

## *Chapter 22*

# **THE COLD WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

### 22.104 THE COLD WAR: THE OPENING DECADE, 1945–1955

#### *Study Questions*

1. What motivated Soviet conduct in the early postwar years? How did Soviet actions in Europe and elsewhere contribute to the Cold War?
2. How did President Truman and his advisers view Soviet actions in the early postwar years? What policies did the United States devise in this period?
3. Describe the circumstances and events that led to (a) the Truman Doctrine and (b) the Berlin airlift. How does the illustration on p. 891 show the nature of the Berlin airlift?
4. What was the significance of the NATO?
5. What were the consequences and outcome of the Korean War? What does the illustration on p. 896 tell us about the war?
6. Summarize the major episodes of the first Cold War decade. What was the status of the Cold War in 1955 in Europe and elsewhere?

#### *Key Discussion Sentences*

1. The widening diplomatic, geopolitical, and ideological clash of interests came to be known as the Cold War.
2. That the war left only two Great Powers standing in any strength created difficulties for international relations.
3. It was difficult for the West to distinguish between legitimate Soviet security needs and Soviet expansionism.

4. Soviet actions fed the belief that Stalin's ambitions transcended the Eastern Europe.
5. The United States moved to fill the vacuum in the Mediterranean.
6. The Truman Doctrine committed the United States to unprecedented responsibilities in global military and economic affairs.
7. The Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, and the Atlantic alliance were the three prongs of the American response to a potential Soviet challenge.
8. The rivalry over Europe led to a stalemate.
9. In addition to the costly loss of life on all sides, the Korean War also affected the global economy.

### *Identifications*

United Nations	Declaration of Universal Human Rights	Warsaw Pact
Veto power	Truman Doctrine	Cold War
Berlin blockade	Cominform	Containment
Yalu River	Iron curtain	NATO
Korean War		

### *Map Exercises*

1. Study the maps on pp. 892–893 in your text, *Deportation and Resettlement, 1939–1950*. How are the two stages of deportation and resettlement described? What were the major consequences by 1950?

## 22.105 WESTERN EUROPE: ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION

### *Study Questions*

1. What were the motives behind the Marshall Plan? What did it accomplish? What role did the European nations themselves play?
2. Discuss the nature of the economies that emerged in Western Europe in the postwar years. How would you assess the record of economic growth in the years that followed?

3. How effectively did the West European states meet social objectives in these years?
4. What led to the growth of welfare state in the postwar years?

*Key Discussion Sentences*

1. The results of the Marshall Plan exceeded the boldest anticipations of its American sponsors.
2. The United States used its economic resources to help revive its competitors, but the Marshall Plan also served American interests by restoring the world market.
3. In all Western Europe economic growth became virtually an obsession as both governments and people came to expect growth rates far exceeding those of the past.
4. The prosperity of Western Europe derived from a competitive, capitalist, free market and private enterprise economy but was accompanied everywhere by extensive economic planning, government intervention, and social services.
5. When the sustained economic growth led to a labor shortage, West Germany and other countries invited foreign workers to join their labor force.
6. The postwar governments gave a high priority to social objectives.

*Identifications*

European Recovery Program	Keynes	Thirty glorious years
Countercyclical measures	Guest workers	OEEC
Fine tuning	Welfare state	Mixed economies
<i>Wirtschaftswunder</i>		

**22.106 WESTERN EUROPE: POLITICAL RECONSTRUCTION**

*Study Questions*

1. What political problems did Western Europe face in the early postwar years? Describe the European political atmosphere and reforms in this period.
2. In what directions did the Labour party government take British politics? What accounted for the shifting electoral fortunes of the two major parties in the next several decades?

3. Assess the accomplishments and shortcomings of the French Fourth Republic.
4. How did the French Fifth Republic come into existence? Describe the new constitutional arrangements. How did they work out? What role did de Gaulle play in the origins and early years of the new republic?
5. What do you mean by the term “denazification?” Who carried out the “denazification” program, which produced mixed results?
6. How was the constitutional and political machinery of the Federal Republic of Germany designed to overcome problems of the past? How successfully did it operate? What role did Adenauer play? How does the illustration on p. 910 show the change in French-German relations?
7. What was the paradox of the Italian Republic? What role did the Christian Democratic party play in Italian political life and in the Italian Communist party?

### *Key Discussion Sentences*

1. The earliest postwar elections showed the political strength of a new desire for political reform, which also advanced because right-wing political groups, as in France, lost influence after their wartime collaborations with the Nazis.
2. Christian Democratic parties played a key role in shaping and governing the new regimes in Western Europe.
3. In 1945 the Labour party set Britain on a new course of parliamentary socialism and the modern welfare state.
4. Until the late 1970s the question was whether Labour or the Conservatives could better manage British decline, not how they could overcome it.
5. The French Fourth Republic in its machinery of government differed in only a few details from the Third.
6. The presidency, as de Gaulle had long urged, became the fulcrum of power in the French Fifth Republic.
7. De Gaulle settled the Algerian crisis in his own way.

8. The founders of the Federal Republic of Germany deliberately set out to avoid the weaknesses of the Weimar Republic.
9. Adenauer successfully integrated the Federal Republic of Germany into the political, economic, and military structures of Western Europe.
10. During the struggle to oust the German armies from the Italian peninsula after the fall of Mussolini in 1943, the Italian political parties, repressed for over two decades under Fascism, sprang to life.
11. The unstable political scene in the Italian Republic did not interfere with unprecedented economic growth and prosperity.

### *Identifications*

Beveridge Report	Nuremberg trials	Codetermination law
Clement Attlee	Konrad Adenauer	Willy Brandt
MRP	Christian Democrats	Free Democrats
Pierre Mends-France	Social Democrats	<i>Ostpolitik</i>
Monnet plan	Social market economy	Alcide De Gasperi
Charles de Gaulle	Basic Law	Eurocommunism

### *Map Exercise*

1. Study the map, p. 909, Germany and Its Borders, 1919–1990. Can you locate the “two Germanys”? How do the German eastern borders in 1945 differ from those in 1919? What happened to East Prussia?

## 22.107 EUROPE AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

### *Study Questions*

1. What wartime steps did the United States and Britain take to shape the postwar world economy?
2. What was the “world economy” in the postwar years? How do the illustrations and their captions on pp. 913 and 917 add to our understanding of that economy? How successfully was world trade liberalized?

3. How would you assess the efforts taken to stabilize world currencies? How has the world's monetary system evolved since 1971?
4. What path did West European integration take? Discuss the origins, nature, and accomplishments of the European Economic Community. How did it evolve into the European Community?
5. What changes from the 1960s on challenged America's economic leadership?
6. Did any formal revision of the postwar methods for currency exchanges take place? What did floating currencies mean?

### *Key Discussion Sentences*

1. The U.S., with British support, developed a bold initiative to reshape the postwar world economy.
2. The GATT contributed to the vast expansion of world trade beginning in the 1950s.
3. Currency stabilization turned out to be more difficult than anticipated.
4. As Western Europe expanded economically, it also drew closer together in a more integrated economic system.
5. The six-nation Common Market, encompassing 175 million people in 1958, quickly became one of the world's thriving economic aggregates of the expanding world economy.
6. The more dedicated Europeanists remained disappointed by the slow advance toward political unity.
7. Despite many proposals, there was no formal revision of the postwar methods for currency exchanges.
8. The breakdown of the postwar monetary arrangements did not seriously affect the world economy.

### *Identifications*

Bretton Woods  
European Community  
Council of Europe  
Most favored nation  
Gold-dollar standard  
International Monetary Fund  
Treaty of Rome

Jean Monnet  
GATT  
European Parliament  
European Coal and Steel Community  
Eurodollars  
Common Market  
World Bank

## 22.108 COMMUNIST SOCIETIES IN: THE U.S.S.R. AND EASTERN EUROPE

### *Study Questions*

1. Describe the U.S.S.R. in the last years of Stalin's rule. What judgments can be made about the Stalin era as a whole?
2. What were the accomplishments and shortcomings of the centrally planned economy of Soviet?
3. Discuss the nature and results of Khrushchev's efforts at reform. Does the photograph on p. 920 accurately reflect his attitude toward the West? What led to his downfall?
4. How had the Soviets come to dominate Eastern Europe? How did they consolidate their control in the early postwar years? What economic changes took place in the East European countries?
5. Discuss the restlessness in the Soviet satellites in the 1950s. How did the Soviets react in Poland and in Hungary? How does the illustration on p. 924 reveal the depths of popular emotion in Hungary?
6. What happened to the opposing "spheres of influence" in eastern and western Europe during the Cold War period?

### *Key Discussion Sentences*

1. Stalin had a massive impact during his close to thirty years in power.
2. Khrushchev was shrewd enough to recognize the need for change, but there were clear limits to the reforms the party and bureaucracy would tolerate.

3. The Soviet Union had been devastated by the war but still ranked as a formidable military power.
4. In eastern Europe, the agrarian reforms implemented by the new regimes were the final blow to the landed aristocracy.
5. The Soviets in the 1950s and 1960s made clear the limits to which they would tolerate freedom and independence in central and eastern Europe.
6. By the late 1950s the Soviet Union and the United States had established opposing “spheres of influence” in eastern and western Europe, but these arrangements became relatively stable during the Cold War.

### *Identifications*

Doctors’ plot	The thaw	KGB
Boris Pasternak	Tito	De-Stalinization
Solzhenitsyn	Crimes of the Stalin era	Gomulka
<i>Apparatchki</i>		

### GENERAL ESSAY QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 22

1. Explain the origins of the Cold War. How did perceptions and misperceptions on both sides contribute to it? What form did it take in the first postwar decade?
2. What profound changes took place in China after the Second World War? How did the People’s Republic of China pose a challenge to Soviet ideological leadership?
3. What was the policy of containment? What did it accomplish in the years 1945–1955?
4. Discuss the political systems and the economies of the major West European nations during the postwar period.
5. How did wartime planning help reshape the postwar global economy? What role did (a) the United States, (b) Western Europe, and (c) Japan play in the postwar economy?
6. What form did the movement for European unification take in the postwar era? What stage had it reached by 1967 and by 1979?
7. How did the Soviets react to restlessness in the East European satellite states? What impact



did the Soviet actions have on international communism?

## GENERAL DISCUSSION PASSAGES FOR CHAPTER 22

1. People everywhere moved on from the cataclysms of the twentieth century to rebuild their lives, their societies, their political institutions, and their economic activities. (p. 883)
2. Certain issues that had confronted humankind for over a century became even more complex and more urgent in the second half of the twentieth century. Three can be singled out—science, the organization of industrial society, and national sovereignty. (p. 884)
3. Human beings now possessed the means to annihilate not only civilization but even human existence on the planet, a thought especially shocking to a world that set one of its highest values on scientific progress. (p. 884)
4. In the years after the Second World War, the Europeans and Americans expended much more effort trying to correct the lack of economic security than the Soviets did to correct the lack of freedom. (p. 885)
5. Stalin may have been acting more as a Russian nationalist bent on protecting Russian national security than as a champion of worldwide Communist revolution, but his stubbornness and paranoia about capitalist encirclement, and his lack of concern for world public opinion, made it difficult for the West to distinguish between what might have been legitimate Soviet security needs and expansionist, Communist missionary zeal. (p. 888)
6. The growing presence of large immigrant communities led to new social friction, often overtly racial or religious, testing the flexibility and tolerance of European societies that were increasingly multiethnic and culturally diverse. (p. 901)
7. At the Nuremberg trials the evidence of evil deeds, massive and incontrovertible, was set down for posterity in many volumes of testimony. Despite the high moral purpose of the trials and an honest effort to establish fair judicial procedures for the accused, some critics questioned their appropriateness. Yet the Nuremberg trials served in a singular way to reinforce international standards of civilized behavior and to describe the meaning of “crimes against humanity.” (p. 906-907)
8. If the first objective of the wartime Bretton Woods conference was to liberalize trade, the second was to stabilize the world’s currencies. (p. 913)
9. The Common Market also helped further absorb a revived democratic West Germany into

Western Europe and to nurture reconciliation between France and Germany, ending the internecine rivalry that had devastated the European continent in the first half of the twentieth century. (p. 915)

10. The Europeans showed no haste to surrender their national sovereignty and independence, but the European Community created a strong sense of common destiny, a shared faith in democratic institutions and market economies, and a concern for human rights and social needs. (p. 916)
11. Because the civil war and war communism earlier under Lenin had also taken millions of lives, the communist regime in Russia, from its emergence in 1917 to its demise in 1991 must be counted among the costliest experiments in social engineering in all history. (p. 918)
12. In later years, in a freer atmosphere, both before and after the dissolution of the U.S.S.R., Russians debated whether Stalin's dictatorship represented a logical outgrowth of the Bolshevik Revolution and Lenin's policies, or was his own personal distortion. (p. 918)