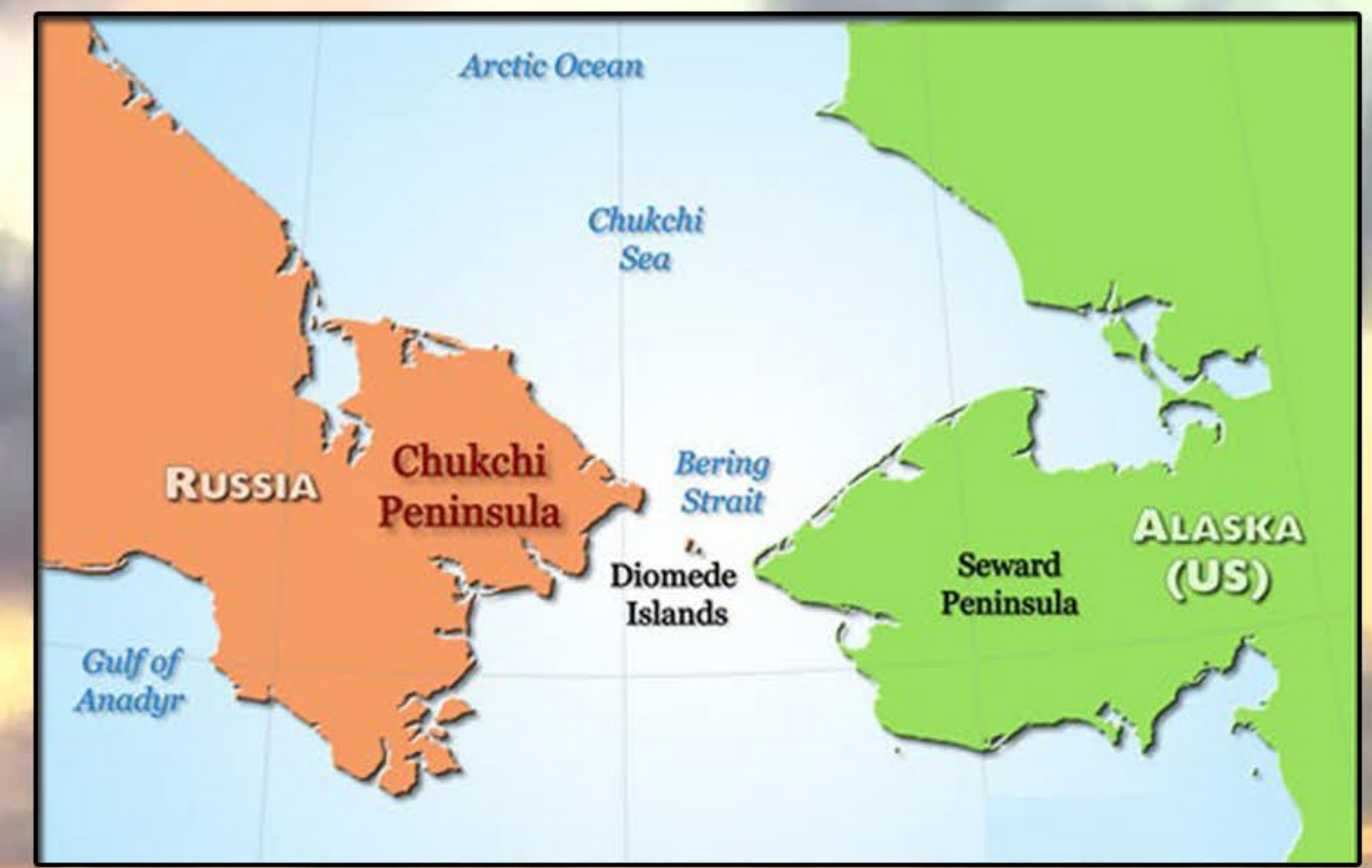


## THE FUTURE

In prehistoric times, the Chukchi engaged in nomadic hunter gatherer modes of existence. In current times, there continue to be some elements of subsistence hunting, including that of polar bears, marine mammals and reindeer. Chukchi were educated in Soviet schools and today are almost 100% literate and fluent in Russian. Only some of them today work directly in reindeer herding or sea mammal hunting, and continue to live a nomadic lifestyle.

## GEOGRAPHIC SITUATION

The Chukchi, are indigenous people inhabiting the Chukchi Peninsula, the shores of the Chukchi Sea and the Bering Sea region of the Arctic Ocean within the Russian Federation. They speak the Chukchi language. The Chukchi originated from the people living around the Okhotsk Sea. Its population is 50.000 smaller than Valencia's population.



## PEOPLE AND TRADITIONS

Chukchi people have a rich history and culture, which have traditionally centered around war. This emphasis on conflict can be seen in the interactions between Chukchi and Russians, which date back to the middle of the 17th century and tell of glorious battles between both groups. The Chukchi have also been known to battle nearby tribes. However, in the last century, they have engaged in fewer conflicts.

# CHUKCHIS

## ORIGINS AND HISTORY

The majority of Chukchis reside within Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, but some also reside in the neighboring Sakha Republic to the west. Some Chukchi also reside in other parts of Russia, as well as in Europe and North America. The Chukchi are traditionally divided into the Maritime Chukchi and the Reindeer Chukchi, who lived as nomads in the inland tundra region. In Chukchi religion, every object is assigned a spirit. This spirit can be either harmful or beneficial. In the 1920s', the Soviet Union prohibited Chukchi religious practices and tried to suppress their religion.

## LANGUAGE INTERESTING FACTS

Chukchi language is spoken by Chukchi people in the easternmost extremity of Siberia. According to the Russian Census, about half of Chukchi people speak it; knowledge of this language is decreasing and most Chukchis speak Russian now. The language is closely related to Koryak. There are many cultural similarities between the Chukchis and Koryaks, including economies based on reindeer herding. According to the UNESCO Red Book, this language is endangered. Many Chukchis use the language as their primary means of communication, and over the past decades, fewer people has been learning it.