

**POLITICAL UNIT—**

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

**Boundaries and Borders of States**

Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Due: \_\_\_\_\_

**—Walls, Fences and Barriers**

Group's Region: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre Questions--Brainstorm and answer the following questions within your group. Take notes and be prepared to discuss in class.**

1. What is a boundary? Border?
2. What is the purpose of a state boundary/border? How are/were they determined?
3. What conflicts are/have occurred over boundaries or borders between states?
4. Why would a state build a physical barrier along their border with another state? Why wouldn't they?

**Regions:** Your group will be assigned one of the following regions:

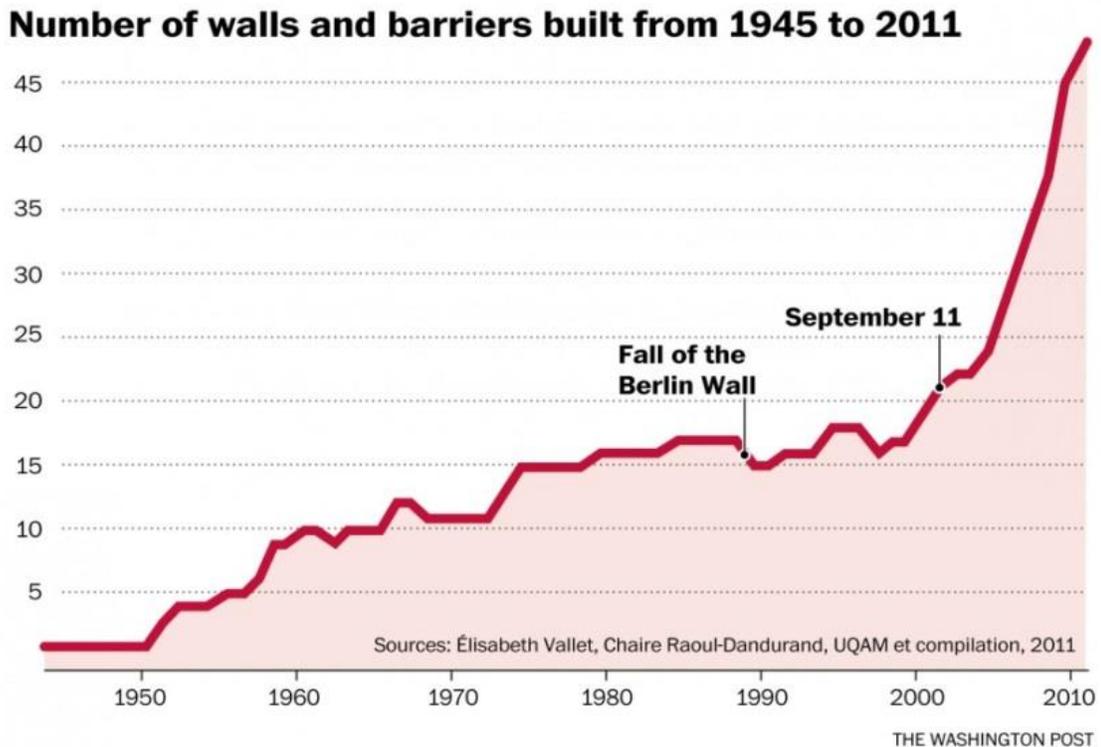
- A. The Americas
- B. Europe (including Russia);
- C. East, Southeast and South Asia; Northern Africa and Southwest and Central Asia (this may overlap with South Asia); and
- D. Sub-Saharan Africa

**Activity:**

1. Research your assigned region of the world as a group and locate any physical barriers that have been built or are being proposed between states.
2. Produce a poster for your assigned region. Include a regional map showing the political division of states in region.
3. Indicate on the regional map where physical barriers/walls/fences have been built or are being proposed. Include information on your posters about each barrier such as:
  - a. When was it built or when will it be built?
  - b. Who built the barrier or is proposing that it be built?
  - c. What kind of barrier is it or will it be?
  - d. Why was the barrier built or why is it being proposed?
  - e. Are there any unusual facts or information about each barrier in your region?
4. Are there any physical barriers that were historically used as barriers are no longer functional in your region?
5. Where would you predict that barriers are going to be built or taken down in the future?

[Be sure to indicate on you regional map whether the barriers is currently being enforced, is proposed for the future, is no longer an active barrier or your predicted border. Think legend on your map.]

Follow-up Discussion Questions:



1. **Interpret** the graph above [“Number of walls and barriers built from 1945-2011”] and **explain** why there was a dramatic increase in the number of walls and barriers following 9-11.
2. **What impact** do barriers between states (countries) have on political, economic, and cultural cooperation?
3. **What** are the economic, social, political, etc. **impacts** of large numbers of refugees migrating to a county and are physical barriers a solution?
4. In your region, **what purpose** does each of your barriers serve? **Why** are barriers being built between some states and not others?
5. **Where** have barriers been removed in your region – if any? **Why**?
6. **What role** does the presence or absence of well protected borders between states play when faced with
  - a. national security?
  - b. economic cooperation?
  - c. the spread of ideologies (cultural, political, etc.)
7. What other questions do you have about this topic? How might this be tested on our unit exam or the national APHG exam?