

LESSON 4

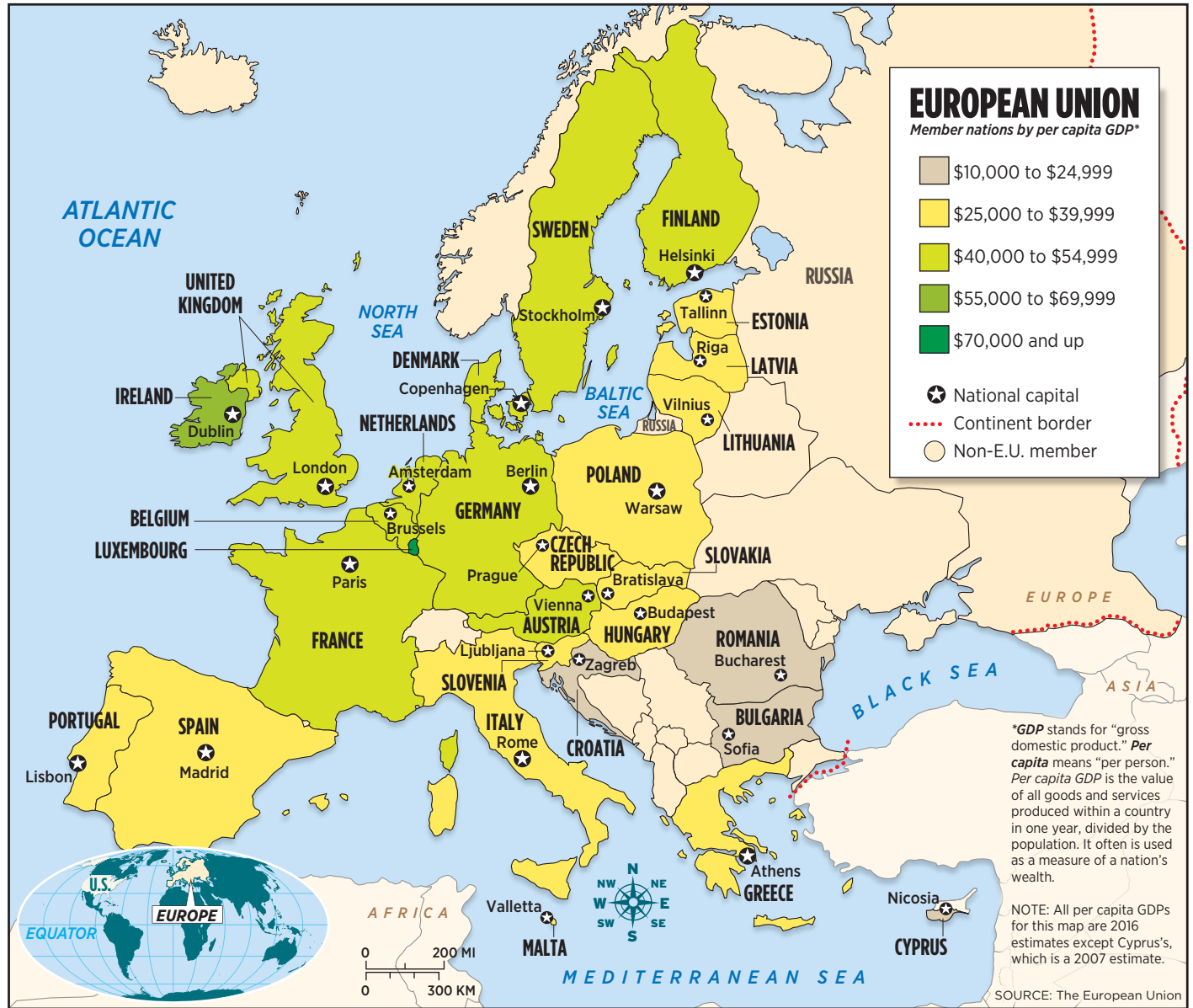
Political and Economic Map

Political maps show government-defined information about places, including country and state boundaries, plus the location of capitals, other major cities, and bodies of water. They often use colors to distinguish countries from one another, or to provide another layer of information, as the map at right does.

This map of Europe and countries in the European Union (E.U.) is a political map. It's also an **economic map**, because it shows the wealth of each nation belonging to the E.U.

The E.U. is a political and economic alliance made up of 28 countries.* (One E.U. nation, Cyprus, is part of Asia.) The E.U. was formed after World War II (1939-1945) and was based on the idea that countries that trade with one another are less likely to go to war.

*In 2016, the United Kingdom voted to leave the E.U. The exit process will be complete by 2019.



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Use Your Skills

Use the map on p. 1 to answer the questions.

1. The E.U.'s headquarters are in Brussels. That is the capital of which country? _____
2. That country is in which per capita GDP range?

3. How many other E.U. member nations are in the same range? _____
4. Which countries in the \$25,000 to \$39,999 range are west of Italy? _____
5. How many countries are in the \$55,000 to \$69,999 range? _____
6. Which E.U. member nations border the Black Sea?

7. Those countries are in which per capita GDP range? _____
8. Which other countries are in the same range?

9. What are their capitals?

10. One E.U. member has a per capita GDP of \$102,000. Which country is it? How do you know? _____

Consider This

Given the wide gap between the per capita GDPs of the richest and poorest E.U. countries, what kinds of challenges might E.U. leaders face keeping the 28 member nations working together?