

Russia & Eastern Europe



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Describe how geography influenced the rise of Russia, and how Kiev grew to be the center of the first Russian state.
- Explain how Mongol rule affected Russia.
- Describe how Moscow took the lead in Russia and how its rulers developed authoritarian control.
- Describe how geography influenced the development of Eastern Europe.
- Understand how migration contributed to cultural diversity in Eastern Europe, and learn about three early Eastern European kingdoms.

Geography of Russia

Russia would adapt much of its culture from the Byzantine Empire

Russia was made up of 3 regions. 1. Forests for lumber, 2. fertile lands for farming &...

Steppe- open treeless grassland for pasture lands.

Russia's network of rivers provided transportation for people & goods in the region.

Early Russia

Migrating Slavic people pushed in Russia as well as the Vikings.

Kiev- City strengthened by trade & the future center of the first Russian state

Two brothers, Cyril & Methodius, would adapt the Greek Alphabet into the **Cyrillic** alphabet.

Russian adapted Byzantine art, music, & architecture. Especially the domes of Russian churches

Yaroslav the Wise- wrote a law code & translated Greek to his language

Mongols Conquer Russia

Batu, grandson of Genghis, led Mongols into Russia on a violent conquest

Mongols ruled for about 150 years but were tolerant rulers, only asking for a tribute

Russians would benefit from new trade routes across the region, but would cut off contact with Western Europe

Moscow Surpasses Kiev

Ivan the Great- brings Northern Russia under his rule
& built the framework for absolute rule.

Ivan the IV takes over but becomes unstable & violent. He creates agents of terror to watch over the realm

He will eventually become known as **Ivan the Terrible**

Geography of Eastern Europe

This area is known as the **Balkan Peninsula**

Slavs in region are made up of a diverse group of tribes.

Ethnic Groups- group of people who share the same language & cultural heritage, began to settle this region.

Different religions were spread out across the region as well. Jewish cultures would settle in the Poland area

Early Kingdoms of Eastern Europe

Three kingdoms of Poland, Hungary, & Serbia were created in eastern europe

Polish nobles met in a [diet](#), assembly, where the single vote of a noble could block a law.

Hungary was settled by the Magyars & the king had to sign the [Golden Bull of 1222](#), which limited royal power

Serbia battled the Byzantine Empire & conquered Macedonia, but eventually were defeated by the Turks