

Geography Year 9 Russia

Key term	Definition
Permafrost	Soil that stays frozen all year round, making building and farming difficult.
Tundra	A cold, flat area with no trees, found in Russia's far north.
Fossil Fuels	Energy sources like oil, coal, and gas that Russia exports to other countries.
Geopolitics	How geography affects politics and power—for example, Russia's interest in the Arctic and Ukraine.
Superpower	A country with a lot of global influence because of its military, economy, and politics.
Authoritarianism	A system where one leader or a small group has most of the power and limits freedoms.
Sanctions	Punishments from other countries, like trade bans, to make a country change its actions.
Population Distribution	How people are spread out across Russia—most live in the west near big cities.
Natural Resources	Things found in nature like oil, gas, coal, and metals that Russia uses and sells.
Taiga	A large forest of pine and fir trees that covers much of northern Russia.

Key Facts:	Largest country in the world, 145m+ population, spanning Europe and Asia, with Moscow as its capital. Ural Mountains (Europe-Asia divide) and Lake Baikal (world's deepest lake). Cold climates of Siberia; major climate zones are Tundra, Subarctic, Humid Continental, and Steppe, with biomes like Taiga (largest forest). Russia is in an ongoing war with Ukraine and increasing military spending. Russians identify as European and Asian. 75% of people live in the West and are influenced by European culture & fashion, the East has strong cultural links to Asia.
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Russia has a military base in **Kaliningrad** as it gives access to the Baltic Sea for trade and naval power, and it provides a position close to NATO countries for defense and influence.

REASONS WHY RUSSIA INVADIED UKRAINE



WHY THE INVASION WAS MADE HARDER

Human factors - Strong Ukrainian resistance - Western military support - Low Russian morale	Physical factors - Large country to conquer - Rivers such as the D Nipri - Muddy ground in spring
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Russia's Views on Homosexuality & Global Impact



Russia's Position

- 2013 law bans "gay propaganda"
- Same-sex marriage not legal
- LGBTQ+ rights restricted



Global Impact

- Criticism from EU & UN
- Sanctions and diplomatic tension
- Human rights debates worldwide



Consequences

- Strained relations with Western countries
- Travel warnings for LGBTQ+ individuals
- Russia seen as limiting freedoms

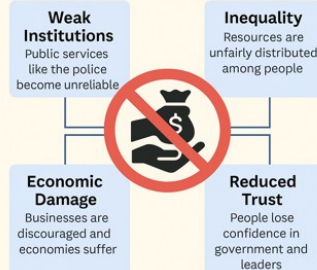
Importance of Fossil Fuels to Russia



- Fossil fuel exports—oil, natural gas and coal—are essential for Russia's economy.
- Fossil fuels also play a key role in powering Russia's electricity and industry.

THE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION

Corruption has negative effects on governance and society.



when someone in power acts dishonestly to get something illegal

Why does Russia want the arctic?



Resources

The Arctic has huge oil, gas, and mineral reserves that Russia wants for economic growth.

Shipping Routes

Melting ice creates shorter trade routes between Europe and Asia, saving time and money.

Strategic Power

Controlling the Arctic gives Russia military and political influence.

Global Competition

Other countries also want the Arctic, so Russia acts to protect its share.

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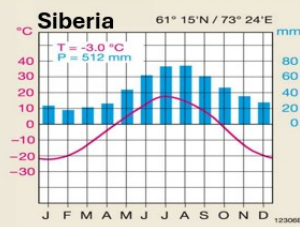
Is Russia a superpower?

Military: Russia has one of the world's strongest armies and the largest nuclear arsenal.

Economic: Its economy is big but weaker than the USA or China and relies on oil and gas.

Resources: Russia owns huge reserves of oil, gas, coal, and minerals.

Culture: Russia is known for literature and arts



Siberia's climate has winters often dropping below -40 °C and short summers around 10-20 °C. People live there mainly for its rich natural resources like oil, gas, and minerals that provide jobs and economic opportunities.