




# COLD WAR STUDIES 1945-1991 USA V. USSR

Stage of our course	American President	Event	Date	Russian leader
<h2 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Key topic 1: The Origins of the Cold War, 1941-58</h2>	<b>ROOSEVELT</b>	<b>GRAND ALLIANCE</b> between Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin	During WW2	 <h2 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">STALIN</h2>
	 <h2 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">TRUMAN</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tehran Conference</li> <li>Yalta Conference</li> <li>Germany surrender in WW2</li> <li><b>POTSDAM Conference</b></li> </ul>	1943 Feb 1945 May 1945 July 1945	
		USA drops 2 atom bombs on Japan (Hiroshima and Nagasaki). WW2 ends	Aug 1945	
		Stalin builds <b>SPHERE OF INFLUENCE</b> in Eastern Europe	1945-48	
		Churchill's <b>IRON CURTAIN</b> speech in USA	1946	
		<b>LONG TELEGRAM</b> to President Truman Novikov Telegram to Stalin	Feb 1946 Sept 1946	
		<b>TRUMAN'S OVERALL CONTAINMENT POLICY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Truman Doctrine</b></li> <li><b>Marshall Plan</b></li> </ul>	March 1947 June 1947	
		STALIN REACTS TO CONTAINMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>COMINFORM</b> (Communist Information Bureau)</li> <li><b>COMECON</b> (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance)</li> </ul>	1947 1949	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Britain, France and USA joined their zones of West Germany and West Berlin.</li> </ul> <b>DEUTSCHMARK</b> currency.	June 1948	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stalin's <b>BLOCKADE</b> of West Berlin</li> <li>Western powers <b>AIRLIFT</b> to save West Berliners</li> </ul>	June 1948 Until 1949	
		Germany divides fully into <b>West Germany</b> + West Berlin (Federal Republic of Germany) and <b>East Germany</b> + East Berlin (German Democratic Republic)	1949	
		Western powers led by USA form <b>NATO</b>	1949	
		Russia develops their own atom bomb – the <b>ARMS RACE</b> of weapons begins	1949	
		<b>Russia and China</b> sign a treaty of alliance to strengthen world communism	1950	
		<b>Stalin dies; Khrushchev</b> becomes the new Russian leader	1953	






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		<b>Khrushchev makes his "DE-STALINISATION" speech</b> – countries in the Communist sphere of influence feel hopeful	1956	
		<b>HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION</b> – <b>RAKOSI</b> replaced by reformer <b>NAGY</b>	Oct 1956	
		Nagy announced Hungary would withdraw from Warsaw Pact – Khrushchev + Red Army invade	Nov 1956	
		Russia launches <b>SPUTNIK</b> – the <b>SPACE RACE BEGINS</b>	1957	
Key Topic 2: Cold War Crises, 1958-1970		<b>Khrushchev makes his "BERLIN ULTIMATUM"</b> due to the refugee crisis from East to West Berlin	1958	<b>BERLIN WALL</b>
		<b>PARIS SUMMIT</b> between Eisenhower and Khrushchev to discuss Berlin	1960	
		<b>VIENNA SUMMIT</b> between Kennedy and Khrushchev to discuss Berlin	June 1961	
		Phase 1 of <b>BERLIN WALL</b> put up between East and West Berlin	Aug 1961	
		Kennedy visits West Berlin and makes famous speech " <b>ICH BIN EIN BERLINER!</b> "	1963	
	<b>KENNEDY</b>	<b>Cuban dictator is overthrown</b> by Fidel <b>CASTRO</b> in the <b>CUBAN REVOLUTION</b>	1959	<b>CUBA CRISIS</b>
		President Kennedy stops diplomatic relations with Cuba and launches disastrous <b>BAY OF PIGS</b> invasion	1961	
		Castro announces he is Communist and is in alliance with Khrushchev of Russia	Dec 1961	
		Khrushchev puts nuclear weapons onto Cuba; 13 day <b>CRISIS</b> begins	1962	
		Khrushchev removes nuclear missiles from Cuba; Kennedy agrees to remove nuclear missiles from Turkey	Oct 1962	
		Telephone " <b>HOTLINE</b> " between Washington and Moscow; <b>LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY</b> signed	1963	
<b>JOHNSON</b>	<b>OUTER SPACE TREATY</b> signed	1967	<b>BREZHNEV</b>	
	<b>NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY</b> signed	1970		



**KHRUSHCHEV**

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<b>Key Topic 2: Cold War Crises, 1958-1970</b>	<b>JOHNSON</b> 	Protests in CZECHOSLOVAKIA at lack of freedoms	1956	 <b>C Z E C H O</b>
		Alexander DUBCEK becomes leader of Czechoslovakia's Communist Party – he wants a different style of communism to Russia! This sparked the PRAGUE SPRING PERIOD	Jan 1968	
		USSR sends military into Czechoslovakia and <b>BREZHNEV DOCTRINE</b> published	Aug 1968	
		In this decade, tensions between USA and USSR lessened. Called DÉTENTE PERIOD	1970s	<b>D E T E N T E</b>
<b>Key Topic 3: The end of the Cold War, 1970-1991</b>	<b>NIXON</b> 	SALT 1 Treaty signed by USA and USSR (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty)	1972	<b>B R E Z H N E V</b>
		Soviet and American spacecraft docked together in space.	1975	
		HELSINKI AGREEMENT between USA, USSR, Canada and most of Europe	1975	
		SALT 2 Treaty signed by USA and USSR 	1979	
<b>CARTER</b> 	Civil war began in AFGHANISTAN	1978	<b>A F G H A N I S T A N</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USSR helps Afghan government and invades Afghanistan – disastrous consequences!</li> <li>President Carter of USA stops SALT 2 Treaty as a protest to USSR and creates CARTER DOCTRINE</li> </ul>	1979		
	United Nations condemns the invasion. USA and 50 other countries refused to go to the Moscow Olympic Games as a protest against Russia's involvement in Afghanistan	1980		

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<b>Key Topic 3: The end of the Cold War, 1970-1991</b>	<b>REAGAN</b>	President REAGAN takes over in America – hard-line anti-Communist	1981	<b>T E N S I O N</b>	<b>BREZHNEV</b>		
		Reagan begins biggest weapons build-up in American history	1980s				
		Reagan announced development of Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) or “Star Wars” DÉTENTE WAS TOTALLY OVER BY NOW!!!	1983				
				Mikhail GORBACHEV becomes leader of the USSR. Much better relationship with USA began. PERESTROIKA & GLASNOST policies begin.	1985	<b>N E W  T H I N K I N G</b>	<b>GORBACHEV</b>
				Gorbachev and Reagan met at Geneva Summit	1985		
				USA and USSR sign disarmament treaty	1987		
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both USA and USSR actively dismantled some nuclear weapons</li> <li>Gorbachev announced withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, immediate reduction of nuclear weapons and less men in Russia’s army</li> </ul>	1988		
				Gorbachev abandons Brezhnev Doctrine – USSR lost control of the satellite states.	1988		
				Gorbachev creates USSR’s first elected Parliament – Communist officials were voted for by the public.	1989		
				Berlin Wall finally torn down after months of movement out of East Germany through Hungary	Nov 1989		
				Communist governments in satellite states collapsed	1989 - 1990		
				Some regions of the Soviet Union demanded their own independence from the USSR (Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Georgia and Ukraine)	1990 - 1991		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gorbachev resigned</li> <li>USSR collapsed</li> <li>YELTSIN becomes the new leader of Russia AND ADOPTS CAPITALISM!!</li> </ul>	Christmas Day 1991	<b>U S S R  C O L L A P S E</b>	