

41. Europe – industries

Europe = 1 of the most developed regions in the world (besides the USA and Japan). But economically it can be divided into 2 main parts:

- *Western Europe* – very rich countries with strong economies, e.g. D, CH, F
- *Eastern Europe* – much poorer, former communist countries, e.g. PL, H, SK, RO

European Union

1957 = *European Economic Community* formed by 5 countries = “economic co-operation reduces the likelihood of war between the member countries”.

25 countries create this community nowadays with aim of industrial development.

Name that countries!

Industries

- ❖ Primary industry (providing fuels and raw materials for other industries) – direct, extractive use of the Earth’s resources, i.e. agriculture, fishing, forestry, mining and quarrying
- ❖ Secondary industry (processing of raw materials and manufactured goods) – manufacturing/processing industry, i.e. smelting, power, chemical, printing, leather, textile, food-processing, electronics, etc.
- ❖ Tertiary industry (provision of services) – services offered to citizens, i.e. health care, social welfare, education, tourism, transport, administration, wholesale and retails

Agricultural regions and food-processing industry

= in *low-lying areas* (lowlands) and *suitable relief* (southern aspect of a hill-slope)

- P + E (coastal areas), I (Po lowland), GR, F, UK, D (granary of Europe), NL, DK, PL, H, south-eastern UA + southern RUS (granaries of the world)
- wheat, barley, sugar, butter, beef, chicken, pork, cheese, eggs, vegetables, wine, potatoes – all these commodities is Europe self-sufficient in.

Fishing in coastal areas, e.g. NOR, DK, UK, IRL, F

European Union supports farming activities by Common Agricultural Policy, e.g. to reduce surpluses, to manage food prices, to control food supplies, etc.

Is it efficient?

Extraction of raw materials + iron and steel industry

Traditional industrial regions based on extraction and processing of raw materials, i.e. *coal, iron ore, oil, natural gas*:

- UK (large steelworks in Wales), Ruhr region (Dortmund, Duisburg, Düsseldorf), Dnipro basin (Dnepropetrovsk), Volga lowland (Kazaň, Samara, Volgograd)
- Oil and natural gas is drilled in North Sea (UK, NOR, D, DK, NL) but also huge amounts are extracted in E Russia and Ukraine
- Central Europe = Upper-Silesian basin (Katowice, Ostrava)

Power industry

Most of electricity is generated by *coal-fired power plants* (UK, PL, D), *nuclear power stations* (F, UK, E, RUS, CZ, SK) and by *hydro-electric power plants* (NOR, S). European Union supports other forms of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, tidal, geothermal) as well.

Tertiary industry and science parks

All the European countries have developed high levels of service provisions. Especially in W Europe small and medium enterprises employ majority of economic active people (>60%).

Besides social services there are include also *financial institutions* (banks, insurances), *logistics* (transport companies), *hotels and restaurants, car rentals and repairs + entertainment*.

Science parks = Alpine zone (N Italy + E France) and the largest cities (Paris, London, Munich)

Keywords

European Economic Community, I./II./III. industry, agricultural areas, smelting and power industry, services