



RUSSIA AND EASTERN EUROPE

It's cold and Slavic.



THE SLAVS: ORIGINS AND MIGRATIONS

Slavs: originally a unified culture of central Eastern Europe

- Migration in differing directions between 400 to 600 CE, resulting in sub-groups

Western Slavs: Poles, Czechs, Slovaks, Romanians

- Most converted to Roman Catholicism due to influence of neighboring Germanic groups

Southern Slavs: Slovenes, Serbs, Croats, Bulgarians, Bosnians

- Initially, most practice Eastern Orthodox Christianity, due to proximity and influence of Byzantine empire
- HOWEVER: Croats (near Venice) largely Catholic → trade benefits
- Bosnians convert to Islam under Ottoman rule

Eastern Slavs: Russians and Ukrainians





THINGS THAT AREN'T RUSSIA

Look, it's the best way to group this stuff.

EASTERN-CENTRAL BORDERLANDS

Bulgaria— a mix of Slavs and Bulgars (group which migrated from central Asia, like the Hunnic people)

- Kingdom develops between 600 and 900 CE, height of influence under Simeon I (tsar)
- Adopts Eastern Orthodox Christianity in the 900s, along with a variation of the Cyrillic alphabet

Often at war with the Byzantine empire, briefly conquered in 1018 CE

Conquered and ruled by the Ottoman Turks by the late 1300s

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EASTERN-CENTRAL BORDERLANDS

Serbia

- Formed a unified kingdom by 1100 CE, accepted Eastern Orthodox Christianity
- Used the Cyrillic Alphabet

Began conquering territory from the Byzantines in the 1300s

- By 1355, decayed into political fragmentation, resulting in conquest by the Ottoman Turks
- Serbia = controlled by the Ottoman Turks for the next 500 years



HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

PR. MAGYARS

KG. CROATS

PR. SERBS

BULGARIAN EMPIRE

BYZANTINE EMPIRE

**South Eastern Europe
c. 960 A. D.**

Duchy BAVARIA

OSTMARK

STYRIA

Duchy CARINTHIA

FRIULI

Aquileia

CARNIOLA

VENICE

Ravenna

KINGDOM OF ITALY

ADRIATIC SEA

SPOLETO

PAPAL

Rome

BENEVENTO

D. NAPLES

SALERMO

TH. CALABRIA

SICILY (ARAB)

Blatnograd

Drava

Sisak

SAVIA

Nin

Zadar

Knin

Split

TH. DALMATIA

TH. CROATIA

TH. SLAVONIA

TH. HUM

Tribenje

DIOKLEA

Kotor

Bar

Dyrrachium

TH. DYRRACHIUM

TH. LANGOBARDIA

Bari

TH. CALABRIA

Avlona

TH. NIKOPOLIS

TH. HELLAS

TH. PELLOPONNESSE

Danube

Tisza

PR. MAGYARS

Srem

Vidin

Ras

Nis

Morava

PR. SERBS

TH. SERBIA

TH. BOSNIA

TH. PIVA

TH. VARDAR

Ohrid

Monastir

TH. SALONICA

Thessaloniki

TH. MACEDONIA

Adrianople

Constantinople

TH. HELLAS

Patras

Athens

TH. PELLOPONNESSE

ASIA MINOR

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KIEVAN RUS' AND THE ORIGINS OF RUSSIA

Vikings + Byzantines + Mongols
= Russia.

ORIGINS OF THE RUS': THE RURIK DYNASTY

By the 800s, Eastern Slavic peoples had set up trade routes and towns along rivers throughout what is now Ukraine and Western Russia, all the way north to the Baltic

According to legend, Rurik, a prince from Scandinavia (and possible Viking?!?) came to rule over the northern trade city of Novogorod

- Subsequent rulers of Rurik's line eventually conquered the southern city of Kiev, located on the Dniepper River in 880 CE
- Possible theory: because of their tendency to have reddish hair, local Slavs referred to those of Scandinavian origin as the Rus'

Kiev's geographic location made it a prime location for trade → \$\$\$\$\$

- Kiev's economic supremacy eventually led to a loose Slavic kingdom dominated by Kiev
- We refer to this cultural and political entity as the "Kievan Rus"

RISE OF KIEV: TRADE AND VIKINGS

Abundant rivers, timber, and furs made the Kievan Rus an important factor in several trade systems

- Traded with the Byzantines and Islamic caliphates via the Dnieper River to the Black Sea
- Traded with Scandinavians via rivers to the Baltic Sea

Rivers proved important for transportation of goods, ideas, and PEOPLE

- Particularly raiders coming from Scandinavia → VIKINGS

Population pressures in Scandinavia led to a rise in raids and attacks along coastal and river settlements throughout the 900s (The Viking Age)



VIKINGS IN WORLD HISTORY

Viking- to explore

Atlantic citizens

Why the 8th-10th centuries?

Outsider POV

Sagas

Social Classes- Jarls (Upperclass), Karls (Commoners), Thralls (Slaves)

No Horns on Longships

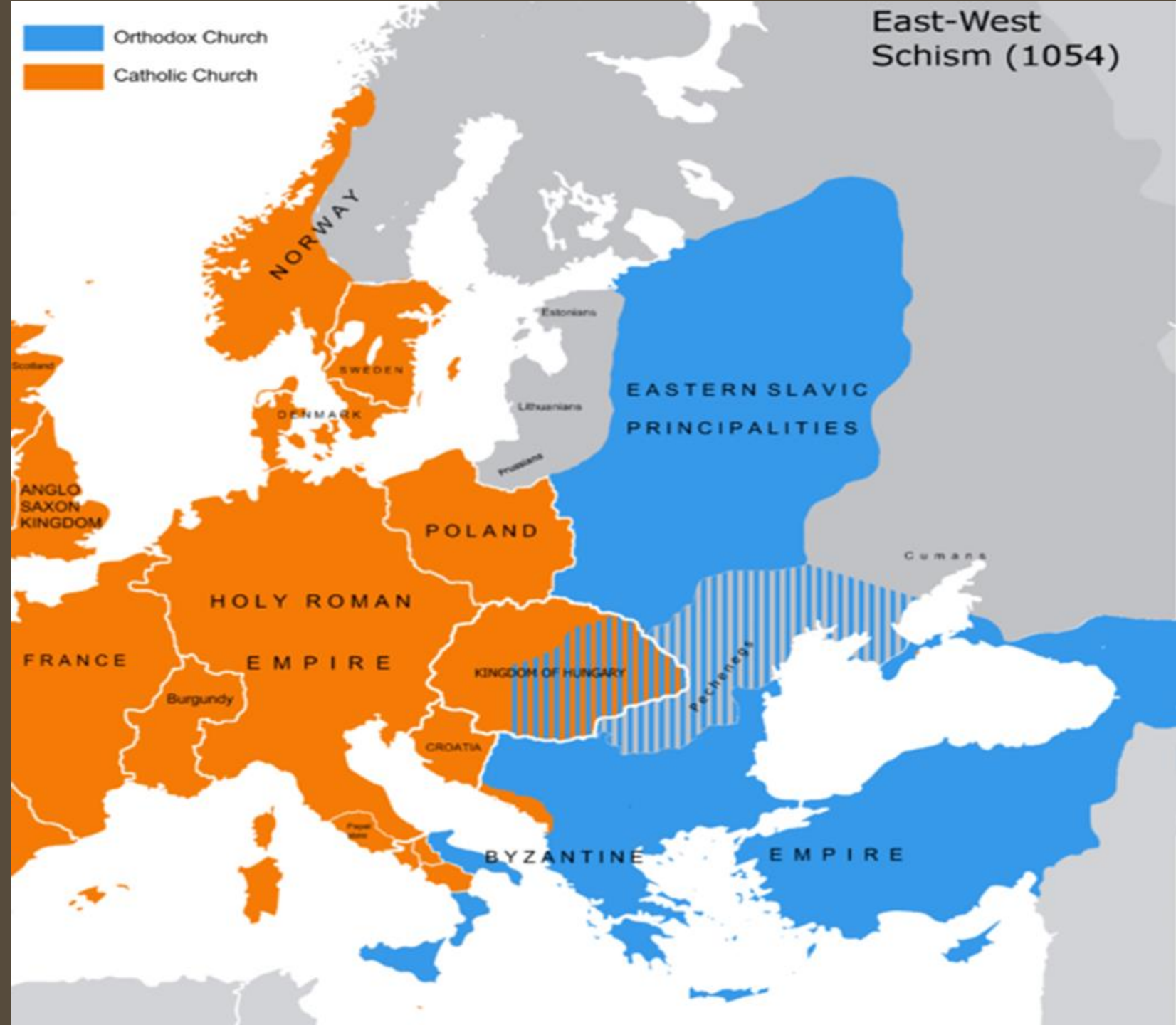
Viking Imagery Throughout Time

KIEVAN RUS': POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

KIEVAN RUS': CONVERSION TO CHRISTIANITY

East-West Schism (1054)

-  Orthodox Church
-  Catholic Church



KIEVAN RUS': POLITICAL DECLINE

WAIT FOR IT... THE MONGOLS (IN RUSSIA)