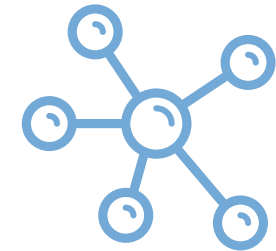


The United Kingdom



Quick summary



The **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK)** is made up of four countries. England and Wales united in 1284. Scotland became part of the union in 1707 and Northern Ireland in 1921. **England**, **Wales** and **Scotland** are known as Great Britain. **Northern Ireland** is part of the island of Ireland. The flag of the United Kingdom is called the Union Flag and is red, white and blue. When flown at sea, the flag is known as the Union Jack. The UK has a monarchy and a democratic government. The queen is Queen Elizabeth II and first in line to the throne is her eldest son, Prince Charles.



Location

The UK is part of the continent of Europe. Seas that surround the UK are: the Irish Sea and the Atlantic Ocean to the west, the North Sea to the east and, separating the UK and France to the south, the English Channel (called La Manche by the French).

The UK is part of the British Isles – an archipelago in the North Atlantic Ocean made up of Great Britain and over six thousand smaller islands.



Vocabulary

united: joined together

union: the joining together of different groups

monarchy: the king or queen and royal family

democratic: relating to a form of government in which people choose the leaders by voting

government: the group of people who make the laws in a country

archipelago: a group of islands



Location



Physical features



Human features



Diversity



Physical processes



Human processes



Techniques

