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**National Council for
Geographic Education**

Three for Three

Week 18, Unit 4

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A SUPPLEMENT TO THE WEEKLY APHG BELL RINGERS SERIES

Prepared by Laura Kmetz | laura.kmetz@gmail.com

The Function of Political Boundaries Topic 4.5



Territories within the Arctic Circle

Russia	Norway	Iceland	Denmark	Canada	United States
					
					
Agreed national borders		Equidistant lines		200-nautical-mile limit	

Source: IBRU, Durham University

1. The Arctic Council is composed of the eight countries that have territory in the Arctic. Identify those eight countries.
2. Discuss a political impact of melting Arctic ice.
3. Compare the significance of the 200 nautical mile limit (marked on the map) and the 12 nautical mile limit (not marked on the map) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
4. Explain the significance of the equidistant lines marked on the map.

Devolution Topics 4.8 & 4.9

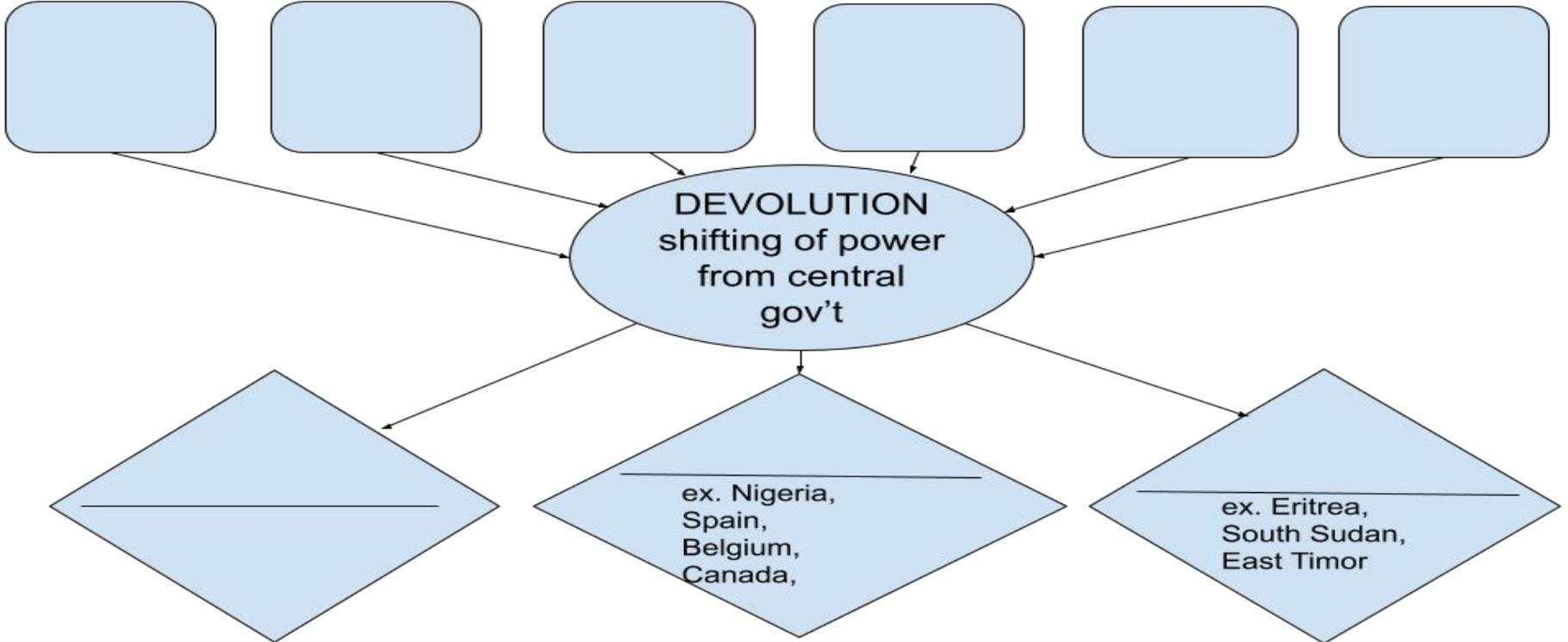


Sort the following into the graphic organizer as either CONTRIBUTING FACTORS (6 total) to devolution or possible EFFECTS (3) of devolution.

disintegration of states
economic & social problems
irredentism

fragmentation into autonomous regions
ethnic cleansing
subnational political-territorial units

physical geography
ethnic separatism
terrorism



Political Geography Unit Wrap Up



Group the words into categories. Be sure to identify the category.

antecedent

African Union

colonialism

contiguous zone

devolution

European Union

exclusive economic zone

imperialism

multinational state

nation

relic

stateless nation

superimposed

territorial sea

United Nations

IDEAS FOR SLIDES

SLIDE 1 source <https://www.economist.com/international/2013/05/18/a-warmer-welcome> Use this slide to discuss the significance of climate change in the context of the United Nations Convention of the Law on the Sea (IMP 4.5.B.4).

1. Canada, United States, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Denmark
2. Land and sea areas previously covered or made inaccessible by ice could cause direct conflict between states over territories in the Arctic.
3. Both limits were established by UNCLOS. 200 nm limit--exclusive economic zone--states have complete control over mineral extraction, fishing, and shipping access, but other states may pass through these waters; 12 nm limit--states have complete control over passage as well as exclusive economic rights to resources
4. When the EEZs of countries overlap, the median line principle applies. The overlapping area is divided equally between the countries.

SLIDE 2 Devolution is a process in which power shifts from the central government. The central government does not always do this voluntarily or consciously. Students can draw the graphic organizer and sort the info. They should give examples of each of the contributing factors, such as mountains for physical geography, where possible. Conclude a discussion of the topic by asking students the positive and negative ways in which communication technologies--in particular, the internet--have facilitated devolution in the past few decades.

SLIDE 3 List-group-label is a vocab. review strategy in which students are given a list of words (or generate the list themselves); group related words; and explain what they have in common. Use this strategy to help students review the political geography unit. For brevity's sake, only three words or examples of each are included; advanced students should be encouraged to give an extra example of each. The activity can be scaffolded by giving students the categories (listed in all caps) in advance.

SUGGESTED ANSWERS:

POLITICAL ENTITIES: multinational state, nation, stateless nation

FACTORS INFLUENCING CONTEMPORARY BOUNDARIES: colonialism, devolution, imperialism

TYPES OF POLITICAL BOUNDARIES: antecedent, relic, superimposed

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA: exclusive economic zone, contiguous zone, territorial sea

SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: African Union, European Union, United Nations



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