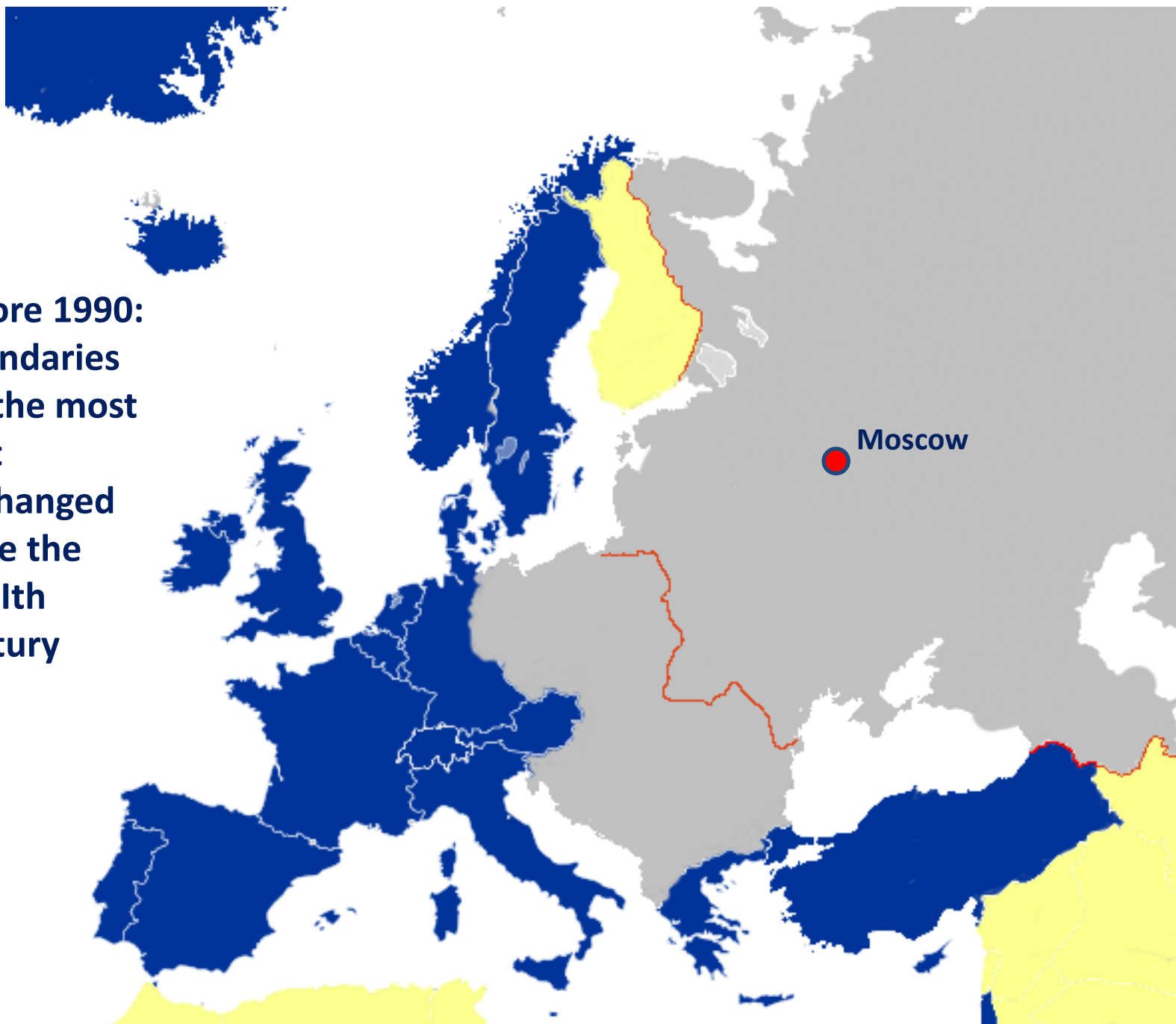


**Before 1990:
boundaries
for the most
part
unchanged
since the
XVIIIth
century**



**Western
Europe
and allies**



**Soviets
and allies**



Other



**Soviet
boundaries**

**By 2013:
back to the
XVth and
XVIth century
boundaries.
Byelorussia,
Moldova and
the Ukraine
provide a
buffer**



**Western
Europe
and allies**



**Russia
and allies**



Other



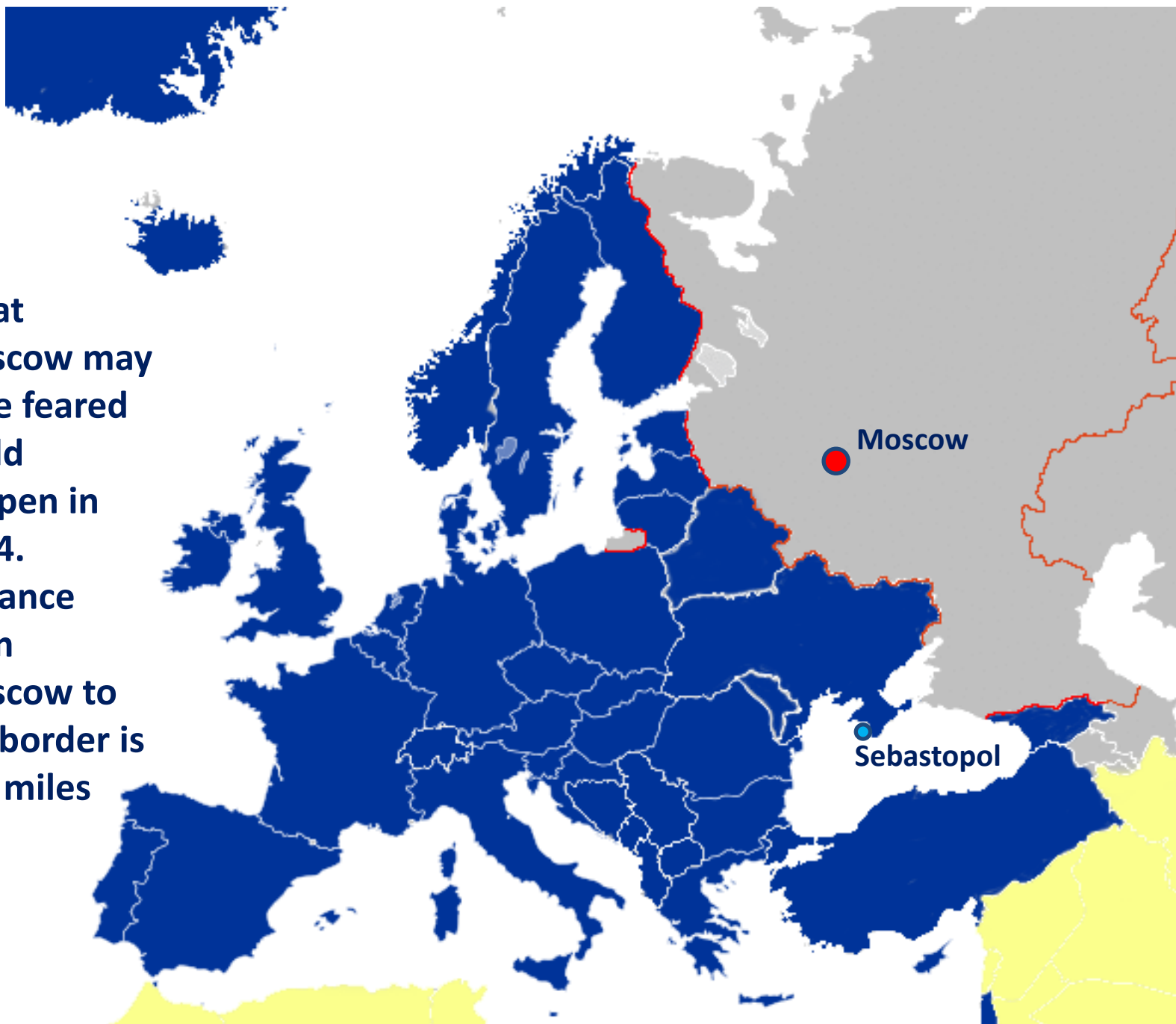
**Russian
boundaries**



Feb. 2014:
Russia looses
Sebastopol,
its only naval
base in warm
waters apart
from
Vladivostok.
Its access to
the Black Sea
is now
restricted



What
Moscow may
have feared
could
happen in
2014.
Distance
from
Moscow to
the border is
250 miles



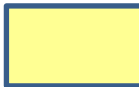
Western
Europe
and allies



Russia
and allies



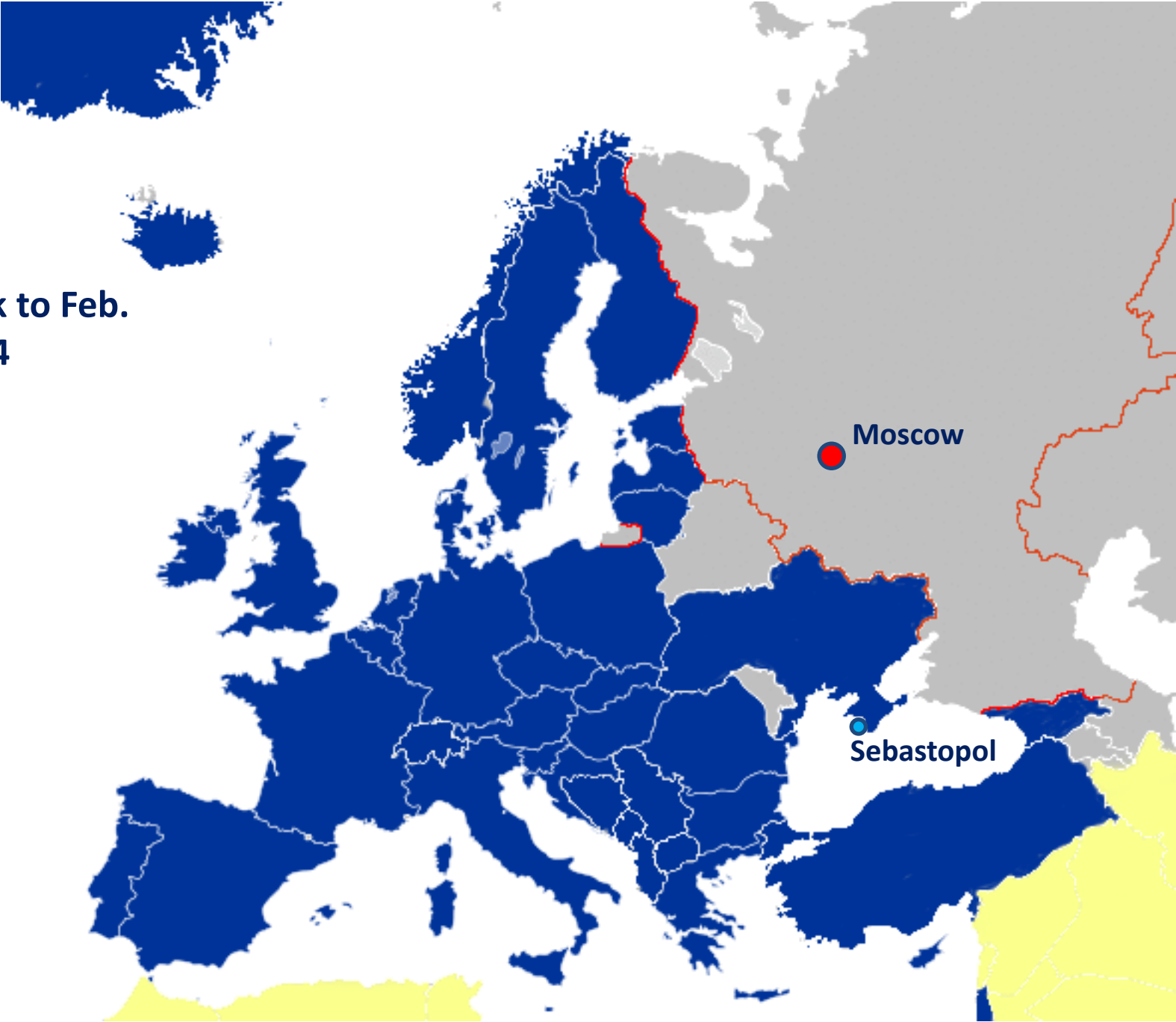
Other



Russian
boundaries



Back to Feb.
2014



Western
Europe
and allies



Russia
and allies



Other



Russian
boundaries

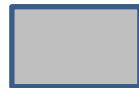
Mar. 2014
Russia takes
back Crimea
and its naval
base of
Sebastopol
and restores
its command
of most of the
Black Sea



**Western
Europe
and allies**



**Russia
and allies**

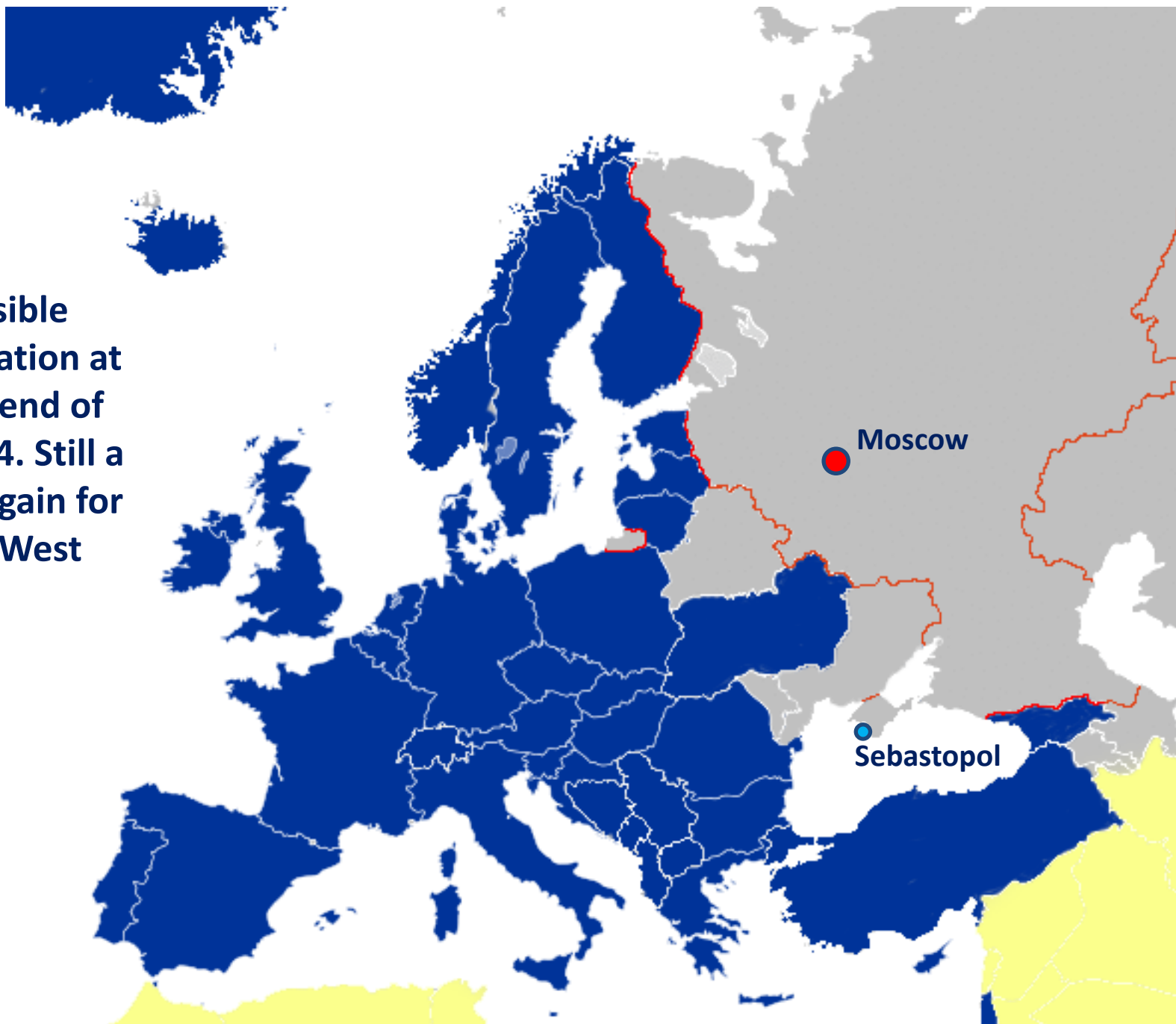


Other



**Russian
boundaries**

Possible
situation at
the end of
2014. Still a
net gain for
the West



Western
Europe
and allies



Russia
and allies

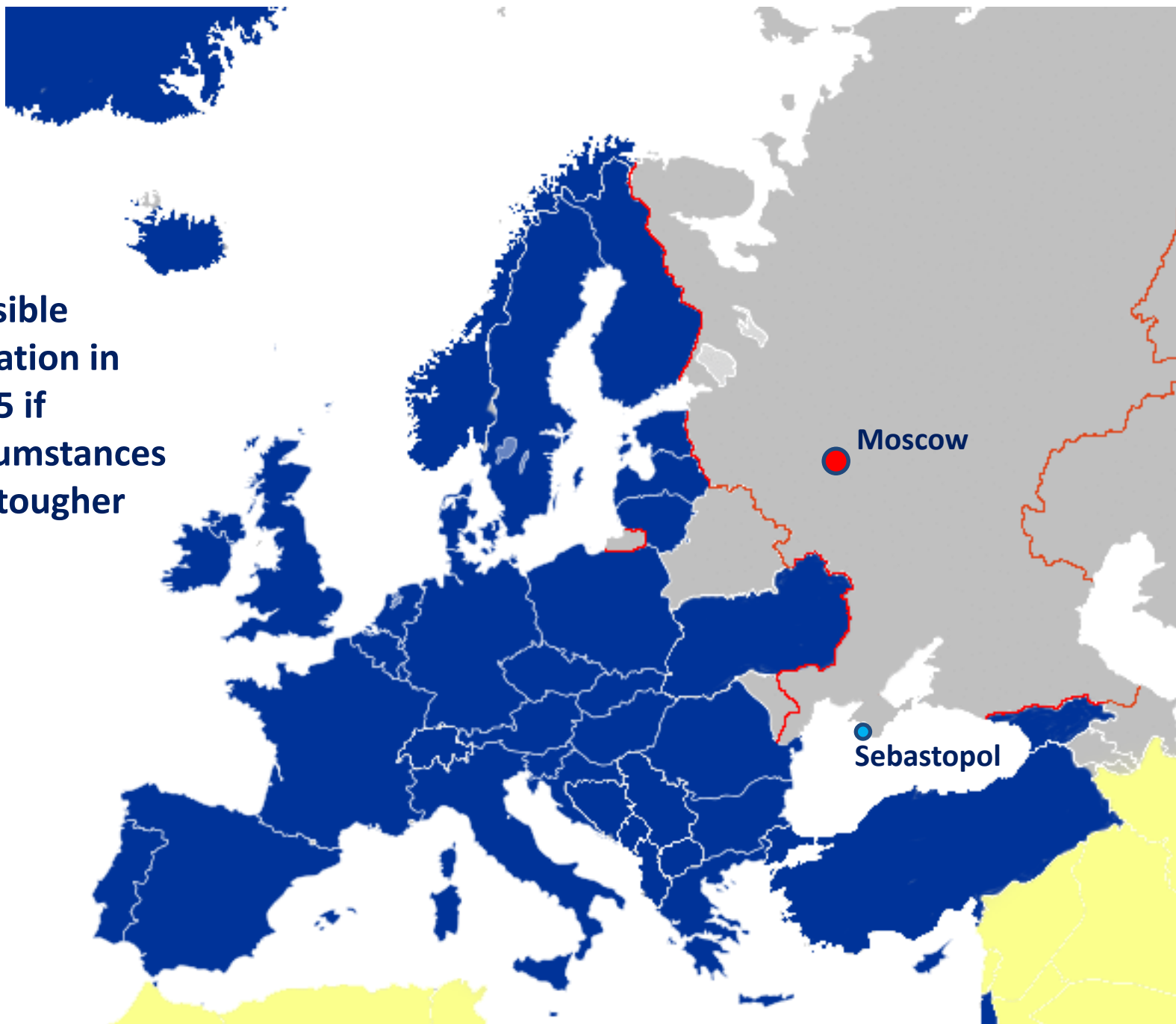


Other



Russian
boundaries

Possible
situation in
2015 if
circumstances
get tougher



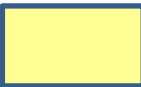
Western
Europe
and allies



Russia
and allies



Other



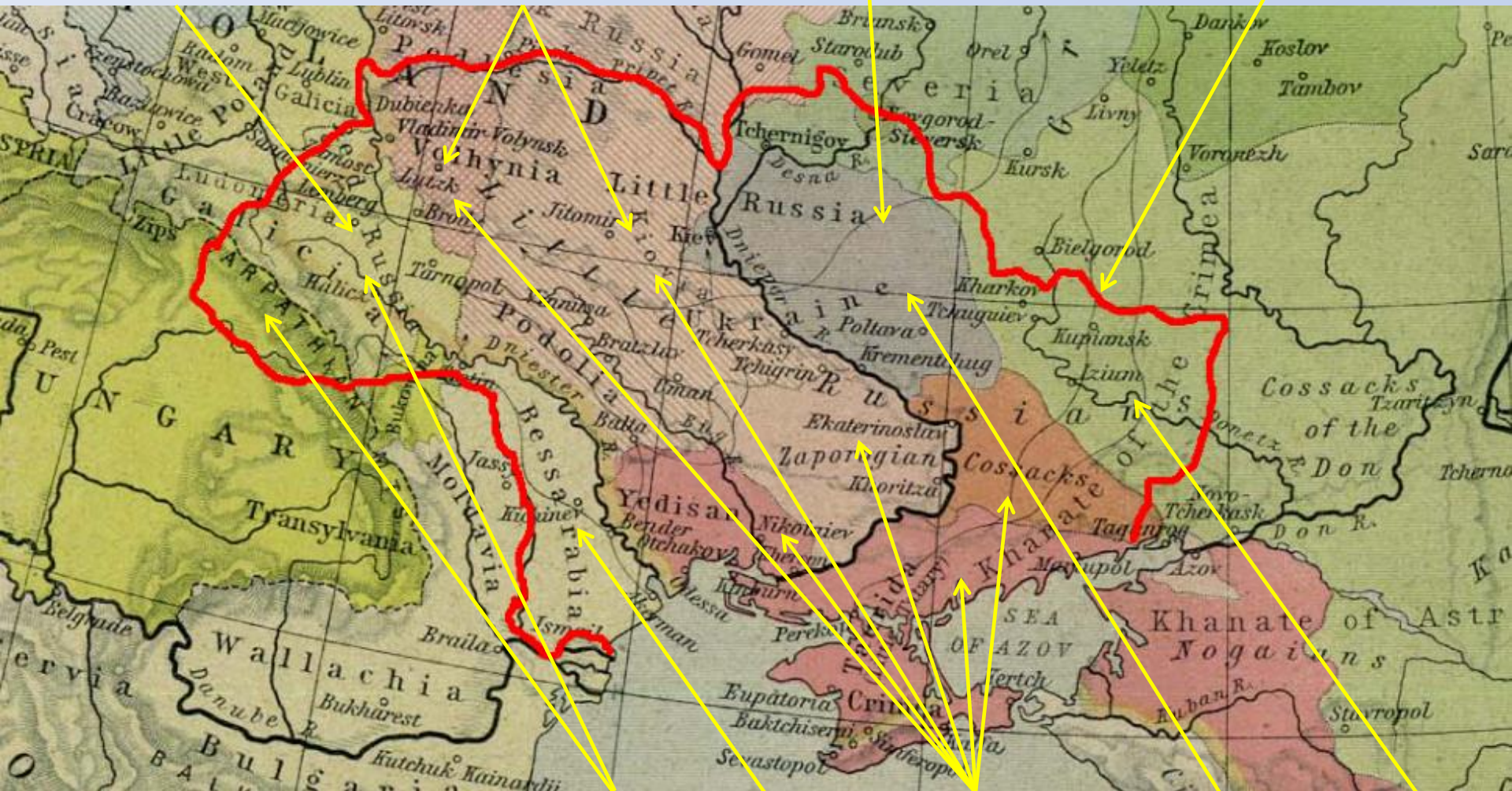
Russian
boundaries

**XVIII c. partition of
Poland, to Austria**

**Partitions of Poland,
to Russia**

Ukrainian homeland

Current approx. boundary



Russia's expansion:

1944

1940

XVIII c.

XVII c.

XVI c.

Modern sovereign Ukraine is the successor to Russian and then Soviet regional Ukraine which was delineated for administrative reasons. Nine tenth of Ukrainian territory is originally non Ukrainian ethnically, although several nationalities were later expelled. Most of the territory, in the West, was taken from Poland in the several partitions of the country, or from Hungary and then Austria. The eastern parts were taken from the Tatars. For most of the territory, the transfer of sovereignty from Moscow to Kiev in 1990 did not change the problem of nationalities.



1918