## Journey Through History -New Topic-based Series

# Study Notes

Topic 10:
International conflicts and crises in
the 20<sup>th</sup> century (II) —
the Cold War and
the post-Cold War period



## Background: rise of the new world order (p.109-113)

- Decline of traditional European powers
- Rise of the United States and the Soviet
  Union as superpowers

## Causes: American-Soviet confrontation (p.114-117)

- Ideological differences
- Long-standing mistrust
- Wartime differences
- Post-war confrontation



- Truman Doctrine (1947)
  - Marshall Plan (1947)
  - Molotov Plan (1947)
- Berlin Blockade (1948-1949)

Establishment of the People's Republic of China (PRC) (1949)

- Korean War (1950-1953)

#### 1953-1960: The first détente (p.130-132)

#### 1960-1971: Continuation of the Cold War (p.133-143)

- U-2 incident (1960)
- Berlin Crisis (1961)
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- Vietnam War (1961-1975)

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#### 1979-1985: Recurrence of the Cold War (p. 146-147)

- Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979-1989)
- Reagan becoming American President (1981)





#### A. Background and causes of the Cold War

#### **Guiding Question**

- What were the features of the Cold War?
- What were the background and causes of the Cold War?

#### 1. What was the Cold War?

- The 'Cold War' was not a direct military conflict.
  - It refers to the tense relations and confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union from 1946 to 1991.
- After WWII, the United States and the Soviet Union dominated international affairs.
  - However, their relations grew worse, which eventually sparked the Cold War.
- During the Cold War:
  - The United States led the capitalist bloc;
  - The Soviet Union led the communist bloc.
- The two blocs confronted each other, but no direct war broke out between them.
- The Cold War gradually turned into a global conflict.
  - It ended peacefully when the Soviet Union was dissolved in 1991.

#### 2. Background: rise of the new world order

- The traditional European powers were seriously weakened by WWII.
- The United States and the Soviet Union rose to become superpowers and dominated international affairs.
  - They competed for world leadership and confronted each other. A new world order developed.

#### (a) Decline of traditional European powers

#### (i) War damage and casualties

- Europe was the main battlefield during WWII.
  - Numerous cities were destroyed and countless civilians lost their homes.
  - Farmland, factories and infrastructure were ruined.
  - Two-thirds of the railways in France were damaged.
- The war caused heavy casualties as well.
  - The traditional European powers' death toll amounted to 10 million.
  - Many people were also disabled by the war, resulting in a sharp decrease in the labour force.

- Many resources were also needed for post-war reconstruction.

#### (ii) Decline in production and foreign trade

- After the war, Europe's grain output was only half of that before the war, and industrial output was only one-third.
  - Causing a food and resource crisis. Inflation was serious.
- European export trade dropped significantly.
  - Unemployment rose when many soldiers were demobilized.
- Britain and France intended to acquire cheap resources from their colonies to increase productivity.
  - Their plan failed with the start of the decolonization.
  - Their economic difficulties remained unsolved. The governments lacked money to carry out reconstruction.

#### (iii) War debts and reparations

- European countries participating in the Second World War used their gold reserves and issued bonds to raise funds for the war.
  - In the post-war period, defeated countries such as Germany and Italy needed to pay huge indemnities.
  - Britain and France, which won the war, also had to repay huge war debts.
- The economic strength of the traditional European powers was severely weakened by the war, making their reconstruction progress slow.
  - They could no longer dominate world affairs, but mainly followed their creditor, the United States, in their foreign policy.

#### (b) Rise of the United States and the Soviet Union as superpowers

#### (i) Rise of the United States

- The United States joined the two world wars only at a later stage and it was not a major battlefield.
- During the First World War (WWI), the United States grabbed export market share from the European countries.

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- It became a world economic power in the 1920s.
- 1933-1943: The United States experienced rapid economic growth.
- After WWII: The U.S. dollar even became the dominant world currency.
- 1945: The United States became the first country to successfully develop the atomic bomb.
- After the two world wars, the United States became an economic and military superpower.

#### (ii) Rise of the Soviet Union

- During WWI, Russian communists set up the first communist regime in history, and established the 'Soviet Union' in 1922.
- Starting in the 1920s, the Soviet Union focused on developing its heavy industry.
  - It also vigorously developed its military industry because of international isolation and the threat of Nazi Germany.
- By 1938, the Soviet Union had become the world's third largest industrial country after the United States and Germany.
- The Soviet Union received huge compensation after WWII and extended its influence throughout Eastern Europe.
  - It replaced the traditional powers like Britain and France as another superpower.

#### 3. Causes: American-Soviet confrontation

#### (a) Ideological differences

- The capitalist countries, led by the United States:
  - Stressed democracy, freedom and human rights;
  - Criticized communism for its lack of democracy and violations of individual freedom and private property rights;
  - Strove to resist the expansion of communism.
- The communist countries, led by the Soviet Union:
  - Accused capitalism of class exploitation;
  - Advocated a world revolution to build a classless society.
- Ideological differences caused suspicion and confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, paving the way for the start of the Cold War.

	Capitalism (represented by the United States, and included most Western European countries)	Communism (represented by the Soviet Union, and included most Eastern European countries)
Politics	<ul> <li>Democratic government based on free elections</li> <li>Different parties could take part in politics</li> </ul>	The ruling communist party practised one-party system
Economy	<ul> <li>A free market economy</li> <li>Private ownership and protection of property rights</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A centrally planned economy</li> <li>Public ownership of all means of production</li> </ul>
Society	Individualism: people enjoyed different kinds of freedom	Collectivism: aimed to establish a classless society
Foreign relations	To resist the spread of communism	To push forward the world revolution

#### (b) Long-standing mistrust

- Ideological differences led to long mutual distrust between the United States and the Soviet Union.
- During the Russian Civil War (1918-1922), American support for anticommunists upset the Russian communists.
- Russia was displeased when it was not invited to the post-war Paris Peace Conference, which allowed the independence of the Eastern European countries from its rule.
- The signing of the *Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact* in the late 1930s raised suspicion among the Western countries towards the Soviet Union.
- During WWII, the Soviet Union joined the Allied Powers, but was dissatisfied with the inadequate support from the United States.
- As the United States concealed the development of the atomic bomb, the Soviet Union became uneasy.
  - The short-term wartime alliance did not improve the relations between the two countries, but deepened their mutual suspicion instead.

#### (c) Wartime difference

- During WWII, the United States and the Soviet Union already had many disagreements over post-war arrangements at the wartime conferences.
- At the Yalta Conference:
  - The United States proposed holding democratic elections in the Eastern European countries and sought to establish pro-Western governments.
  - The Soviet Union wanted to establish pro-Soviet communist regimes there to create a buffer zone between Germany and itself, and to expand its power.
- At the Potsdam Conference:
  - The United States proposed rebuilding the economy of Germany.
  - The Soviet Union demanded huge indemnities so as to weaken Germany permanently.

#### (d) Post-war confrontation

- Though the United States and the Soviet Union were allies in WWII, their relationship was not solid from the start.
  - Once their common enemy was gone, the long-standing differences could end their alliance at any time.
- After WWII, both the United States and the Soviet Union aimed to increase their influence and dominate international affairs.
  - When the Soviet Union expanded in Eastern Europe, the United States was determined to stop its expansion.
  - The wartime alliance broke down. The Cold War started.

#### B. Major developments of the Cold War

- Both the capitalist bloc and communist bloc wanted to overwhelm the other.
- This resulted in many crises which threatened world peace.

#### **Guiding Questions**

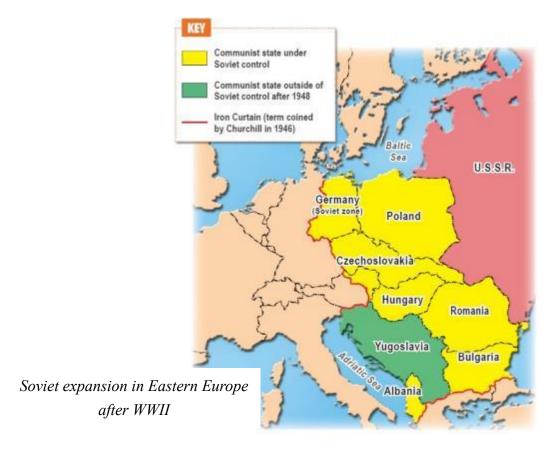
- What were the different stages of the Cold War?
- What were the features of each stage?
   What were the major events during the Cold War period?

#### 1. 1946-1953: Outbreak and early development

- During the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union confronted each other by providing economic aid, forming military organizations and intervening in local conflicts with force.
- The United States adopted the containment policy as its basic strategy towards the communist bloc.

#### (a) 'Iron Curtain' speech (1946)

- After WWII, the Soviet Union set up pro-Soviet communist regimes in Eastern Europe.
- In a speech in 1946, former British Prime Minister Churchill accused the Soviet Union of building an 'iron curtain' across Europe with its control over Eastern European countries.
  - He believed that Western countries should unite to stop Soviet expansion.
  - American President Truman agreed with him.
- Stalin argued that establishing pro-Soviet regimes in Eastern Europe was done only to safeguard the security of the Soviet Union.
  - He accused Churchill of aiming to provoke war.
- After the 'Iron Curtain' speech, the wartime alliance between the Soviet Union and the Western countries ended.
  - The Cold War began.



#### (b) Truman Doctrine (1947)

- 1946: A civil war broke out between the Greek government and the communist.
- The Soviet Union put pressure on Turkey to open the Turkish Straits to Soviet warships and cede territories.
  - The United States feared that the two countries would become pro-Soviet.
- 1947: American President Truman announced that the United States would help countries that were threatened by communism.
  - This was known as the 'Truman Doctrine'.
- As a result of American help, the governments of Greece and Turkey successfully stopped the expansion of communism in their countries.

#### (c) Marshall Plan (1947)

• 1947: The United States introduced the Marshall Plan to provide economic aid to European countries.

- The United States believed that if Europe's economy improved, the people would not support communism.
  - The plan helped Western European countries rebuild their economies and stopped the expansion of communism.
  - It also strengthened their ties with the United States.

#### (d) Molotov Plan (1947)

- The Soviet Union forbade the communist countries in Eastern Europe to join the plan.
- It also introduced the Molotov Plan to aid Eastern Europe.
  - Aims: to counter-balance the Marshall Plan and tighten control over the satellite states.
- The Molotov Plan and the Marshall Plan divided Europe into two economic blocs, deepening American-Soviet hostility.

#### (e) Berlin Blockade (1948-1949)

#### (i) Background

- In accordance with the *Potsdam Agreement* (1945), Germany and Berlin were each divided into four occupation zones controlled by the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union.
- As Berlin was within the Soviet zone, the Soviet Union felt threatened by West Berlin (the occupation zones of the other three countries).
- April 1948: The United States, Britain and France planned to merge their occupation zones and jointly reconstruct Germany.
- The Soviet Union feared that a revived Germany would threaten its security again and capitalism would expand to its occupation zone.
  - Therefore, it decided to force the Western powers out of West Berlin.



The administration of Berlin and the Berlin Blockade (1948-1949)

#### (ii) Development

- June 1948: The Soviet Union closed all land and water routes into West Berlin.
  - In response, the Western powers sent supplies to West Berlin by air.
- April 1949: The United States, Canada and ten Western European countries formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- May 1949: Faced with the united military strength of NATO, the Soviet Union ended the blockade.

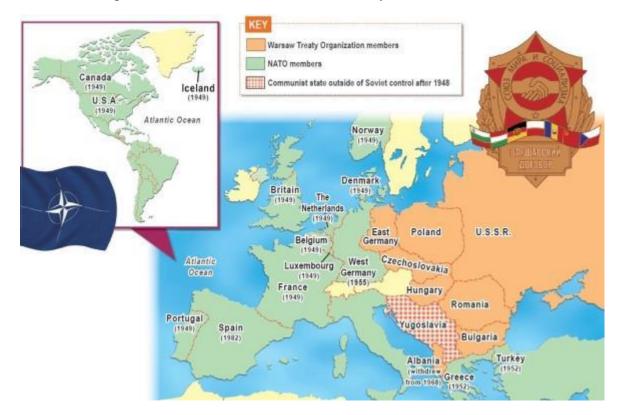
#### (iii) Impact

#### **■** Division of Germany

- May 1949: The United States, Britain and France merged their German occupation zones to form the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany)
  - The United States believed that a strong West Germany could resist Soviet expansion into Western Europe.
- October 1949: The Soviet Union turned its zone into the German Democratic Republic (East Germany).
- Germany was not unified until 1990.

#### **■** Two rival military blocs

- During the Berlin Blockade, twelve Western countries formed NATO to confront the Soviet Union.
  - The founding of NATO showed that the United States had abandoned isolationism. It led the operations of NATO, and could station troops and deploy missiles in member states.
- May 1955: West Germany joined NATO.
  - In response, the Soviet Union formed the Warsaw Treaty Organization with its satellite states.
  - Europe was then divided into two rival military blocs.



Members of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization, 1949-1982

#### (f) Establishment of the People's Republic of China (1949)

#### (i) Background

- Shortly after the end of WWII, the Chinese Civil War (1946-1949) broke out.
  - The Soviet Union supported the Communists, led by Mao Zedong.
  - The United States supported the Nationalists, led by Jiang Jieshi. It aimed to stop the spread of communism in Asia.

#### (ii) <u>Development</u>

- The Chinese Civil War ended with victory for the Communists.
- October 1949: The People's Republic of China was founded.
- December 1949: The Nationalists retreated to Taiwan.

#### (iii) Impact

- The establishment of the People's Republic of China showed that communism had spread to Asia.
- 1950: China signed a mutual assistance treaty with the Soviet Union and joined the communist bloc.
- These events concerned the United States.
  - The United States continued to support the Nationalists in Taiwan.
  - Sino-American relations remained tense until the early 1970s.
- The United States believed that communism would spread further in Asia.
  - It started to directly intervene in military conflicts in Asia such as the Korean War (1950-1953).

#### (g) Korean War (1950-1953)

#### (i) Background

- After WWII, the Korean Peninsula was divided into American and Soviet occupation zones along the 38th Parallel.
- 1947: The United Nations passed a resolution, allowing Koreans to elect a new government.
- July 1948: Syngman Rhee was elected president in the American occupation zone. He founded the Republic of Korea (South Korea).
- The Soviet Union then supported Kim Il Sung to found the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) in its occupation zone.
- Both South Korea and North Korea claimed sovereignty over the entire Korean Peninsula.

#### (ii) <u>Development</u>

- In June 1950, the Korean War started.
- The US-led UN forces pushed the North Koreans back to north of the 38th Parallel, and even advanced further north.
  - This threatened the national security of China.
  - China sent a 'volunteer army' to help North Korea.
- The war became a stalemate. In 1953, an armistice was signed.

#### (iii) Impact

- The Korean Peninsula was still divided after the war.
  - South Korea and North Korea remained hostile.
- After its involvement, China built up close relations with North Korea and its status in the Asian communist movement rose.
  - movement rose.It continued to confront the United States in Asia.
- Since communism did not spread to South Korea, the United States saw the result of the war as a success of the containment policy.
- It grew more determined to contain communism in Asia.
  - It stationed American soldiers in South Korea;
  - It signed defence treaties with Japan;
  - It established the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization with several countries in 1954.



The Korean War, 1950-1953

#### \*Extended topic: Historical figures representing different stages in the Cold War

#### \* Churchill

#### ♦ Deeds during the Cold War

- 1946: Churchill made his famous 'Iron Curtain' speech, which quickly worsened the relations between the Soviet Union and the Western countries.
  - It was regarded as a landmark event of the start of the Cold War.
- 1951: Churchill became Prime Minister again.
  - He consolidated the Anglo-American alliance.
  - He urged the United States and the Soviet Union to conduct arms limitation talks.
- His anti-Soviet ideas and policies led to continuous tensions in the Cold War.

#### **♦** Leadership qualities

- Churchill was **sagacious**.
  - He accurately foresaw East-West confrontation in the post-WWII period.
- He realized that a weak Western Europe could not resist Soviet expansion and feared that the United States would return to isolationism.
  - He made a warning in his 'Iron Curtain' speech, reminding Western countries, led by the United States, to take action against Soviet expansion.
- Churchill was **persuasive**.
- His 'Iron Curtain' speech aroused widespread concern in the West.
  - The United States seized the opportunity and proposed the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan.
- As a result, Western European countries achieved rapid economic recovery and avoided becoming Soviet satellite states like the Eastern European countries.



#### **★** Mao Zedong

#### **♦ Deeds during the Cold War**

- Mao Zedong adopted the 'leaning to one side' pro-Soviet policy after 1949 and intervened in the Korean War.
  - This drove Sino-American confrontation.
  - The Cold War tensions were intensified.
- In the late 1960s, Sino-Soviet relations worsened rapidly.
  - Mao sought American support to counterbalance the Soviet Union.
- 1971: He approved a visit of the American table tennis team to Beijing.
  - This 'Ping-pong Diplomacy' improved Sino-American relations and helped ease Cold War tensions.

#### **♦** Leadership qualities

- Mao was persevering and charismatic.
- As a communist supporter, he led the communist revolution in China and founded the PRC. He also provided aid to foreign communists, including in Korea and Vietnam.
- Millions of Chinese people joined the People's Volunteer Army in the Korean War in response to his call.
  - This showed Mao's charisma.
- Mao was also **adaptive**.
- China was diplomatically isolated after the Sino-Soviet split.
  - In view of this, Mao decisively changed the anti-American policy.
- Through the 'Ping-pong Diplomacy', China improved relations with the United States and avoided confrontation with the two superpowers at the same time. It

also paved the way for China's return to the world political arena.

- 1971: China restored its lawful seat in the United Nations.
  - China took an important step towards becoming a world power.



#### 2. 1953-1960: The first détente

- American-Soviet relations deteriorated after 1946.
- 1953: New leaders came into power in both countries.
  - They adjusted their foreign policies to ease tensions.
  - Mutual suspicion and enmity remained between them.

#### (a) Background of the détente: Leadership changes

#### (i) Eisenhower and his policies

- 1953: Eisenhower became the American President.
  - He stressed that the United States must prevent the spread of communism in the world and avoid the 'domino effect'.
- At the time, the United States and the Soviet Union had both developed the hydrogen bomb, which was more powerful than the atomic bomb.
- To prevent a nuclear war, Eisenhower knew that the United States must avoid serious conflict with the Soviet Union.
  - He advocated maintaining diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

#### (ii) Khrushchev and his policies

- 1953: Stalin died. Khrushchev later became the Soviet leader.
- He advocated the peaceful coexistence of communism and capitalism and moderate policies towards the West to prevent a devastating nuclear war.
- He believed that:
  - The Soviet Union could compete with the United States in areas like economy, technology, and ideology.
  - Communism was superior to capitalism. It would eventually win over capitalism even without war.

#### (b) An overview of the détente

#### (i) Geneva Summit (1955)

• July 1955: The United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France held the Geneva Summit.

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- They discussed the issues of global security, American-Soviet peaceful coexistence, armaments reduction and so on.
- Though no concrete resolutions on armaments reduction were achieved, the summit marked a meaningful attempt at American-Soviet dialogue.

#### (ii) Mutual visits between the leaders of the two countries (1959)

- 1959: Both the United States and the Soviet Union held exhibitions in the other's capital to promote trade and cultural exchange.
  - July: American Vice President Nixon visited the Soviet Union.
  - September: Khrushchev visited the United States.
- Cold War tensions eased.

#### 3. 1960-1971: Continuation of the Cold War

- The U-2 Incident in 1960 ended the American-Soviet détente.
- They had conflicts over many international issues which nearly caused a devastating nuclear war.
- The United States once again intervened in local conflicts to stop the expansion of communism in Asia by force.

#### (a) U-2 Incident (1960)

#### (i) Background and development

- Since 1956, American spy planes had been spying on the Soviet Union.
- May 1960: The Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 spy plane.
  - Khrushchev demanded that the United States stop all spy-flights and apologize, or else he would not attend the Paris Summit to discuss armaments reduction.
  - Eisenhower agreed to cancel spy-flights but refused to apologize.

#### (ii) Impact

- The U-2 incident caused the collapse of the Paris Summit.
- The Soviet Union took a tough stance against the United States.

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- Khrushchev refused to discuss international affairs with Eisenhower again.
- The first détente of the Cold War ended.

#### (b) Berlin Crisis (1961)

#### (i) Background

- Germany was divided after the Berlin Blockade.
  - West Germany achieved a quick economic recovery while the development of East Germany lagged behind.
- 1949-1961: Around 2.7 million East Germans escaped to West Berlin to seek freedom and a better life.
  - This hit the economy and image of East Germany.

#### (ii) <u>Development</u>

- 1961: Khrushchev demanded the withdrawal of Western forces from West Berlin.
  - American President Kennedy refused.
- June-August: The Soviet Union ordered the East German government to build a wall around West Berlin, separating it from East Germany.
  - The United States strongly condemned the actions of the Soviet Union and East Germany and sent more soldiers to West Berlin.
- October: The United States and the Soviet Union sent tank troops to the border between West and East Berlin and confronted each other at a checkpoint.
  - Finally, the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw the tanks along the border.

#### (iii) Impact

- The Berlin Crisis further worsened American-Soviet relations.
  - The Soviet Union tore up its agreement about nuclear arms limitations with the United States and resumed nuclear testing.
  - A new round of the nuclear arms race started.
  - The Berlin Wall became an iconic symbol of the Cold War and the division of Germany and Europe.

#### (c) Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

#### (i) Background

- 1959: The pro-American regime in Cuba was replaced by Castro's communist government.
  - Castro was pro-Soviet Union.
- 1961: The United States supported Cuban exiles to overthrow Castro, but the operation failed.
  - The United States became worried that communism would expand in Central and South America.

#### (ii) <u>Development</u>

- 1962: the Soviet Union secretly deployed missiles in Cuba.
  - Most major American cities would be within range.
- Later, Americans discovered the missile bases.
  - President Kennedy ordered a sea blockade of Cuba and demanded that the Soviet Union withdraw the missiles from Cuba.
- At first, both the United States and the Soviet Union stood firm.
  - War was about to break out.
- At last, they reached a compromise.
  - Khrushchev withdrew the missiles from Cuba.
  - Kennedy lifted the blockade and promised not to invade Cuba in the future.
  - The United States agreed to withdraw the missiles deployed in Turkey. The Cuban Missiles Crisis ended.



#### (iii) Impact

- The Cuban Missile Crisis pushed the world to the brink of nuclear war.
- The United States and the Soviet Union decided to work to avoid serious conflict.
  - They agreed to set up a direct communication system between their leaders.
  - 1963: They signed the *Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty* to limit nuclear tests.
  - This eased the nuclear arms race.

#### (d) Vietnam War (1961-1975)

#### (i) Background

- Vietnam, a former French colony, became independent in 1954.
- It was divided into two parts along the 17<sup>th</sup> Parallel.
  - South Vietnam was a pro-Western country.
  - North Vietnam was a communist country founded by Ho Chi Minh.

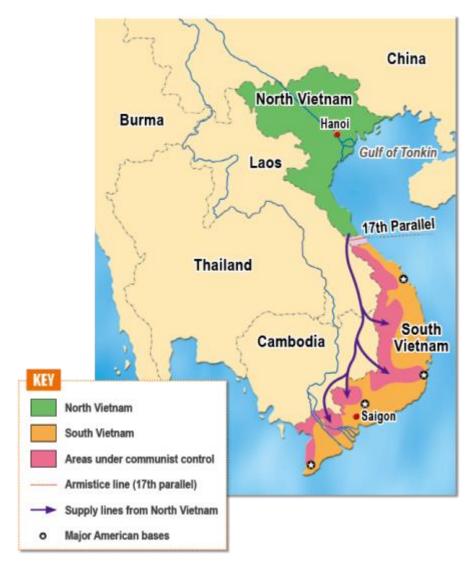
#### (ii) <u>Development</u>

- Communists founded the Vietcong in South Vietnam.
  - They started guerrilla warfare to overthrow the local government.
- The Vietcong was supported by North Vietnam.
- The United States sent military advisers and economic aid to assist South Vietnam.
- 1961: The Vietnam War broke out.
- 1964: The United States launched full-scale involvement in the Vietnam War, but it failed to defeat the Chinese- and Soviet-backed North Vietnam.
- 1973: An armistice was signed.
  - The United States started to withdraw troops from South Vietnam.
- 1975: North Vietnam won the civil war and unified Vietnam.

#### (iii) Impact

• The fall of South Vietnam reflected not only the further expansion of communism in Asia, but also the failure of the American containment policy.

- With the huge cost of the Vietnam War, the United States started to adjust its diplomatic policies.
  - It sought to improve relations with the Soviet Union and China, leading to the détente in the 1970s.



The division of Vietnam and the Vietnam War, 1961-1975

#### \*Extended topic: Historical figures representing different stages in the Cold War

#### \* Ho Chin Minh

#### **♦ Deeds during the Cold War**

- Ho Chi Minh was one of the founders of the Communist Party of Vietnam.
- During the Cold War, he led the Vietnamese in their fight against France, forcing France to recognize the independence of Vietnam.
- The United States was greatly shocked by the victory of Ho Chi Minh.
  - It later decided to intervene militarily in the Vietnam War.
  - However, the American troops were defeated by Ho's guerrilla strategy.

#### **♦** Leadership qualities

- Ho Chi Minh had **outstanding military abilities**.
- He knew well the terrain and climate of Vietnam.
  - He decided to engage in guerrilla warfare and adopted hit and run tactics.
  - This military strategy succeeded in defeating the American troops.
- Huge casualties and military expenditure prompted the United States to reach a ceasefire agreement and withdraw from Vietnam.
- Ho also had **diplomatic skills.**
- Though Sino-Soviet relations worsened in the 1950s, he actively sought support from both sides.
- The support from these two communist countries greatly contributed to North Vietnam's victory in the Vietnam War.
  - This showed Ho's diplomatic wisdom.



#### **★** J. F. Kennedy

#### **♦ Deeds during the Cold War**

- Shortly after Kennedy assumed office, the Berlin Crisis broke out.
  - He refused the Soviet Union's demand for American withdrawal from West Berlin.
- During the Cuban Missile Crisis, Kennedy initially took a tough stance.
- He finally made concessions that prevented the outbreak of a nuclear war.
- He also publicly recognized the contributions of the Soviet Union in the Second World War.
- This eased American-Soviet relations.
- Moreover, Kennedy proposed the Moon landing programme.
  - The programme aimed to land a man on the Moon within ten years, putting the United States ahead of the Soviet Union in the space race.

#### **♦** Leadership qualities

- Kennedy was only 43 years old when he took office as president. In spite of this, he was **decisive** in the face of Soviet threats.
  - In response to the construction of the Berlin Wall, Kennedy sent more troops to Berlin at once.
  - During the Cuban Missile Crisis, he promptly ordered a blockade of Cuba; at the same time, he secretly negotiated with the Soviet Union. He managed to protect the US's interests and security.
- Kennedy's Moon landing programme showed his **far-sightedness**.
- He said "We choose to go to the Moon, not because it is easy, but because it is hard."
  - The programme reflected the determination of the Americans as well as mankind to conquer the moon.
- In 1969, American astronauts landed on the Moon and took "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.



#### 4. 1971-1979: The second détente

- In the early 1960s, a nuclear war nearly broke out between the United States and the Soviet Union.
- 1971-1979: The international situation underwent changes.
  - American-Soviet relations and Sino-American relations improved.
  - Cold War tensions eased again.

#### (a) An overview of American-Soviet relations

#### (i) Mutual visits and summit conferences

- 1972-1974: American and Soviet leaders paid visits to each other held a series of summit conferences.
  - Agreements were signed to strengthen cooperation in space technology, culture and trade.
  - The United States lifted the embargo imposed on the Soviet Union.
- The two countries held strategic arms limitation talks to slow down the arms race.

#### (ii) Helsinki Agreement

- 1975: The United States and the Soviet Union led members of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization to sign the *Helsinki Agreement*. They pledge to:
  - respect each other's sovereignty;
  - resolve disputes peacefully and safeguard human rights;
  - strengthen cooperation in various areas.
- The *Agreement* promoted cooperation and exchanges between two blocs and eased Cold War tensions.

#### (b) An overview of Sino-American relations

#### (i) <u>Ping-pong Diplomacy</u>

• In the early 1960s, Sino-Soviet relations worsened, providing a chance for the United States and China to improve relations.

- 1971: 'Ping-pong Diplomacy' led to a breakthrough in Sino-American relations:
  - The Chinese table tennis team invited the American table tennis team to visit Beijing.
  - The American team arrived in China. After that, Nixon relaxed travel and trade restrictions on China.
  - The Chinese table tennis team visited the United States in 1972.

#### (ii) Normalization of relations

- 1972: Nixon became the first American President to visit China.
  - The two countries normalized their relations.
- 1979: They officially established diplomatic relations.
- The reconciliation between China and the United States further improved the relations between the capitalist bloc and the communist bloc.

#### 5. 1979-1985: Recurrence of the Cold War

- 1979: The Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan.
  - The détente ended.
- After that, American President Reagan adopted a hard-line attitude towards the communist bloc.
  - Cold War tensions re-emerged.

#### (a) Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979-1989)

#### (i) Background

- 1978: A communist regime was established in Afghanistan.
  - It was opposed by Muslim militant groups.
- The communists asked for Soviet support.
  - The Soviet Union then sent troops to Afghanistan in 1979.

#### (ii) Development

• Though its involvement was condemned by the West, the Soviet Union refused to withdraw from Afghanistan.

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- The United States therefore sent troops to support the Muslims.
  - The war became a stalemate.
- 1989: The Soviet Union withdrew from Afghanistan.

#### (iii) Impact

- The United States adopted a series of countermeasures. In addition to supporting the Afghan Muslims, it:
  - imposed sanctions;
  - boycotted the 1980 Summer Olympics held in Moscow;
  - refused to ratify the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty II.
- American-Soviet relations broke down again.

#### (b) Reagan becoming American President (1981)

- In 1981, Reagan became the American President. He implemented a number of tough anti-Soviet policies, including:
  - expanding American forces;
  - sending troops to overthrow the communist government in Grenada;
  - providing military aid to anti-communist forces in Afghanistan, Nicaragua and Angola;
  - deploying latest-generation missiles in European countries;
  - launching the 'Star Wars' Programme (officially the Strategic Defense Initiative).
- Reagan's anti-Soviet policies worsened American-Soviet relations.
  - The arms limitation talks ended.
  - The Soviet Union reacted strongly to the 'Star Wars' Programme.
  - This triggered a new round of armaments race.



#### Major developments of the Cold War (1946-1985) (p.118-147)

- 1946-1953: Outbreak and early development
- 1953-1960; The first détente
- 1960-1971: Continuation of the Cold War
- 1971-1979: The second détente
- 1979-1985: Recurrence of the Cold War

#### End of the Cold War (p.148-155)

- Gorbachev's reforms (1985-1991)
  - ➤ Economic reforms: Perestroika
  - Political reforms: Glasnost
  - > Changes in diplomatic policies
- Drastic changes in Eastern Europe (1989-1991)
- Breakup of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War (1991)





## International situation in the post-Cold War period (p.156-171)



Unipolar→ multi-polar

al forces and

Rise of regional forces and the emerging economies (p.157-163)

- European Union
- China
- India

Great wars→

Regional conflicts and terrorist activities

#### Regional conflicts and crises (p.164-171)

- Middle East: Conflicts between Israel and
  Arab countries
- Southeastern Europe: Ethnic conflicts in the Balkans
- East Africa: Ethnic conflicts in Rwanda
- Threat of terrorism



#### C. End of the Cold War

- In the early 1980s, faced with serious governance and economic problems, Soviet leader Gorbachev introduced reforms to save the country.
  - However, the reforms led to the fall of the communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the breakup of the Soviet Union.

**Guiding Question** 

How did the Cold War end?

to the end of the Cold War?

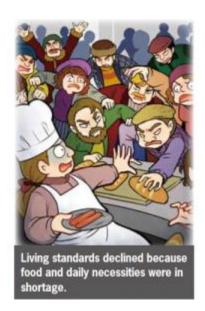
What were the factors leading

The Cold War finally ended in 1991.

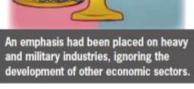
#### 1. Gorbachev's reforms (1985-1991)

#### (a) Background

- In the 1980s, the Soviet Union was in a deep economic crisis.
  - Decreasing agricultural and industrial productivity led to shortages of food and daily necessities. Living standards declined.
  - The armaments race and the invasion of Afghanistan increased its financial burdens.
  - The Soviet government lacked efficiency and corruption among officials as
- 1985: Gorbachev became the new Soviet leader.
  - He introduced a series of economic and political reforms to get support from the public and maintain effective governance.









#### (b) Reforms

#### (i) Economic reforms: Perestroika

- The Russian word 'perestroika' means 'restructuring' or 'economic reform'.
- Gorbachev tried to transform the Soviet planned economy into a market economy.
  - Enterprises were given greater autonomy.
  - State-owned enterprises were allowed to set prices and wages themselves.
- To cut financial expenditure, the Soviet Union:
  - reduced its intervention in and financial assistance to other communist countries;
  - withdrew missiles and garrisons deployed in Eastern Europe.

#### (ii) Political reforms: Glasnost

- Gorbachev proposed the policy of 'glasnost', which introduced the ideas of liberty and democracy.
  - He gave people freedom of speech and of the press, and the right to criticize the government.
  - He introduced open elections.
- 1990: The Communist Party of the Soviet Union was no longer the sole source of national leadership.
  - People could set up political parties and take part in politics freely.

#### (iii) Changes in diplomatic policies

- Gorbachev improved relations with the capitalist bloc.
  - He held summits with American President Reagan and signed about disarmament, scientific and technological cooperation, and economic assistance.
  - 1990: Gorbachev agreed that East and West Germany could unify, ending the division of Germany.

#### (c) Impact

- Internally:
  - Gorbachev's policy of glasnost liberated anticommunist voices.
  - Conservatives feared that it would lead to the fall of the communist world. This led to a failed coup in 1991.
- Externally: Gorbachev eased Cold War tensions.
  - With the signing of disarmament treaties with the United States, the armaments race ended.
  - Relaxing Soviet control over the satellite states encouraged them to pursue democracy and freedom. This resulted in drastic changes in Eastern Europe.

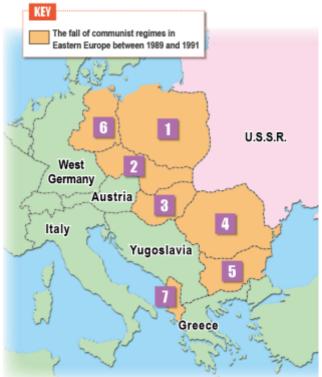
#### 2. Drastic changes in Eastern Europe (1989-1991)

#### (a) Background

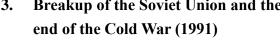
- In the 1980s, the economic development of Eastern European countries lagged far behind that of Western European countries.
  - Eastern Europeans gradually lost confidence in communism.
  - They hoped to improve relations with the West to increase trade.
- Nationalism also revived in Eastern Europe.
  - Eastern Europeans wanted to be liberated from the control of the Soviet Union.

#### (b) Development

- 1988: Gorbachev agreed to give up Soviet control over the Eastern European communist countries and withdraw troops from them.
  - They were allowed to choose their own political and economic systems.
- 1989-1991: Non-communist governments were set up in these countries.
- 1990: East and West Germany were unified.
- 1991: The Warsaw Treaty Organization was dissolved.



The fall of communist regimes in Eastern Europe between 1989 and 1991



# 1991

1989

 A workers' party in Poland won an election. It set up the first non-communist government in Eastern Europe since the Cold War.

The communist party of Czechoslovakia lost an election. An opposition leader became the

A non-communist regime was set up in Hungary after an election.

After a revolution in 1989, a provisional government was set up in Romania.

5. A coalition government was set up in Bulgaria after an election.

The Berlin Wall was torn down in 1989. Later, a multi-party government was set up in East Germany. It reunified with West Germany.

The communist government in Albania gave up one-party rule. The last communist regime

in Eastern Europe fell.

new president.

### Breakup of the Soviet Union and the **3.**

#### (a) Background

- Gorbachev's reforms were unable to solve the problems in the Soviet Union.
- The state became unstable:
  - Discontent with the reforms intensified the power struggle among the Soviet communists.
  - People also demanded more freedom and democracy.
  - Starting in 1990, some Union republics declared independence from the Soviet Union.

#### (b) Course

#### (i) August Coup (August 1991)

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- August 1991: The conservatives in the Communist Party staged a coup.
  - They set up an emergency committee and sent troops to Moscow.
  - The President of Russia (one of the Union republics), Yeltsin, appealed to the people to resist the coup. Soldiers also supported him.
  - The coup failed after two days.

#### (ii) Breakup of the Soviet Union and end of the Cold War (December 1991)

- The August Coup sped up the breakup of the Soviet Union.
  - People criticized the internal party struggles and lost confidence in Gorbachev.
  - The republics in the union declared independence one by one.
- December 8, 1991: Some former republics of the Soviet Union including Russia established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).
- December 25, 1991: Gorbachev resigned as Soviet President.
  - The Soviet Union, the leader of the communist bloc, officially dissolved.
  - This marked the end of the Cold War, which had lasted for nearly half a century.

#### \*Extended topic: Historical figures representing different stages in the Cold War

#### \* Gorbachev

#### ♦ Deeds during the Cold War

- Gorbachev carried out comprehensive reforms, such as introducing a market economy and open elections, as well as withdrawing troops from Eastern Europe.
- He also sought to ease relations between the Soviet Union and the West.
- Gorbachev's policy of glasnost led not only to the fall of the communist regimes in Eastern Europe, but also to demands for the independence of the republics of the Soviet Union.
- The August Coup further weakened people's support for the Communist Party.
- Eventually, Gorbachev resigned as Soviet President after the establishment of the CIS.
- The official dissolution of the Soviet Union marked the end of the Cold War.

#### **♦** Leadership qualities

- Gorbachev was an **innovative** leader.
- To save the collapsing Soviet economy, he dared to end the planned economy and strict control over.
- He introduced new ideas such as freedom, democracy and open elections.
  - This helped Gorbachev gain popular support and reduced resistance to reform.
- Gorbachev was also **adaptive** in policy-making.
- He allowed Eastern Europe to get rid of Soviet control peacefully, rather than engaging in suppression.
- After the August Coup, Gorbachev was willing to give up his original plan of establishing a new federation.
- He agreed to set up the CIS to replace the Soviet Union.
- This avoided a possible bloody civil war.
   The peaceful breakup of the Soviet Union also contributed to the peaceful end of the Cold War.



## D. International situation in the post-Cold War period

#### **Guiding Question**

- What was the international situation in the post-Cold War period?
- After the Cold War, the United States became the only superpower and retained its dominant position in international affairs.
- There were rising regional forces and emerging economies.
  - They played an increasingly important role in regional and international affairs.
  - The international order was moving towards a multi-polar world.
- As the confrontation between the capitalist and communist blocs ended, devastating wars between powers were unlikely in the post-Cold War period.
  - However, frequent regional conflicts and terrorist activities still posed a threat to world peace.

Table comparing the international situation during the Cold War and the post-Cold War period

	Cold War period	Post-Cold War period
Superpowers	The United States and the Soviet Union were superpowers. They dominated international affairs and competed for world leadership.	The United States became the only superpower and sought to continue its domination in international affairs.
Balance of power	Bipolar system: The world was divided into two rival blocs led by the United States and the Soviet Union respectively.	<ul> <li>Unipolar system: The United States was the greatest military power and had great political, economic and cultural influence.</li> <li>Moving towards a multi-polar world: Regional forces and emerging economies were becoming a new force which could not be overlooked.</li> </ul>

## Threats to world peace

- The communist bloc and the capitalist bloc confronted each other because of ideological differences and conflicts of interest.
- The vigorous confrontation between the two blocs triggered many crises and put the world on the verge of a devastating war.
- Great wars between the powers were unlikely.
- Regional conflicts and terrorist activities threatened world peace.

#### 1. Rise of regional forces and emerging economies

- In the post-Cold War period, the European Union was set up to promote European integration.
- China and India in Asia were experiencing rapid economic growth.
- Many scholars believed that these regional forces and emerging economies would continue to expand their influence.
  - A multi-polar world was developing.

#### (a) European Union

#### (i) European economic cooperation during the Cold War

- The EU was founded in 1993.
- Since the start of the Cold War, Western European countries had strengthened economic cooperation.
- 1986: Member states of the European Community signed the *Single European Act*.
  - It aimed to establish a single market and carry out more coordinated policies. This removed obstacles to further integration.

#### (ii) <u>Development of the European Union in the post-Cold War period</u>

• After the signing of the *Treaty on European Union* in 1992, the EU was established the next year.

- The EU worked to promote cooperation among its member states and to achieve European integration in different areas.
- As the EU deepened cooperation and admitted more member states, the economic strength of Europe steadily increased.
  - 1999: The 'Euro', the single currency of the EU, was introduced.
- The EU became the second largest economy after the United States.
- It played an important role in international affairs.
- Europe became active in the international community again.
  - This also contributed to the stable development of the world.
- After the end of the Cold War, Eastern European countries successively joined the EU strengthening it as a regional force.
- The unity of the member states also inspired countries in other regions to carry out economic cooperation and integration.



#### (b) China

(i) Development during the Cold War

- The People's Republic of China was one of the few communist regimes in Asia in the 1940s.
- It had great influence on the communist activities in Asia, such as the Korean War and the Vietnam War.
- 1955: China attended the Bandung Conference.
  - China started to engage in regional affairs through diplomatic means.
- In the 1960s, China faced serious economic crises.
- The situation became worse during the 'Cultural Revolution' (1966-1976).
- 1978: China introduced the policy of 'Reform and Opening-up', emphasizing 'economic reforms' and 'opening up to the outside world'.
  - It gradually became a regional political and economic force.

#### (ii) Development in the post-Cold War period

- During the post-Cold War period, the Chinese government introduced bolder reforms to develop a socialist market economy.
  - It reformed its state-owned enterprises and opened more inland cities to foreign investment.
- In the late 20th century, China was the world's fastest growing major economy, with top-ranked productivity and export volume.
- It also had advanced aerospace technology and strong military power.
- China worked to promote the political stability and economic development of Asia.
- It advocated peaceful resolution of disputes.
  - It mediated in the North Korea nuclear crisis many times in the 1990s.
- China valued cooperation with international organizations.
  - From 1996, it developed closer cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in different areas.
- China developed 'multi-faceted diplomacy'.
  - It established diplomatic and cooperative partnerships with different countries, including capitalist countries.
  - It also joined the peacekeeping missions of the United Nations.
  - Its international influence increased continuously.



#### (c) India

#### (i) <u>Development during the Cold War</u>

- Since its independence in 1947, India refused to ally with the American or the Soviet camps.
- 1950-1960: India played a leading role at the Bandung Conference and in the Non-Aligned Movement.
  - It promoted cooperation among the weaker countries and became a new political force among Asian and African countries.
- India adopted socialism.
  - Compared with other East Asian countries, India's economic growth was relatively slow.
- In the 1960s, it improved relations with the Soviet Union to increase trade.
- Its pro-Soviet position caused India to be marginalized in the international community.

#### (ii) Development in the post-Cold War period

- After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the economic crisis in India worsened.
- 1991: India started economic reforms, such as introducing a market economy.
  - It carried out economic diplomacy and opened up its market and focused on exporting high technology.
  - Trade relations between India and the West were strengthened.
- India's economy developed rapidly after the introduction of economic reforms.
  - 1992-1999: The average annual GDP growth rate in India was 6.3%.
- In the post-Cold War period, India adopted the 'Look East Policy', to develop closer economic and diplomatic relations with East and Southeast Asian countries.
- By the late 20th century, it had signed economic cooperation agreements with ASEAN countries and Japan.
- In the early 21st century, India participated in the summit meetings of ASEAN and East Asia.
- Its economic influence in the region was increasing steadily.



#### 2. Regional conflicts and crises

- In the post-Cold War period, regional conflicts and crises continued in many places.
  - The Arab-Israeli conflict;
  - The Yugoslav Civil War;
  - The Rwandan genocide.

#### (a) Middle East: Conflicts between Israel and Arab countries

#### (i) Origin and start of the conflicts

- The conflicts between Israel and Arab countries originated over the ownership of Palestine in the Middle East.
  - Both the Jews and Palestinians (Arabs living in Palestine) claimed ownership of Palestine.
- 1947: To settle their long-standing dispute, the United Nations decided to divide Palestine into a Jewish state and a Palestinian state.
  - The Jews accepted the resolution and founded Israel.
  - The Palestinians believed that the resolution was unfair and rejected.
- 1948-1982: Five wars between Israel and its neighbouring Arab countries broke out.
  - At the same time, the Palestinians started guerilla warfare and terrorist attacks against Israel.

#### (ii) Development in the post-Cold War period

#### **■** Peace efforts:

- In the 1990s, under the mediation of the United States, Israel and the Arab countries signed a number of agreements.
- 1993: Israel agreed to withdraw from part of the occupied territories and hand them over to the Palestinians.

#### **■** Continuation of conflicts

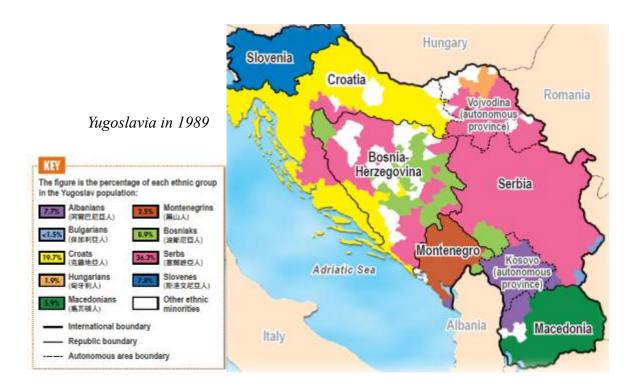
- The Arab-Israeli conflict continued till the end of the 20th century.
  - Israel refused to return occupied territories to Syria (an Arab country).

- Most Arab countries refused to recognize Israel.
- Palestinian extremist groups, led by Hamas, carried out terrorist attacks against Israel.
- Israel retaliated after being attacked, resulting in recurring regional conflicts.
- The founding of a Palestinian state remained unsettled.

#### (b) Southeastern Europe: Ethnic conflicts in the Balkans

#### (i) Origin and start of the conflicts

- Yugoslavia was a multi-ethnic state located in the Balkans. Religious and cultural differences caused frequent ethnic conflicts.
  - The Croatian Massacre of Serbs during WWII.
  - After the war, Yugoslavia became a communist federal republic made up of six republics.
  - Influenced by the nationalist movements in Eastern Europe, nationalism revived in Yugoslavia in the late 1980s.
  - June 1991: Croatia and Slovenia declared independence. Serbia intervened militarily. The Yugoslav Civil War began.



## (ii) The Yugoslav Civil War (1991-1999) and its development in the post-Cold War period

#### **■** Continuation of war

- Ethnic cleansing occurred during the war.
- The battlefield expanded to Bosnia-Herzegovina when it declared independence in 1992.
- After the intervention of the UN and NATO, the war once ended in 1995.
- 1998: Kosovo, an autonomous province of Serbia, fought for independence.
  - Civil wars and ethnic cleansing recurred.
- 1999: NATO bombing forced Serbia to withdraw troops from Kosovo, and Kosovo agreed not to declare independence.
  - The Yugoslav Civil War ended.

#### **■** Post-war development

- As the republics successively gained independence, Yugoslavia gradually dissolved.
  - It was officially erased from the map in 2003.
- The decade-long Yugoslav Civil War resulted in severe destruction.
  - Ethnic cleansing caused heavy casualties.
  - Many people were forced to leave their homes and became refugees.
- However, ethnic conflicts still continued. The situation in Kosovo was the most unstable.

#### (c) East Africa: Ethnic conflicts in Rwanda

#### (i) Origin and start of the conflicts

- During the colonial period, the Tutsi in Rwanda ruled over the majority Hutu.
- 1962: Rwanda gained independence from Belgium and the Hutu took control of the government.
  - Serious ethnic conflict and ethnic cleansing resulted.
  - Many Tutsi fled to neighbouring Uganda.

## (ii) Rwandan Civil War (1990-1994) and its development in the post-Cold War period

#### ■ Course of the civil war

- 1990: Tutsi militants attacked Rwanda.
- 1993: The Rwandan government reached an armistice with the Tutsi militants.
  - It allowed the Tutsi to join the government, but this caused dissatisfaction among Hutu extremists.
- April 1994: The Rwandan president died in a plane crash.
  - The Tutsi and the Hutu held each other responsible for the incident.
- The civil war recurred and triggered the Rwandan genocide.
  - April-July: More than 800,000 Tutsi were killed by the Hutu, accounting for about three-quarters of the Tutsi population.
- July 1994: Tutsi militants captured the capital and set up a new government.
  - The civil war ended.

#### **■** Post-war development

- The new Rwandan government promoted national reconciliation and allowed the Hutu to share power with the Tutsi.
  - Criminals who took part in the genocide were put on trial.
  - The government also encouraged refugees to come back home.
- Many Hutu remained in exile for fear of revenge.
- Some Hutu extremists continued to fight against the government as well.

#### 3. Threat of terrorism

- In the post-Cold War period, terrorism was another big threat to peace.
- As the superpower, the United States played the role of world's policeman and actively intervened in regional affairs.
  - Some countries and organizations regarded this as American hegemonism.
  - Anti-Americanism grew and led to terrorist attacks.

#### (a) What is terrorism?

- Terrorism: 'a criminal act intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public'.
  - Terrorist groups usually justify their actions on religious, ethnic or political grounds. They frequently conduct indiscriminate attacks.

#### (b) Terrorist activities in the post-Cold War period

#### (i) Global terrorist activities

- In the post-Cold War period, terrorist activities spread throughout the world.
  - South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East, Western Europe, South America, and North America were all threatened by terrorist activities.
  - 1991-1999: There were over 25,000 terrorist attacks in the world.

#### (ii) 9/11 Attacks in the United States

- The United States had been involved in the Middle East since the Cold War.
  - It supported Israel in the Arab-Israeli conflict.
  - It intervened in Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990-1991.
  - Anti-Americanism grew in some Arab countries and extremist Islamic groups.
- In the post-Cold War period, the United States strengthened its strategic deployments in the Middle East.
- The extremist Islamic groups began to launch terrorist attacks against it.
  - September 11, 2001: Al-Qaeda hijacked planes and crashed them into the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon in the United States. About 3,000 people were killed.
  - This incident was known as the '9/11 Attacks'.

#### (c) International efforts against terrorism

- Nations cooperated to combat terrorism.
  - The United Nations required member states not to finance, engage in or tolerate terrorist activities.
  - The international community also strengthened cooperation in exchanging information.
  - Combating the illegal arms trade and cutting off the sources of funding of terrorist groups.
- These measures aimed to weaken their ability to launch terrorist attacks.



Time	Important event		Extended point
1918	Russian Civil War broke out	•	American support for anti-communists upset the Russian communists
1919	Paris Peace Conference held	•	Russia was displeased
1717	Russian Civil War ended		Russia was dispicased
1922	The Soviet Union established		
	Moscow Conference held	•	Discussion about post-war arrangements
1943	Woscow Conference neid	ľ	Wartime differences: American-Soviet relations
1743		Ť	worsened
	Dumbarton Oaks Conference held	•	Discussion about post-war arrangements
1944	Dumbarton Gaks Conference neid	•	Wartime differences: American-Soviet relations
1744			worsened
	Yalta Conference held	•	Discussion about post-war arrangements
1945	Potsdam Conference held	•	Wartime differences: American-Soviet relations
27.10			worsened
	Churchill made the 'Iron Curtain'	•	British-Soviet relations worsened;
	speech		American-Soviet relations worsened
1946	The Cold War started	•	The wartime alliance between the Soviet Union
			and the Western countries ended
	Chinese Civil War started	•	The Nationalist and the CCP fought for power
	The U.S. proposed the Truman	•	Truman Doctrine became American national
	Doctrine and the Marshall Plan		policy
	The Soviet Union proposed the	•	Europe was divided into two economic blocs
	Molotov Plan	•	American-Soviet relations worsened
1947	India declared independence from	٠	Decolonization of Asia
1947	Britain	•	India exercised diplomatic autonomy
	The United Nations decided to	•	Decided to divide Palestine into a Jewish state
	divide Palestine into two states		and a Palestinian state
		•	The Palestinians believed that the resolution was
			unfair and rejected it
1948	Berlin Blockade began	•	The first crisis in the Cold War
1948		•	American-Soviet relations worsened

	Berlin Blockade ended		
	Chinese Civil War ended	•	The Cold War spread to Asia
	The PRC was founded	٠	Sino-American relations intensified
	NATO was founded	•	A military alliance formed by the U.S and the
			Western European countries to counter the Soviet
1949			Union
1949		•	The relations between the U.S, Britain and
			France strengthened
	The Federal Republic of Germany	•	Division of Germany, it was not reunified until
	(West Germany) was formed		1990
	The German Democratic Republic		
	(East Germany) was formed		
1950	Korean War broke out	•	China built up close relations with North Korea
	Korean War ended	•	Sino-American relations worsened
		•	The U.S determined to contain communism in
			Asia
	Eisenhower became the American	•	Proposed the 'Domino Theory'
	President	•	Advocated maintaining diplomatic relations with
1953			the Soviet Union
	Khrushchev became the leader of the	•	Adopted moderate policies towards the West
	Soviet Union after the death of Stalin	*	Competed with the United States in different
	TI C . 1/4 . Cd . C . 11 W		areas
	The first détente of the Cold War		
	Warsaw Treaty Organization	•	A military alliance formed by the communist
	was founded	Ť	countries to counter NATO
1955	Geneva Summit	•	Relations between the two blocs improved
1733	China participated the Bandung	•	Started to engage in regional affairs through
	Conference	·	diplomatic means
	The leaders of the U.S. and the	•	Relations between the two blocs improved
1959	U.S.S.R visited each other countries		Telegraphic devices are the choos improved
1960	U-2 Incident occurred	•	The first détente ended
	Berlin Crisis occurred	•	The Berlin Wall was constructed
		•	The United States and the Soviet Union started
1961			nuclear arms race
		•	American-Soviet relations further worsened
	<u> </u>	l	

	Cuban Missile Crisis occurred	•	Put the world on the verge of nuclear war
1962	Rwanda declared independence	•	Decolonization of Africa
10.50	Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty	•	The nuclear arms race between the United States
1963	signed		and the Soviet Union eased
1064	The U.S. launched full-scale		The United States continued its containment
involvement in the Vietnam War			policy
1971	The 'Ping-pong Diplomacy' started	*	Sino-American relations improved
1073	Nixon visited China	•	China and the United States normalized their
1972			relations
	An armistice was signed between the	•	The United States adjusted its diplomatic
1973	U.S. and North Vietnam		policies after the failure in Vietnam War
19/3	American full withdrawal from	•	The United State sought to improve relations
	Vietnam		with the Soviet Union
	The second détente of the Cold War	•	Relations between the two blocs improved
1975	began	•	Promoted cooperation between the NATO and
	Helsinki Agreement signed		the Warsaw Treaty Organization
	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan	•	The second détente of Cold War ended
1979	China and the U.S. officially	•	Relations between the two blocs improved
	established diplomatic relations		
	The United States boycotted the	•	The United Stated imposed sanctions to the
1980	summer Olympics in Moscow		Soviet Union
		•	Sino-American relations intensified
	Reagan became the	•	The United Stated implemented anti-Soviet
1981	American President		policies
1701		*	A new round of arms race started
		•	American-Soviet relations intensified
	Gorbachev became the Soviet leader	•	Introduced economic and political reforms
		•	Encouraged the Eastern European countries to
1985			pursue democracy and freedom
		*	American-Soviet relations improved
		*	Relations between the two blocs improved
1986	The Single European Act signed	*	Removed obstacles to further integration
	Eastern Europe underwent	•	Non-communist governments were set up in
	drastic changes		Eastern European countries
1989		•	The Warsaw Treaty Organization was dissolved
		*	Relations between the two blocs improved
		•	The end of the Cold War was in sight

	Rwandan Civil War began	•	Serious conflict broke out between the Tutsi and
	Ten made of the transfer of game		the Hutu
1990		•	Ethnic cleansing occurred
	The U.S. intervened in Iraq's	•	Anti-Americanism grew in some Arab countries
	invasion of Kuwait		and extremist Islamic groups
	The Soviet Union broke up and		
	the Cold War ended		
1991	Yugoslav Civil War broke out	•	Ethnic conflicts in the Balkans
		•	Ethnic cleansing occurred
	India started economic reforms	•	Introduced market economy
1002	Bosnia-Herzegovina declared	•	The Yugoslav Civil War spread
1992	independence		
	The EU was founded	•	Promote cooperation among its member states
			and to achieve European integration in different
1993			areas
1993	Israel agreed to withdraw from part		
	of the occupied territories and hand		
	them over to the Palestinians		
1994	Rwandan Civil War ended		
	China developed closer cooperation	•	Worked to promote the political stability and
1996	with the Association of Southeast		economic development of Asia
	Asian Nations		
1999	The 'Euro' was introduced		
1999	Yugoslav Civil War ended	•	Yugoslavia gradually dissolved
2001	9/11 Attacks occurred	•	Terrorist activities



#### Background and causes of the Cold War

#### 1. Cold War (1946-91)

- It refers to the tense relations and confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union from 1946 to 1991.
- During the Cold War, the United States led the capitalist bloc while the Soviet Union led the communist bloc. The two blocs confronted each other, but no direct war broke out between them. It ended peacefully when the Soviet Union was dissolved in 1991.

#### 2. Capitalist bloc

- It was led by the United States, included most Western European countries.
- The capitalist countries stressed democracy, freedom and human rights.

#### 3. Communist bloc

- It was led by the Soviet Union, included most Eastern European countries.
- The communist countries accused capitalism of class exploitation and advocated a world revolution to build a classless society.

#### 4. Superpower

- The leading powers which had stronger military power and greater influence on international affairs than other powers.
- The United States and the Soviet Union were the superpowers during the Cold War.

#### 5. Yalta Conference (1945)

- The United States and the Soviet Union had disagreements at the conference.
- The United States proposed holding democratic elections in the Eastern European countries and sought to establish pro-Western governments; the Soviet Union wanted to establish pro-Soviet communist regimes there to create a buffer zone between Germany and itself, and to expand its power.

#### 6. Potsdam Conference (1945)

- The United States and the Soviet Union again had disagreements at the conference.
- The United States proposed rebuilding the economy of Germany, whereas the Soviet Union demanded huge indemnities so as to weaken Germany permanently.

#### Major developments of the Cold War

#### 1. 'Iron Curtain' speech (1946)

- British Prime Minister Churchill accused the Soviet Union of building an 'iron curtain' across Europe with its control over Eastern European countries;
- After the speech, the wartime alliance between the Soviet Union and the Western countries ended. The Cold War began.

#### 2. Truman Doctrine (1947)

- American President Truman announced that the United States would help countries that were threatened by communism;
- It aimed to contain communism and to stop expansion of communism. It was also known as the 'containment policy'.

#### 3. Marshall Plan (1947)

- The United States introduced the Marshall Plan to provide economic aid to European countries. The plan helped Western European countries rebuild their economies and stopped the expansion of communism.

#### 4. **Molotov Plan (1947)**

- An economic plan introduced by the Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Molotov to aid Eastern Europe.
- It aimed to counter-balance the Marshall Plan and tighten control over the satellite states.
- The Molotov Plan and the Marshall Plan divided Europe into two economic blocs.

#### 5. Berlin Blockade (1948-1949)

- The Soviet Union closed all land and water routes into West Berlin, tried to force the Western powers out of West Berlin.
- In response, the Western powers sent supplies to West Berlin by air. The Soviet Union ended the blockade in May 1949.

#### 6. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (1949)

- The united military strength formed by the United States, Canada and ten Western European countries to counter the Soviet Union.

#### 7. The Warsaw Treaty Organization (1955)

- The Soviet Union formed the Warsaw Treaty Organization with its satellite states. Europe was then divided into two rival military blocs.

#### 8. Chinese Civil War (1946-1949)

- A full-scale civil war fought between the Chinese Communist Party and the Nationalist.
- The Chinese Civil War ended with victory for the Communists. In October 1949, the People's Republic of China was founded.

#### 9. Korean War (1950-1953)

- The US-led UN forces supported South Korea. China also sent a 'volunteer army' to help North Korea as its national security was threatened.
- In 1953, an armistice was signed. However, the Korean Peninsula was still divided after the war.

#### **10.** Domino Theory

- A theory proposed by the American President Eisenhower: If Vietnam fell under communist control, other Southeast Asian countries would follow.

#### 11. The first détente of the Cold War (1953-1960)

- The American-Soviet relations improved during 1953-1960. The Cold War tension eased.

#### **12.** Geneva Summit (1955)

- The United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France held the Geneva Summit. They discussed the issues of global security, American-Soviet peaceful coexistence, armaments reduction and so on.

#### 13. U-2 incident (1960)

- The Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 spy plane and demanded that the United States stop all spy-flights and apologize. It ended the American-Soviet détente.

#### **14.** Berlin Crisis (1961)

- Khrushchev demanded the withdrawal of Western forces from West Berlin and ordered the East German government to build a wall around West Berlin.
- The United States and the Soviet Union sent tank troops to the border between West and East Berlin and confronted each other at a checkpoint;
- The Berlin Crisis further worsened American-Soviet relations. A new round of the nuclear arms race started.

#### 15. Berlin Wall

- The Soviet Union ordered the East German government to build a wall around West Berlin, separating it from East Germany;
- The Berlin Wall became an iconic symbol of the Cold War.

#### 16. Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

- Americans discovered the Soviet missile bases in Cuba. President Kennedy ordered a sea blockade of Cuba and demanded that the Soviet Union withdraw the missiles from Cuba;
- Nuclear war was about to break out. At last, the United States and the Soviet Union reached a compromise and ended the crisis peacefully.

#### 17. Vietnam War (1961-1975)

- A war between South Vietnam, a pro-Western country and North Vietnam, a communist country founded by Ho Chi Minh;
- The United States supported South Vietnam whereas China and the Soviet Union supported North Vietnam and Vietcong;
- North Vietnam won the civil war and unified Vietnam.

#### **18.** The second détente (1970-79)

- American-Soviet relations and Sino-American relations improved between 1970 and 1979. Cold War tensions eased again.

#### 19. Helsinki Agreement (1975)

- The United States and the Soviet Union led members of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization to sign the *Helsinki Agreement*. It eased Cold War tensions.

#### 20. Ping-pong Diplomacy (1971)

- The Chinese table tennis team invited the American table tennis team to visit Beijing. It led to a breakthrough in Sino-American relations.

#### 21. Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979-1989)

- The Soviet Union sent troops to Afghanistan to support the communist regime established in Afghanistan.
- The United States adopted a series of countermeasures. American-Soviet relations broke down again.

#### 22. Reagan becoming American President (1981)

- He implemented a number of tough anti-Soviet policies;
- The 'Star Wars' Programme' triggered a new round of armaments race between the United States and the Soviet Union.

#### End of the Cold War

#### 1. Perestroika

- The Russian word 'perestroika' means 'restructuring' or 'economic reform';
- Gorbachev tried to transform the Soviet planned economy into a market economy. He reduced its intervention in and financial assistance to other communist countries. He also withdrew Soviet missiles and garrisons deployed in Eastern Europe.

#### 2. Glasnost

- Gorbachev proposed the policy of 'glasnost', which introduced the ideas of liberty and democracy;
- He gave people freedom of speech and of the press, as well as the right to criticize the government. He also introduced open elections.

#### 3. Drastic changes in Eastern Europe (1989-1991)

- In 1988, Gorbachev agreed to give up Soviet control over the Eastern European communist countries and withdraw troops from them. They were allowed to choose their own political and economic systems.
- Between 1989 and 1991, non-communist governments were set up in these countries.

#### 4. August Coup (August 1991)

- The conservatives in the Communist Party staged a coup. They set up an emergency committee and sent troops to Moscow;
- Soldiers and the people resisted the coup. The coup failed after two days.

#### 5. Breakup of the Soviet Union (December 1991)

- Starting in 1990, some Union republics declared independence from the Soviet Union;
- On December 8, 1991, some former republics of the Soviet Union including Russia established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS);
- On December 25, 1991, Gorbachev resigned as Soviet President. The Soviet Union, the leader of the communist bloc, officially dissolved. This marked the end of the Cold War.

#### International situation in the post - Cold War period

#### 1. European Union (EU)

- It was founded by the member states of the European Community in 1993;
- It worked to promote cooperation among its member states and to achieve European integration in different areas.

#### 2. Conflicts between Israel and Arab countries (The Arab-Israeli conflict)

- It originated over the ownership of Palestine in the Middle East. Both the Jews and Palestinians (Arabs living in Palestine) claimed ownership of Palestine;
- Five wars between Israel and its neighbouring Arab countries broke out between 1948 and 1982. At the same time, the Palestinians started guerilla warfare and terrorist attacks against Israel;
- Regional conflicts continued and the founding of a Palestinian state remained unsettled.

#### **3.** The Yugoslav Civil War (1991-1999)

- It broke out in 1991 and ethnic cleansing occurred;
- The war finally ended along with the bombing of NATO on Serbia.

#### 4. Rwandan Civil War (1990-1994)

- The Tutsi militants attacked Rwanda and the Rwandan Civil War started;
- In April 1994, the Rwandan president died in a plane crash, triggering the Rwandan genocide.
- The civil war ended in July 1994.

#### 5. Rwandan genocide (1994)

- From April to July 1994, more than 800,000 Tutsi were killed by the Hutu, accounting for about threequarters of the Tutsi population.

#### 6. Terrorism

- According to the United Nations, terrorism is 'a criminal act intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public';
- Terrorist groups usually justify their actions on religious, ethnic or political grounds. They frequently conduct indiscriminate attacks.

#### 7. 9/11 Attacks in the United States

- On September 11, 2001, Al-Qaeda launch terrorist attack s against the United States;
- Al-Qaeda hijacked planes and crashed them into the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon in the United States. About 3,000 people were killed.



### **HUNTING FOR HISTORICAL FIGURES**



#### 1. Churchill (1874-1965)

British Prime Minister. He made a speech, accusing the Soviet Union of building an 'iron curtain' across Europe with its control over Eastern European countries.

#### 2. Stalin (1878-1953)

Soviet leader. He accused Churchill of aiming to provoke war. Under his leadership, wartime alliance between the Soviet Union and the Western countries ended. The Cold War began.



#### 3. Truman (1884-1972)

The 33rd president of the United States. He announced that the United States would help countries that were threatened by communism. This was known as the 'Truman Doctrine'

#### 4. Marshall (1880-1959)

American Secretary of State. He introduced the Marshall Plan to provide economic aid to European countries. It aimed to help Western European countries rebuild their economies and stop the expansion of communism.





#### 5. Molotov (1890-1986)

Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs. He introduced the Molotov Plan, aiming to counter-balance the Marshall Plan and tighten control over the satellite states.

#### 6. Mao Zedong (1893-1976)

Chairman of the People's Republic of China and one of the founders of the Chinese Communist Party and. He led the communist revolution in China and founded the PRC.



#### 7. Syngman Rhee (1875-1965)

President of South Korea. He was elected president in the American occupation zone. He founded the Republic of Korea (South Korea).

#### 8. Kim Il Sung (1912-1994)

Leader of North Korea. He found the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) in its occupation zone.





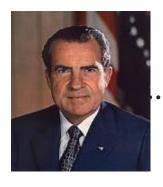
#### 9. Eisenhower (1869-1940)

The 34th president of the United States. He proposed the 'Domino Theory'. At the same time, he advocated maintaining diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, leading to the first détente.

#### 10. Khrushchev (1894-1971)

Soviet leader. He advocated the peaceful coexistence of communism and capitalism. He adopted moderate policies towards the West to prevent a devastating nuclear war, leading to the first détente.





#### 11. Nixon (1869-1948)

The 37th president of the United States. He visited the Soviet Union when he was Vice President. When Nixon became the American President, he improved the Sino-American relations and visited China.

#### 12. Kennedy (1917-1963)

The 35th president of the United States. Kennedy took a tough stance during Berlin Crisis and the Cuban Missiles Crisis.



#### 13. Ho Chi Minh (1980 – 1969)

Founders of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Ho's guerrilla strategy succeeded in defeating the American troops during the Vietnam War.

#### 14. Reagan (1911-2004)

The 40th president of the United States. He implemented a number of tough anti-Soviet policies, further worsening American-Soviet relations. His policies also triggered a new round of armaments race.





#### 15. Gorbachev (1931-)

Soviet leader. He introduced a series of economic and political reforms. He also improved relations with the capitalist bloc. In 1991, he resigned as Soviet President. The Soviet Union was then officially dissolved and the Cold War ended.

#### 16. Deng Xiaoping (1904-1997)

Leader of the People's Republic of China. He introduced the policy of 'Reform and Opening-up', leading China gradually became a rising regional political and economic force.





#### **★** Background: rise of the new world order

Decline of traditional European powers	<ul> <li>The traditional European powers were seriously weakened by WWII.</li> <li>They could no longer dominate world affairs.</li> <li>War damage and casualties</li> <li>Decline in production and foreign trade</li> <li>War debts and reparations</li> </ul>
	Rise of the United States
Rise of the United States	<ul> <li>1920s: The United States became a world economic power</li> <li>1933-1943: The United States experienced rapid economic growth</li> <li>1945: The United States successfully develop the atomic bomb</li> <li>After WII: The United States became an economic and military superpower</li> </ul>
and the Soviet	Rise of the Soviet Union
Union as superpowers	<ul> <li>1922: The Soviet Union established</li> <li>1920s: The Soviet Union focused on developing its heavy industry</li> <li>1938: The Soviet Union had become the world's third largest industrial country</li> <li>After WWII: The Soviet Union received huge compensation after WWII and extended its influence throughout Eastern Europe. It became a superpower</li> </ul>

#### **★** Causes: American-Soviet confrontation

		Capitalism (represented by the United States)	Communism (represented by the Soviet Union)
	Politics	<ul> <li>Democratic government based on free elections</li> <li>Different parties could take part in politics</li> </ul>	The ruling communist party practised one-party system
Ideological differences	Economy	<ul> <li>A free market economy</li> <li>Private ownership and protection of property rights</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A centrally planned economy</li> <li>Public ownership of all means of production</li> </ul>
	Society	Individualism: people enjoyed     different kinds of freedom	Collectivism: aimed to     establish a classless society
	Foreign relations	To resist the spread of     communism	To push forward the world revolution

	The United States	The Soviet Union
Long-standing mistrust	<ul> <li>It supported the anti-communists during the Russian Civil War</li> <li>Its suspicion towards the Soviet Union aroused after the signing of the <i>Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact</i></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>It was not invited to the Paris         Peace Conference after WWI     </li> <li>It was dissatisfied with the inadequate support from the United States during WWII</li> </ul>
Wartime differences	<ul> <li>It proposed holding democratic elections in the Eastern         European countries     </li> <li>It proposed rebuilding the economy of Germany</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>It wanted to establish pro-Soviet communist regimes</li> <li>It wanted to weaken Germany permanently</li> </ul>
Post-war confrontation	Both aimed to increase their influ	nence and dominate international affairs

#### **★** The timeline of the major developments of the Cold War

Time	Major events	Features
1946- 1953	The 'Iron Curtain' speech (1946); the U.S. introduced the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan (1947); the USSR introduced the Molotov Plan (1947); Berlin Blockade (1948); establishment of the PRC (1949); Korean War (1950-53)	Start of the Cold War: the communist and capitalist blocs started to confront each other
1953- 1960	Leadership changes in the U.S. and the USSR; <b>Geneva Summit</b> (1955); mutual visits between the leaders of the two countries (1959)	The first détente: relations between the two blocs improved
1960- 1971	U-2 Incident (1960); Berlin Crisis (1961); Cuban Missile Crisis (1962); the U.S. launched full-scale involvement in the Vietnam War (1964)	Serious confrontations between the two blocs, which put the world on the verge of nuclear war
1971- 1979	American-Soviet détente and Sino-U.S. détente; the U.S. adopted the policy of Vietnamization and began to pull out from Vietnam	The second détente: relations between the two blocs improved
1979- 1985	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979-89); Reagan inaugurated as American president (1981)	Hostility between the two blocs
1985- 1991	Reforms introduced by Gorbachev (1985-91); drastic changes in Eastern Europe (1989-91); the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War (1991)	Relations between the two blocs <b>improved</b> , and the <b>end</b> of the Cold War was in sight

Events	Main points
'Iron Curtain' speech (1946)	<ul> <li>Former British Prime Minister Churchill made a speech</li> <li>He accused the Soviet Union of building an 'iron curtain' across Europe with its control over Eastern European countries.</li> <li>He believed that Western countries should unite to stop Soviet expansion</li> <li>Stalin accused Churchill of aiming to provoke war</li> </ul>
	■ Marked the start of the Cold War

Truman Doctrine (1947)	<ul> <li>American President Truman announced that the United States would help countries that were threatened by communism</li> <li>It was known as the 'Truman Doctrine' or the 'containment policy'</li> <li>Successfully stopped the expansion of communism in Greece and Turkey</li> </ul>
Marshall Plan (1947)	<ul> <li>The United States introduced the Marshall Plan to provide economic aid to European countries</li> <li>Aims: to rebuild European economies and stop the expansion of communism</li> <li>Strengthened the ties between the United States and the Western European</li> </ul>
Molotov Plan (1947)	<ul> <li>The Soviet Union forbade the communist countries in Eastern Europe to join the Marshall plan</li> <li>The Soviet Union introduced the Molotov Plan to aid Eastern Europe</li> <li>Aims: to counter-balance the Marshall Plan and tighten control over the satellite states</li> <li>Europe was divided into two economic blocs</li> </ul>
Berlin Blockade (1948-1949)	<ul> <li>Deepening American-Soviet hostility</li> <li>The Soviet Union feared that a revived Germany would threaten its security and capitalism would expand to its occupation zone</li> <li>June 1948: the Soviet Union closed all land and water routes into West Berlin</li> <li>The Western powers sent supplies to West Berlin by air</li> <li>Division of Germany</li> <li>Led to the formation of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)</li> </ul>
Establishment of the People's Republic of China (1949)	<ul> <li>Shortly after the end of WWII, the Chinese Civil War (1946-1949) broke out</li> <li>The Communists defeated the Nationalists and founded the People's Republic of China</li> <li>1950: China signed a mutual assistance treaty with the Soviet Union</li> <li>The United States continued to support the Nationalists in Taiwan</li> <li>Sino-American relations remained tense until the early 1970s</li> <li>The United States believed that communism would spread further in Asia</li> </ul>

Korean War (1950-1953)	<ul> <li>South Korea and North Korea fought for the sovereignty over the entire Korean Peninsula</li> <li>The UN forces supported South Korea; China sent a 'volunteer army' to help North Korea</li> <li>1953: an armistice was signed</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>China's status in the Asian communist movement rose</li> <li>The United States grew more determined to contain communism in Asia</li> </ul>
The first détente (1953-60)	<ul> <li>Eisenhower and Khrushchev came to power</li> <li>July 1955: the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France held the Geneva Summit</li> <li>1959: Mutual visits between the leaders of the two countries</li> </ul>
U-2 Incident (1960)	<ul> <li>The Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 spy plane</li> <li>Khrushchev demanded that the United States stop all spy-flights and apologize</li> <li>Eisenhower agreed to cancel spy-flights but refused to apologize</li> </ul>
(== ==)	<ul> <li>The collapse of the Paris Summit</li> <li>The first détente of the Cold War ended</li> </ul>
Berlin Crisis (1961)	<ul> <li>Khrushchev demanded the withdrawal of Western forces from West Berlin, but American President Kennedy refused</li> <li>The Soviet Union ordered the East German government to build a wall around West Berlin</li> <li>The United States and the Soviet Union sent tank troops to the border between West and East Berlin and confronted each other at a checkpoint</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>American-Soviet relations intensified</li> <li>The Berlin Wall became an iconic symbol of the Cold War</li> </ul>
Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)	<ul> <li>1962: Americans discovered the Soviet missile bases in Cuba</li> <li>President Kennedy ordered a sea blockade of Cuba and demanded that the Soviet Union withdraw the missiles from Cuba</li> <li>Khrushchev and Kennedy reached a compromise</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Pushed the world to the brink of nuclear war</li> <li>Eased the nuclear arms race</li> </ul>

Vietnam War (1961-75)	<ul> <li>The United States sent military advisers and economic aid to assist South Vietnam</li> <li>North Vietnam and Vietcong were supported by China and the Soviet Union 1961: the Vietnam War broke out</li> <li>1964: the U.S. launched full-scale involvement in the Vietnam War 1975: North Vietnam won the civil war and unified Vietnam</li> <li>The United States started to adjust its diplomatic policies. It sought to improve relations with the Soviet Union and China</li> </ul>
The second détente (1971-79)	<ul> <li>American-Soviet relations improved</li> <li>Mutual visits and summit conferences</li> <li>Helsinki Agreement signed</li> <li>Sino-American relations improved</li> <li>Ping-pong Diplomacy (1971): The Chinese table tennis team invited the American table tennis team to visit Beijing</li> <li>1979: China officially established diplomatic relations with the United States</li> </ul>
Soviet invasion	<ul> <li>1979: The Soviet Union sent troops to Afghanistan, to support the communist regime established in Afghanistan</li> <li>The Soviet involvement was condemned by the West</li> <li>The United States sent troops to support the Muslims militant groups</li> <li>1989: the Soviet Union withdrew from Afghanistan</li> </ul>
of Afghanistan (1979-1989)	<ul> <li>The United States imposed sanctions, boycotted the 1980 Summer Olympics held in Moscow and refused to ratify the Strategic Arms         Limitation Treaty II     </li> <li>American-Soviet relations broke down again, Cold War tensions re-emerged</li> </ul>
Reagan becoming American President (1981)	<ul> <li>Reagan implemented a number of tough anti-Soviet policies:</li> <li>expanding American forces</li> <li>providing military aid to anti-communist forces</li> <li>launching the 'Star Wars' Programme'</li> <li>Triggered a new round of armaments race</li> </ul>

#### **\*** Gorbachev's reforms (1985-1991)

### Background

- The Soviet Union was in a deep **economic crisis**
- Shortages of food and daily necessities
- The armaments race and the invasion of Afghanistan increased its financial burdens
- Corruption among officials was common

		Reforms
		The Russian word 'perestroika' means 'restructuring' or 'economic
		reform'
		Tried to transform the Soviet planned economy into a market
Economic		economy
reforms:	•	Enterprises were given greater autonomy
Perestroika	•	State-owned enterprises were allowed to set prices and wages
		themselves
	•	Reduced financial assistance to other communist countries
		Withdrew missiles and garrisons deployed in Eastern Europe
	•	Introduced the ideas of liberty and democracy
		Gave people freedom of speech and of the press, also the right to
Political		criticize the government
reforms:		Introduced open elections
Glasnost	-	The Soviet Union was no longer the sole source of national
		leadership
	-	People could set up political parties and take part in politics freely
Changes in	-	Improved relations with the capitalist bloc
diplomatic	-	Signed treaties with the United States
policies	_	1990: Agreed that East and West Germany could unify

#### **Impact**

- Liberated anticommunist voices
- **Discontent** from the **conservatives** in the Communist Party
- **■** Eased Cold War tensions
- Triggered drastic changes in Eastern Europe

#### **★** Drastic changes in Eastern Europe (1989-1991)

Background	<ul> <li>The economic development of Eastern European countries lagged far behind that of Western European countries</li> <li>Hoped to improve relations with the West to increase trade</li> <li>Nationalism revived in Eastern Europe</li> <li>Eastern Europeans wanted to be liberated</li> </ul>
Development	<ul> <li>In 1988, Gorbachev agreed to:</li> <li>Give up Soviet control over the Eastern European communist countries and withdraw troops from them</li> <li>Allow the Eastern European countries to choose their own political and economic systems</li> <li>1989-91: non-communist governments were set up in the Eastern European countries</li> <li>1990: East and West Germany were unified</li> <li>1991: the Warsaw Treaty Organization was dissolved</li> </ul>

#### **★** Breakup of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War (1991)

Background	<ul> <li>Gorbachev's reforms were unable to solve the problems in the Soviet Union</li> <li>The power struggle among the Soviet communists intensified</li> <li>People demanded more freedom and democracy</li> <li>Starting in 1990, some Union republics declared independence</li> </ul>
Development	<ul> <li>August Coup (August 1991)</li> <li>The conservatives in the Communist Party staged a coup</li> <li>The President of Russia, Yeltsin, appealed to the people to resist the coup</li> <li>The coup failed after two days</li> <li>Breakup of the Soviet Union and end of the Cold War (December 1991)</li> <li>Some former republics of the Soviet Union including Russia established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)</li> <li>On December 25, 1991, Gorbachev resigned as Soviet President. The Soviet Union officially dissolved</li> <li>Marked the end of the Cold War</li> </ul>

#### **★** International situation in the post-Cold War period

Superpowers	The United States became the only superpower and sought to continue its domination in international affairs
Balance of power	<ul> <li>Unipolar system: The United States was the greatest military power and had great political, economic and cultural influence</li> <li>Moving towards a multi-polar world: Regional forces and emerging economies were becoming a new force which could not be overlooked</li> </ul>
Threats to world peace	<ul> <li>Great wars between the powers were unlikely</li> <li>Regional conflicts and terrorist activities threatened world peace</li> </ul>

#### **★** Rise of regional forces and emerging economies

	During the Cold War
Regional forces:	<ul> <li>Western European countries strengthened economic cooperation</li> <li>The Single European Act (1986): removed obstacles to further integration</li> <li>In the post-Cold War period</li> </ul>
European Union	<ul> <li>1993: The European Union (EU) was founded</li> <li>It worked to promote cooperation among its member states and to achieve European integration in different areas</li> </ul>
	During the Cold War
Emerging	<ul> <li>1960-76: It faced serious economic crises</li> <li>1978: It introduced the policy of 'Reform and Opening-up'</li> </ul>
economy: China	In the post-Cold War period
C	<ul> <li>The world's fastest growing major economy</li> <li>It developed 'multi-faceted diplomacy'</li> </ul>

	During the Cold War
	It played a leading role at the <b>Bandung Conference</b> and in the     Non-Aligned Movement
Emerging	It adopted socialism
economy:	In the post-Cold War period
India	<ul> <li>1991: It started economic reforms, such as introducing a market economy</li> <li>It carried out economic diplomacy</li> </ul>
	Adoption of the 'Look East Policy': to develop closer economic and diplomatic relations with East and Southeast Asian countries

### **★** Regional conflicts and crises

	Origin and start of the conflicts
	Both the <b>Jews</b> and <b>Palestinians</b> (Arabs living in Palestine) claimed
	ownership of Palestine
Middle East:	• 1947: The United Nations decided to divide Palestine into a Jewish state
Conflicts	and a Palestinian state, the Palestinians rejected it
between Israel	• 1948-82: Five wars between Israel and its neighbouring Arab countries
and Arab	broke out; Palestinians carried out terrorist attacks against Israel
countries	Development in the post-Cold War period
	1990s: Israel and the Arab countries signed a number of agreements
	Present days: Conflicts continued
	Origin and start of the conflicts
	Yugoslavia was a multi-ethnic state located in the Balkans
	• Late 1980s: Nationalism revived in Yugoslavia, ethnic conflicts occurred
Southeastern	• 1991: The Yugoslav Civil War broke out
<b>Europe: Ethnic</b>	The Yugoslav Civil War (1991-1999) and its development in the post-Cold
conflicts in the	War period
Balkans	Ethnic cleansing occurred
	1999: <b>NATO bombing</b> forced Serbia to end the war
	After the war: Yugoslavia gradually dissolved
	2003: Yugoslavia was officially erased from the map

	Origin and start of the conflicts
	1962: Rwanda gained independence and the Hutu took control of the government
East Africa:	• Serious ethnic conflict between the <b>Tutsi</b> and the <b>Hutu</b> , and <b>ethnic</b>
<b>Ethnic conflicts</b>	cleansing resulted
in Rwanda	Rwandan Civil War (1990-1994) and its development in the post-Cold War
	period
	1990: Rwandan Civil War broke out
	• 1994: <b>Rwandan genocide</b> occurred

#### **\*** Threat of terrorism

	Definition
	According to the United Nations: 'a criminal act intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public'
	Terrorist activities in the post-Cold War period: 9/11 Attacks in the United States
Terrorism	<ul> <li>Since the Cold War: The United States had been involved in the Middle East. Anti-Americanism grew in some Arab countries and extremist Islamic groups</li> <li>On September 11, 2001: the extremist Islamic group launch terrorist attacks against the United States</li> <li>Al-Qaeda hijacked planes and crashed them into the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon in the United States</li> </ul>
	International efforts against terrorism
	The United Nations required member states not to finance, engage in or tolerate terrorist activities
	<ul> <li>Cutting off the sources of funding of terrorist groups</li> <li>Combating the illegal arms trade</li> </ul>



1.	Who	Who made the 'Iron Curtain' speech?				
	A.	Truman				
	B.	Marshall				
	C.	Stalin				
	D.	Churchill				
2.	Whi	ich of the following events marked the start of the Cold War?				
	A.	Yalta Conference				
	B.	The U.S. proposed the Truman Doctrine				
	C.	Berlin Blockade				
	D.	The 'Iron Curtain' speech				
3.	When did the United States propose the Marshall Plan?					
	A.	1945				
	B.	1946				
	C.	1947				
	D.	1948				
4.	Whi	ich of the following conferences made the agreement that divided Germany				
	into	four occupation zones?				
	A.	Potsdam Conference				
	B.	Yalta Conference				
	C.	Moscow Conference				
	D.	Dumbarton Oaks Conference				
5.	Whi	ich of the following is <u>NOT</u> regarded as an aim of the Molotov Plan?				
	A.	To tighten control over the satellite states				
	B.	To counter-balance the Marshall Plan				
	C.	To provide economic aid to East European countries				
	D.	To counter-balance the NATO				

6.		ch of the following is regarded as the reason for the Soviet Union to impose Berlin Blockade in 1948?	•
	(i)	To stop East Germans escaped into West Berlin	
	` ′	Feared that capitalism would expand to its occupation zone	
		Feared that a revived Germany would threaten its security	
	(III) A.	11	
	A. B.		
	Б. С.	i, ii :: :::	
	D.	ii, iii All of the above	
	Δ.		<u> </u>
7.	Whi	ch of the following is the correct chronological order of the events?	
	A.	Berlin Blockade → Korean War → Establishment of Warsaw Treaty	
		Organization → Berlin Crisis	
	B.	Berlin Blockade→ Berlin Crisis → Establishment of Warsaw Treaty Organization	1
		→ Korean War	
	C.	Berlin Crisis → Berlin Blockade → Establishment of Warsaw Treaty Organization	n
		→ Korean War	
	D.	Berlin Crisis → Establishment of Warsaw Treaty Organization→	
		Korean War → Berlin Blockade	<u> </u>
8.	How	many founding members did the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have?	,
0.	A.	10	
	В.	11	
	C.	12	
	D.	13	
9.	Whe	en did the Korean War break out?	
	A.	1949	
	B.	1950	
	C.	1960	
	D.	1970	
10	XX71		
10.		proposed the 'Domino Theory'?	
	A.	Truman Marchall	
	B.	Marshall Nivon	
	C.	Nixon Eisenhower	
	D.	DISCHIIOWEI	

11.	Which of the following events ended the first détente of the Cold War?			
	A.	Geneva Summit		
	B.	Berlin Crisis		
	C.	U-2 incident		
	D.	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan		
12	Whi	ch of the following statements about the Cuban Missiles Crisis is		
12.		ORRECT?		
	A.	The United States ordered a sea blockade of Cuba.		
	В.	The United States promised not to invade Cuba in the future.		
	C.	The Soviet Union agreed to withdraw the missiles deployed in Turkey.		
	D.	The Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was signed after the crisis.		
13.	13. The United States sought to improve relations with the communist bloc after			
	whic	ch of the following events?		
	A.	U-2 incident		
	B.	Vietnam War		
	C.	Korean War		
	D.	Berlin Crisis		
14.	Whe	en did China officially establish diplomatic relations with the United States?		
	A.	1971		
	B.	1972		
	C.	1978		
	D.	1979		
15.	Whi	ch of the following events led to the American boycott of the 1980 Summer		
	Olyı	npics held in Moscow?		
	A.	Cuban Missiles Crisis		
	B.	U-2 incident		
	C.	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan		
	D.	August Coup		
		•		

C.		
D.	The United States launched the Strategic Defense Initiative	
Whi	ch of the following was <u>NOT</u> the measure of Gorbachev's reforms?	
A.	Loosening Soviet control over the satellite states	
B.	Setting up non-communist governments in East Europe	
C.	Giving Soviet enterprises greater autonomy	
D.	Withdrawing Soviet missiles and garrisons deployed in Eastern Europe	
Whi	ch of the following is <u>NOT</u> regarded as an impact of the August Coup?	
A.	Sped up the breakup of the Soviet Union	
B.	Union republics declared independence one by one	
C.	Non-communist governments were set up in Eastern Europe	
D.	People lost confidence in Gorbachev	
Whi	ch of the following organizations was founded in 1993?	
A.	European Community	
В.	European Union	
C.	The United Nations	
D.	The League of Nations	
Whe	en did China introduce the policy of 'Reform and Opening-up'?	
A.	1975	
В.	1977	
C.	1978	
D.	1979	
****	ch of the following matchings is correct?	
Whi		
Whi A.	Croatia: republics of Yugoslavia	
	Croatia: republics of Yugoslavia Palestinian: accepted the settlement proposed by the United Nations in 194'	7
A.	-	7
	arma A. B. C. D. Whi A. B. C. D. Whi A. B. C. D. Whi A. B. C. D.	B. Soviet invasion of Afghanistan C. The United States launched full-scale involvement in the Vietnam War D. The United States launched the Strategic Defense Initiative  Which of the following was NOT the measure of Gorbachev's reforms? A. Loosening Soviet control over the satellite states B. Setting up non-communist governments in East Europe C. Giving Soviet enterprises greater autonomy D. Withdrawing Soviet missiles and garrisons deployed in Eastern Europe  Which of the following is NOT regarded as an impact of the August Coup? A. Sped up the breakup of the Soviet Union B. Union republics declared independence one by one C. Non-communist governments were set up in Eastern Europe D. People lost confidence in Gorbachev  Which of the following organizations was founded in 1993? A. European Community B. European Union C. The United Nations D. The League of Nations  When did China introduce the policy of 'Reform and Opening-up'? A. 1975 B. 1977 C. 1978



#### Study the Source below and answer the questions that follow. (15 marks)

Source A: A British cartoon published in 1949, related to one of the events of the Cold War



- 1. Identify the two men in Source A. (2 marks)
- 2. Why did the man on the right of Source A use the chess pieces "Airlift" and "NATO"? Explain your answer with reference to the Source, and using your own knowledge. (4 marks)
- 3. Identify <u>THREE</u> features of the Cold War with reference to Source A, and using your own knowledge. (9 marks)

1. Iden	tify the two	men in Source	<b>A.</b> (2 marks)
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- Left:
- Right:
- 2. Why did the man on the right of Source A use the chess pieces "Airlift" and "NATO"? Explain your answer with reference to the Source, and using your own knowledge. (4 marks)

3. Identify <u>THREE</u> features of the Cold War with reference to Source A, and using your own knowledge. (9 marks)

#### Study the Sources below and answer the questions that follow. (14 marks)

Source A: An American cartoon published in 1991, the man in the cartoon was **Soviet** leader **X** 



Source B: A scholar's comments on the reform measures of **Soviet leader X** 

... Soviet leader X's choice and policies... led to political chaos and economic catastrophe (災難) after 1988. His "remedies" were killing the sick patient. ... Soviet leader X's decision to launch radical reforms... created a most severe crisis of the state and produced centrifugal (離心) political forces that spun out of control...

- 1. Identify Soviet leader X in Sources A and B. (1 mark)
- 2. According to Source B, what was the author's attitude towards the reforms of Soviet leader X? Cite <u>TWO</u> clues from the Source to explain. (3 marks)
- 3. How did the policies of Soviet leader X bring about the end of the Cold War? BRIEFLY explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (10 marks)

	the cold was and the post cold was person
1.	Identify Soviet leader X in Sources A and B. (1 mark)
2.	According to Source B, what was the author's attitude towards the reforms
_,	of Soviet leader X? Cite <u>TWO</u> clues from the Source to explain. (3 marks)
•	Attitude:
•	Clues from the Source:
3.	How did the policies of Soviet leader X bring about the end of the Cold War?
	Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (10 marks)

Answer the following question in paragraph form and complete sentences. (10 marks)

Explain the development of the EU in the post-Cold War period and its significance.