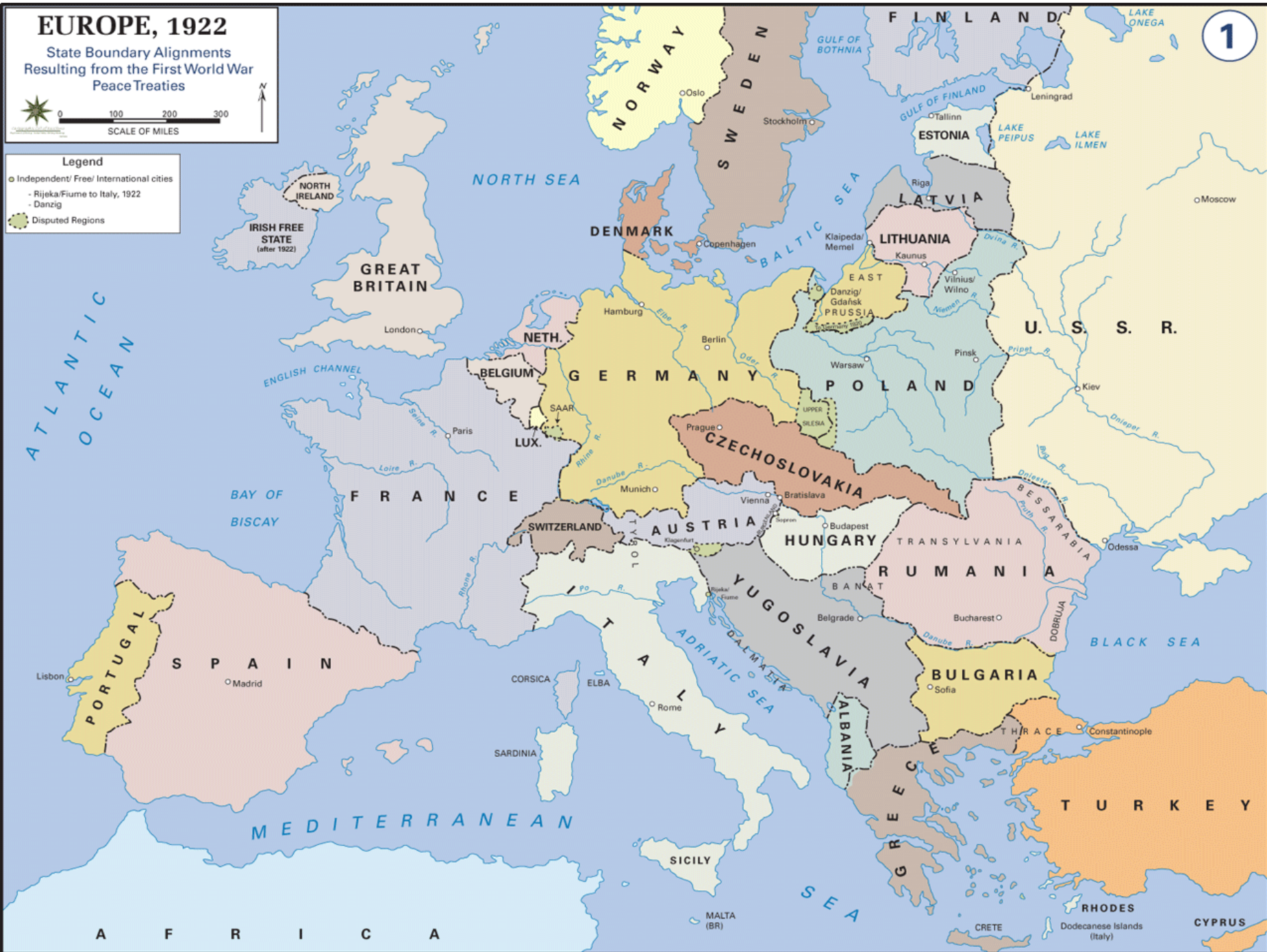
# EUROPE, 1922

State Boundary Alignments  
Resulting from the First World War  
Peace Treaties



## Legend

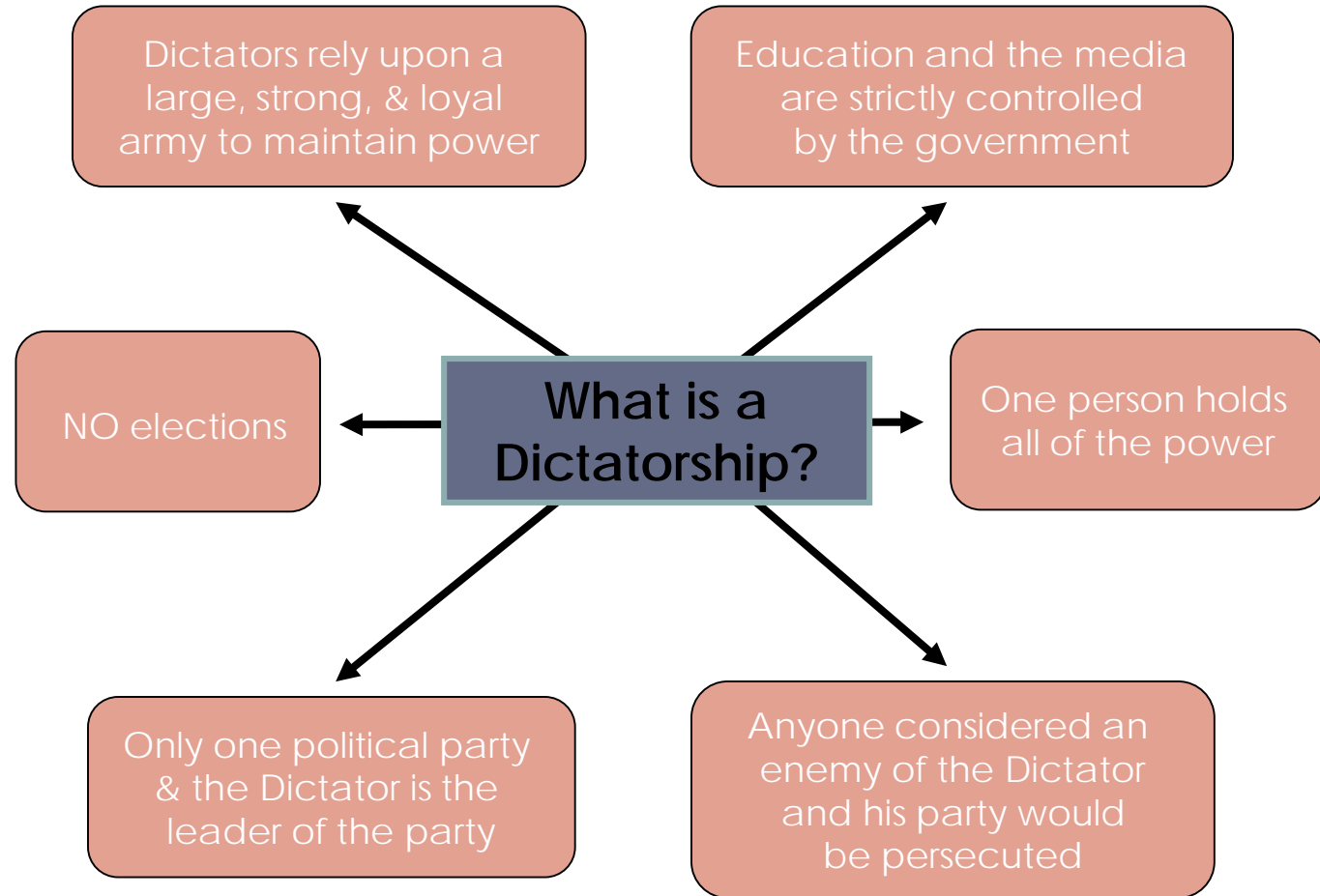
- Independent/ Free/ International cities
- Rijeka/Fiume to Italy, 1922
- Danzig
- ◻ Disputed Regions



# Totalitarian Governments

## Totalitarian system

Government takes total, centralized, state control of every aspect of public and private life aka Dictatorship



# Totalitarian Governments



- Communism
  - Classless society
  - Government owned everything: land, industry, etc.
    - ✦ No private property
    - ✦ Difficult to achieve in practice
- Fascism
  - Extreme nationalists
    - ✦ Loyalty to the state & obedience to its leader
  - Each class has its place in society
  - Denied individual rights
  - Private property with government control



# Benito Mussolini

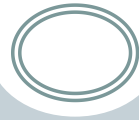


- Called “Il Duce” (the leader)
- Fascist
- Seized **power in Italy** in 1922
  - Played on Italian anger about the Versailles Treaty (WWI)
  - **Mussolini outlawed all political parties except his own**
  - He controlled the press and banned criticism of government
- Racism and cultural superiority
- Used Military control, secret police & Government censorship to maintain power





# Adolf Hitler



- Germany
- **Leader of the Nazi Party**
  - National Socialists German Worker's Party
  - Type of fascism
- Called the "Führer" (leader)
- Wrote *Mein Kampf*
  - Beliefs of German racial superiority
  - **Vowed to regain Germany's loss from WWI**
    - ✦ More lebensraum: living space
- **Rebuilt economy by preparing for another war**
  - Built tanks, guns and other war supplies
  - Gov't. controlled press, schools, and religion
- Hitler used **his hatred of Jews** (anti-Semitism) **as a scapegoat for all Germany's problems**. The Nazis passed laws depriving Jews of most of their rights and violence against them mounted.



# Joseph Stalin



- Soviet Union
- Communist leader
- Controlled every aspect of people's lives
- Eliminated all competition to keep power
  - Secret police
- Goals
  - End free enterprise
  - Industrialize
  - Set up collective farms
    - ✦ Leads to protests & famine
    - ✦ 4 -6 million deaths



# Other Dictators



- Spain: Francisco Franco
  - Fascist
- Japan: Hirohito
  - Militarism
- China: Mao Zedong
  - Communist
- In 1935, Czechoslovakia was the only remaining democracy in eastern Europe



# 15-4: Aggressors Invade Nations



## ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

AS GERMANY, ITALY AND JAPAN CONQUERED OTHER COUNTRIES,  
WHY DIDN'T THE REST OF THE WORLD TAKE ACTION TO STOP THEM?

# Japan Seeks an Empire



- 1920's: Japanese government became more democratic
  - Ruled by a prime minister
  - Signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact renouncing war
- 1930: Gov't. blamed for Great Depression
- In the 1930's, military leaders take control of Japan, seize Manchuria, and invade China.
  - The militarists did not try to establish a new government, just made the emperor the symbol of state power.
  - Japanese attack on Manchuria was on an area rich in iron and coal which they needed to continue their industrialization
  - Four years later Japan invades China in full scale war, killing thousands of captured soldiers and civilians. Beijing and Nanjing (capitol) fell to Japan.

# European Aggressors on the March



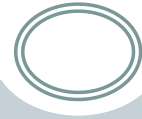
- After the League of Nations fails to punish Japan, Mussolini invades Ethiopia, trying to create an empire.
  - Ruled by Haile Selassie
  - Ethiopia appealed to the League of Nations for help but did nothing
- Hitler rebuilds Germany's armed Forces
- March 7, 1936: German troops move into the Rhineland, fulfilling his pledge to undo the Treaty of Versailles.
- The League of Nations once again failed to stop Germany, issuing a weak condemnation of its actions
- France and Britain, **appease** Hitler by giving in to an aggressor to keep peace.

# European Aggressors on the March



- Hitler's power and prestige in Germany grows, and the **balance of power shifted to Germany.**
- **Germany reaches an agreement/alliance with Italy and Japan forming the Axis Powers**
- Civil War in Spain leads to a fascist dictator Francisco Franco.
  - Hitler and Mussolini send troops, tanks and weapons in support, in what turns out to be a dress rehearsal for WWII
- Hitler announces his plan in 1937 to absorb Austria and Czechoslovakia into the Third Reich or German Empire. Germany then would expand into Poland and Russia.
- **Hitler annexes Austria and takes the Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia.**

# Democratic Nations try to preserve Peace



- Sept. 29, 1938: Munich Conference
  - Germany, France, Britain, & Italy meet
  - Policy of appeasement was agreed upon, France and Britain let Hitler have the Sudetenland in what British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain said preserves peace.
- Appeasement policies convince Hitler that Britain and France will not stop his seizure of Czechoslovakia.
- Mussolini seizes Albania.
- Germany and the Soviet Union, under Stalin, sign a nonaggression pact.
- War seemed inevitable.

# Democratic Nations try to preserve Peace



- In the 1930s the **United States follows a policy of isolationism** in an effort to keep out of the war.
  - Argued that entry into WWI was a costly error
    - ✦ Determined to prevent a repeat of this mistake
  - 1935: Congress passed 3 Neutrality Acts
    - ✦ Laws banned loans & sale of arms to nations at war
    - ✦ Believed it would keep the U.S. out of another foreign war