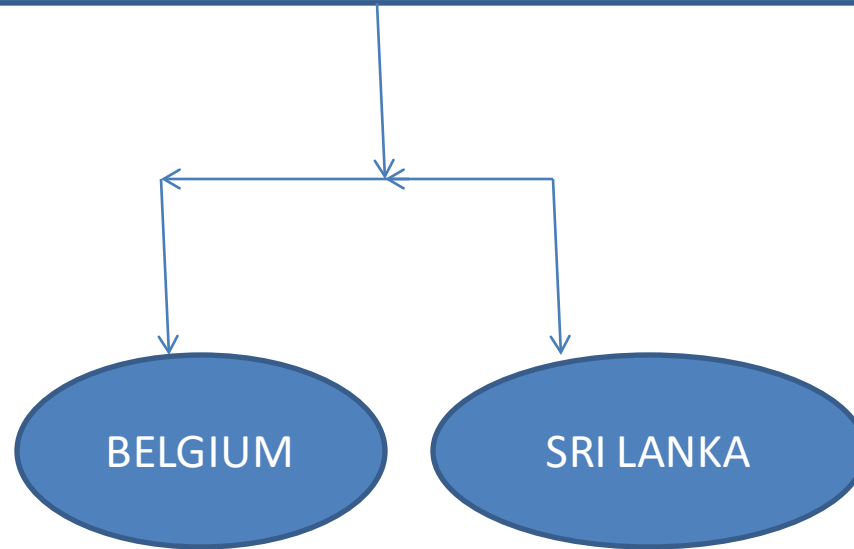


Power sharing



BELGIUM

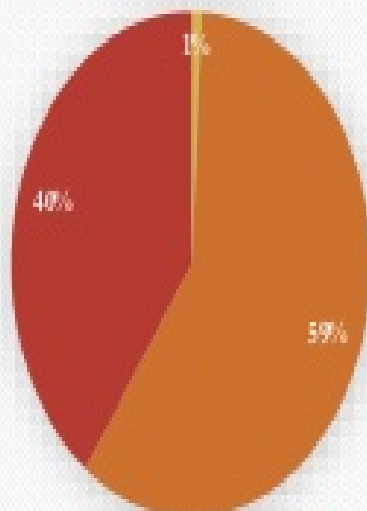
Past Political Setup of Belgium

- ◆ Belgium became independent from the Netherlands after a nationalist revolt in 1830. Occupied and devastated during both world wars. Flemish is spoken mainly in the north and French and Walloon are spoken in south.



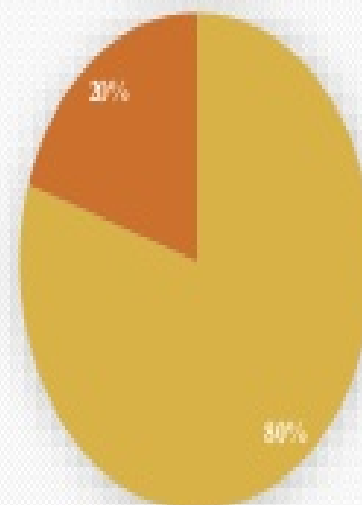
ETHNIC COMPOSITION

BELGIUM



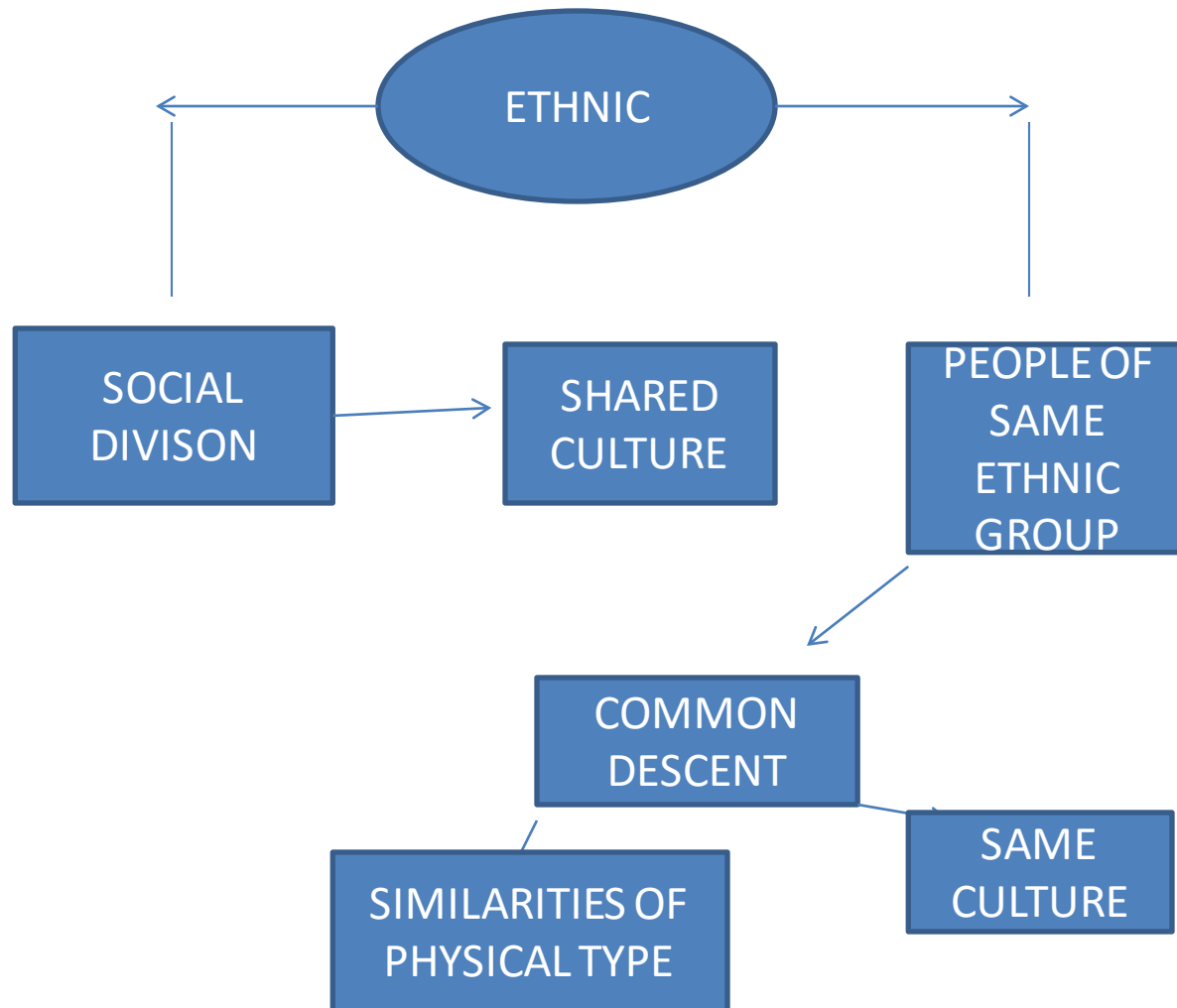
■ GERMAN ■ FRENCH (Wallonia) ■ DUTCH (Flemish)

BRUSSELS



■ FRENCH ■ DUTCH

Definition of ETHNICITY



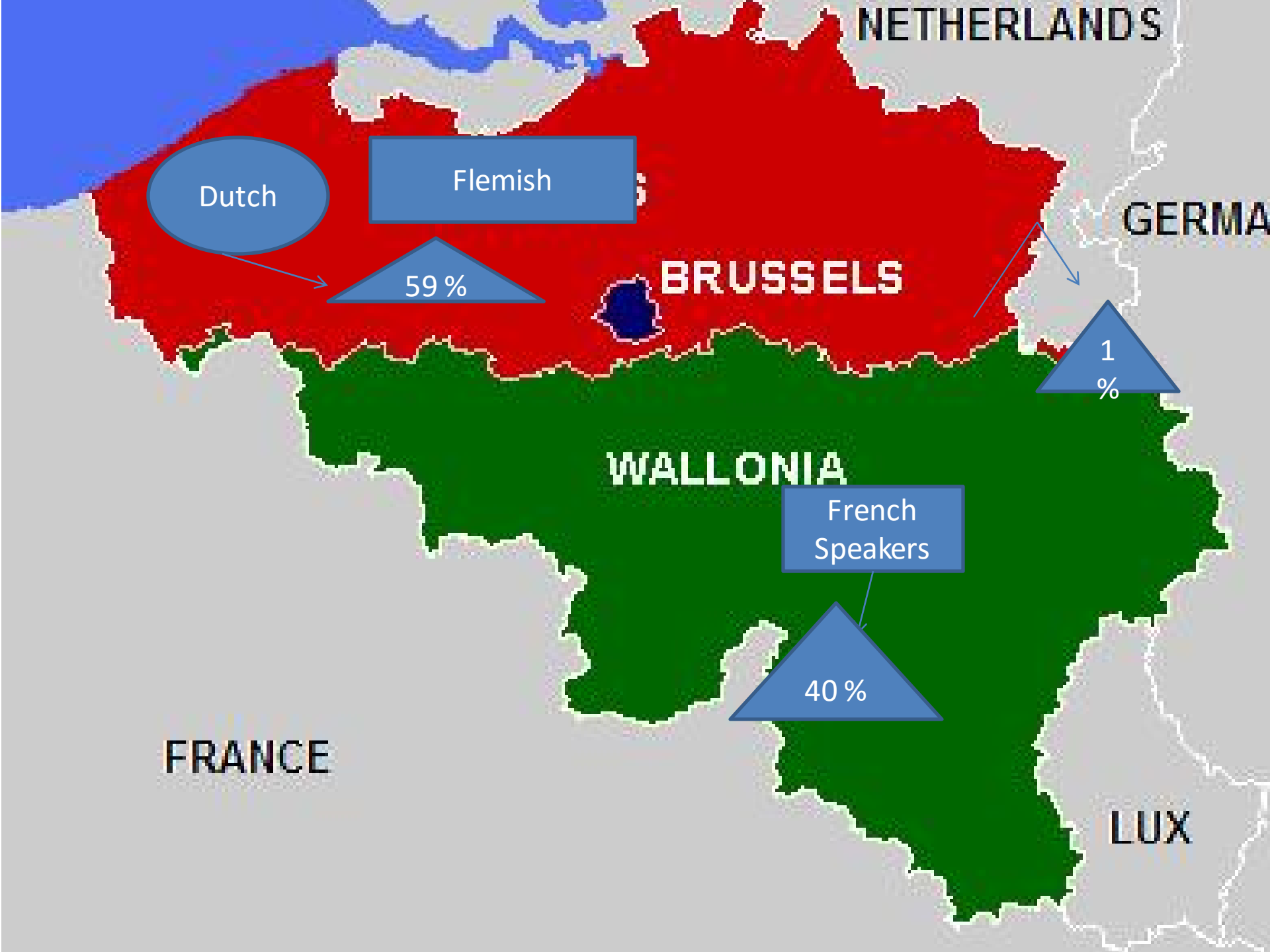
ETHNIC COMPOSITION

BELGIUM:

- 59% Dutch speakers
- 40% French speakers
- 1% German speakers

BRUSSELS:

- 20% Dutch speakers
- 80% French speakers



NETHERLANDS

GERMA

Dutch

Flemish

BRUSSELS

59 %

1 %

WALLONIA

French Speakers

40 %

FRANCE

LUX

Causes of the Ethnic Crisis in Belgium

- Minority **French** speaking community was relatively **rich and powerful**.
- **Dutch** speaking community got the benefit of **economic devpt. & education much later**.
- This led to tension between the Dutch speaking and French speaking communities.

Solution of Ethnic crisis in Belgium

- Belgian leaders **accommodated linguistic and cultural diversities.**
- **Amendment** of the constitution **four times** from 1970 to 1993.
- (No. of Dutch) = (French) speaking ministers in the central govt.
- Many **powers of the central govts.** are **given to the state govts.**
- **Brussels have a separate govt.** in which both the communities have **equal representation.**
- A third type of govt. – **Community govt.** is elected by people belonging to one language community.
- For this solidarity, **Brussels** has been chosen as the **headquarters of European Union.**