

## *Issue 3: Why do boundaries between states cause problems?*

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1) Discuss the political and social dimensions of the multi-national conflict on Cyprus. How is this conflict different from other multi-national conflicts?

2) How did the Crimean peninsula become a focal point of multi-national conflict in the Ukraine? Use the current situation in the Ukraine to discuss factors such as ethnicity, economic development and nationalism

3) Discuss how cultural and national diversity has become a contentious political issue in:

- Georgia
- Tajikistan
- Chechnya

4) Describe the roots of the Kurdish problem:

- In which states can you find a substantial Kurdish population?
- Why has the Kurdish population not been able to create an independent Kurdish state?

5) States have tried various policies to confront the demands of ethnic minorities within their territories. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the models listed below.

Unitary State:

- Example:

Federal State

- Example:

6) Why has there been recent trend toward federal government? What problems ensue when states try to dismantle a unitary form of government to develop a more federal model?