

II. International and Internal Boundaries

- * Boundaries add clarity,
- * Signal when one political boundary ends and another begins
- * Frequent cause of bloodshed + war.

A. Categories of Boundaries

1. Defined Boundary

a) established by a legal document such as a treaty that divides one entity from another (country or real estate)

2. Delimited Boundary:

a) A line drawn on a map to show the limits of a space

3. Demarcated Boundary: is one identified by physical objects placed on the landscape (Ex a sign or fences + walls)

4. Natural Boundary

a) Based on physical features to separate entities.

Ex The Missouri River divides Iowa + Nebraska

Ex2: Himalayan Mountains Divide India + China

5. Geometric Boundary

a) A straight line drawn by people that does not follow a land feature
nearly closely

Ex: Libya + Egypt

6. Cultural Boundary

a) based on human traits or behaviors

b) often exists in a gradual change over space

Ex: China: cuisine once divided the land in two Regions
wheat in the North, Rice in the South

Ex2: Sweet vs. Unsweet Tea

B. Limited Sovereignty and International Boundary Disputes

* 4 kinds of Disputes

1. Definitional Boundary Disputes

a) When 2 or more parties disagree over how to interpret the legal documents or maps that identify the boundary

b) Often occur with antecedent boundaries

Ex: Chile + Argentina: Andes serve as the boundaries, southern limit neither settled or accurately maps

2. Locational Boundary Disputes

a) Center on where the boundary should be

Ex: Post WWI Germany + Poland (Ethnic Germans living in Poland)

b) Can lead to Irredentism

- when one country seeks to annex territory in another because it has ties to part of the population that lives there.

3. Operational Boundary Disputes

a) Based on how a boundary functions

b) Ex: Syria: Some European countries view the boundary as where lines of responsibility for helping refugees was.

* Others viewed those lines as barriers to keep refugees out.

4. Allocational Boundary Dispute

a) When a boundary separates natural resources that may be used by both countries.

b) Boundaries are vertical planes that extend into the sky + below the earth

Ex: Persian Iraq invaded Kuwait

C. Classifications of Boundaries

1. Antecedent: A boundary drawn before a large population was present.

Ex: US + Canada

2. Subsequent (Ethnographic): A boundary drawn to accommodate religious, ethnic, linguistic, or economic differences

Ex: N. Ireland + Ireland

3. Relic: A boundary that no longer exists, but evidence of it exists on the landscape.

Ex: Berlin Wall: E. and W. Germany

4. Superimposed: A boundary drawn by outside powers

Ex: Common throughout Africa + SW Asia

5. Militarized: A boundary that is heavily guarded + discourages crossing and movement

Ex: N + S. Korea

6. Open: A boundary where crossing is unimpeded.

Ex: EU.

D. Boundaries Influence Identity, Interaction, and Exchange

1. Can stir feelings of nationalism (extending a boundary or defending it)

2. Interaction: Open borders can lead to less conflict / violence

3. Closed can lead to high tension (N + S. Korea)

E. The Law of the Sea

* UN Convention of the Law of the Sea

1. Territorial Sea: UNCLOS

a) Up to 12 nautical miles of sovereignty:

b) Commercial vessels may pass, non-commercial may be challenged

2. Contiguous Zone:

- a) Coastal States have limited sovereignty for up to 24 nautical miles
- b) Enforce laws on customs, immigration, and sanitation.

3 Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

- a) Coastal states can explore, extract minerals, and manage up to 200 nautical miles

4 High Seas:

- a) Water beyond the EEZ is open to all states

* If two coastal states share a waterway and are less than 24 N.miles then the distance between the two coasts is divided by half.

* Island extend EEZ by huge amounts.

* Libya - US Conflict

F Voting Districts, Redistricting, and Gerrymandering

1. A states internal boundaries are very important

Voting districts with defined lines

2. Districts should have close to the same # of people (census every 10 yrs)

a) After the census has been calculated the National Government determines each state's # of representatives (re apportionment)

b) State legislatures then redraw district lines (redistricting)

Ex: fixed at 435 since 1912

c) Gerrymandering: drawing of voting districts, by the party in power to extend their power

3 Types of Gerrymandering

a) Cracking: Dispersing a group into several districts to prevent a majority

b) Packing: Combining like-minded voters into one district to prevent them from affecting elections in other districts

- c) Stacking: Diluting a minority populated districts with majority population.
- d) Hyacking: Redrawing two districts in order to force two elected representatives of the same party to run against each other.
- e) Hiidnapping: Moving an area where a Rep had support ^{to where} they ^{don't}