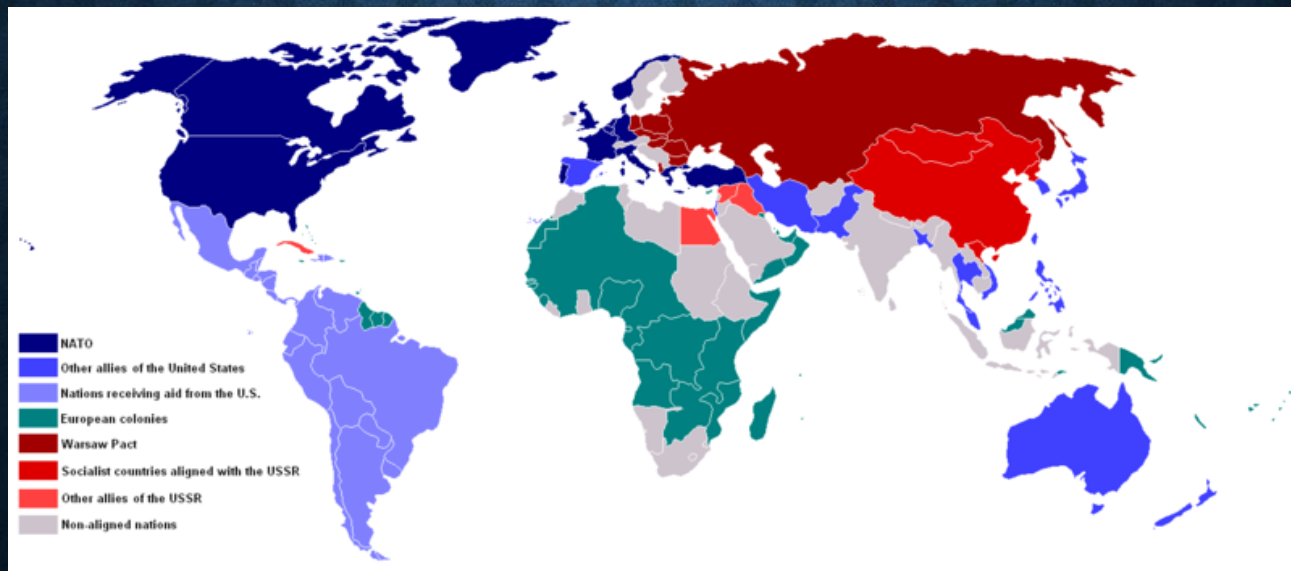


CHAPTER 8

**Key Issue Three: why
do states cooperate
with each other?**

COOPERATION AMONG STATES

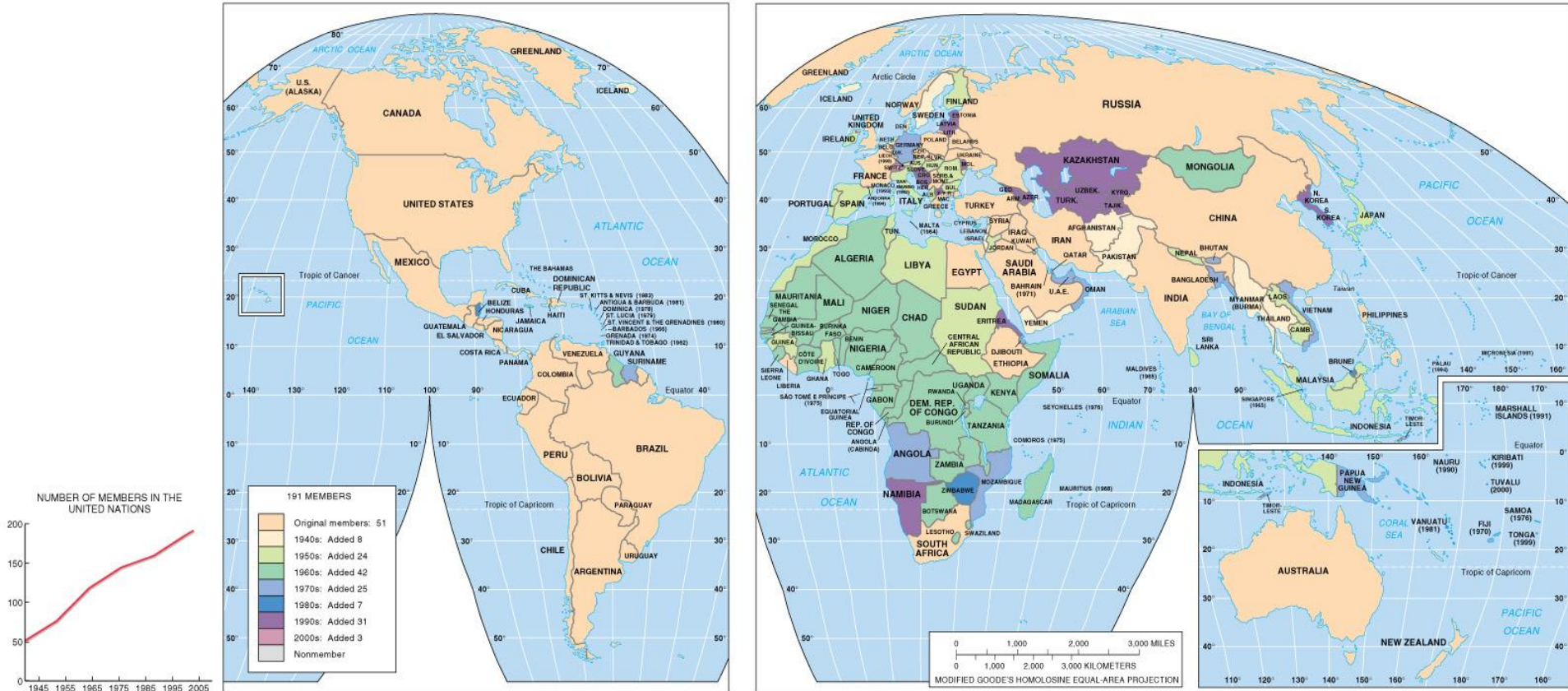
- Political and military cooperation
 - *The United Nations*
 - *Regional military alliances*
- Economic cooperation
 - *The European Union*



COOPERATION AMONG STATES

- During the Cold War (1940's -90s) most states joined the UN and regional organizations to prevent 3rd World War.
- At the end of the Cold War, some organizations increase while others vanish.
- Life before the 20th century: Many “great powers” try to maintain a **balance of power**.
- WWI led to the creation to the League of nations
- After WWII, the results was the creation of the UN
 - Has a security council (5 permanent members)
 - Purpose to Keep peace and help other countries: peace keeping and aid giving part of its mandate.

UNITED NATIONS MEMBERS



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The UN has increased from 51 members in 1945 to 191 in 2003.

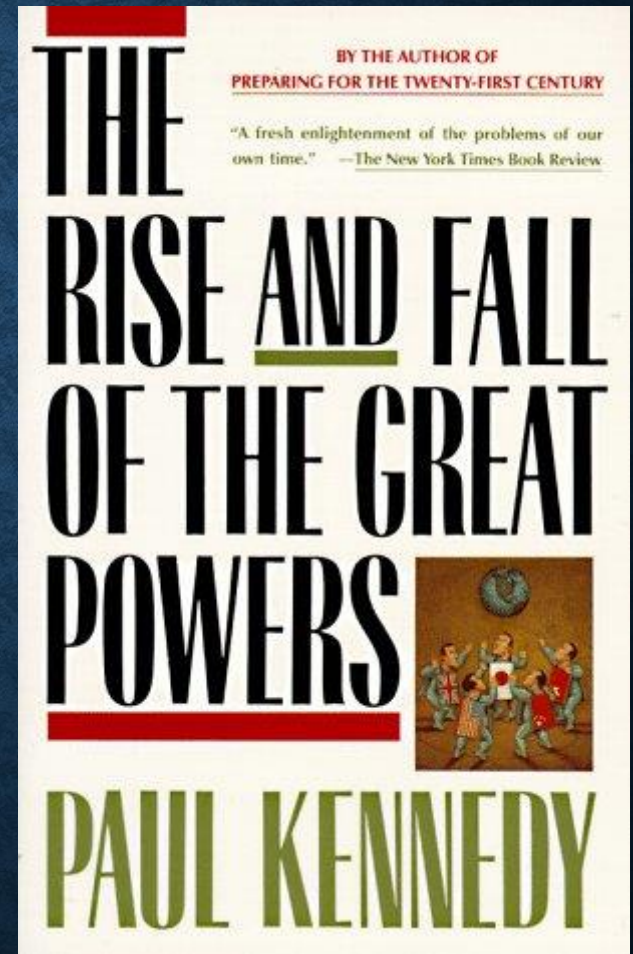
UNITED NATION FORCES

- U.N. members can vote to establish a peacekeeping force and request states to contribute military forces.
- During the Cold War era, U.N. peacekeeping efforts were often stymied because any one of the five permanent members of the Security Council could veto the operation.
- Because it must rely on individual countries to supply troops, the United Nations often lacks enough troops to keep peace effectively.
- Despite its shortcomings the United Nations represents a forum where, for the first time in history, virtually all states of the world can meet and vote on issues without resorting to war.



SUPER POWERS IN HISTORY

- In addition to joining the United Nations, many states joined regional military alliances after World War II.
- During the Cold War era, the United States and the Soviet Union were the world's two superpowers.
- Before then, the world typically contained more than two superpowers.
- During the Napoleonic Wars in the early 1800s, Europe boasted eight major powers.
- Before the outbreak of World War I in the early twentieth century, eight great powers again existed.
- When a large number of states ranked as great powers were of approximately equal strength, no single state could dominate.



SUPER POWERS BEFORE WWII



- Instead, major powers joined together to form temporary alliances.
- A condition of roughly equal strength between opposing alliances is known as a balance of power.
- Historically, the addition of one or two states to an alliance could tip the balance of power.
- The British in particular entered alliances to restore the balance of power and prevent any other state from becoming too strong.

ERA OF TWO SUPERPOWERS

- In contrast, the post—World War II balance of power was bipolar between the United States and the Soviet Union.
- Other states lost the ability to tip the scales significantly in favor of one or the other superpower.
- They were relegated to a new role, that of ally or satellite.
- Both superpowers repeatedly demonstrated that they would use military force if necessary to prevent an ally from becoming too independent.



MILITARY COOPERATION IN EUROPE

- After World War II, most European states joined one of two military alliances dominated by the superpowers: NATO or the Warsaw Pact.
- NATO and the Warsaw Pact were designed to maintain a bipolar balance of power in Europe.
- In a Europe no longer dominated by military confrontation between two blocs, the Warsaw Pact and NATO became obsolete.
- Rather than disbanding, NATO expanded its membership in 1997 to include several former Warsaw Pact countries.
- The Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has 55 members, including the United States, Canada, and Russia, as well as most European countries.
- Although the OSCE does not directly command armed forces, it can call upon member states to supply troops if necessary.



OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- The Organization of American States (OAS) includes all 35 states in the Western Hemisphere.
- Cuba is a member but was suspended in 1962.
- The OAS promotes social, cultural, political, and economic links among member states.
- A similar organization encompassing all countries in Africa is the Organization for African Unity (OAU).
- Founded in 1963, the OAU has promoted the end of colonialism in Africa.
- The Commonwealth of Nations includes the United Kingdom and 53 other states that were once British colonies.
- Commonwealth members seek economic and cultural cooperation.



ECONOMIC COOPERATION

- The era of a bipolar balance of power formally ended when the Soviet Union was disbanded in 1992.
- The world has returned to the pattern of more than two superpowers.
- But the contemporary pattern of global power displays two key differences.
- The most important elements of state power are increasingly economic rather than military, (and) the leading superpower in the 1990s is not a single state.





EUROPEAN UNION

- After the Cold War, the EU has expanded to twenty-seven countries.
- The main task of the EU is to promote development within the member states through economic cooperation.
- The EU shares a common currency.
- It has also removed most barriers to free trade within Europe.
- In theory, this could lead to one of the strongest economic markets in the world; however, it is currently experiences some challenges.

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND NATO



- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
|  | NATO and European Community | Not original members: |
|  | NATO only |  Joined NATO 1952—1982 |
|  | European Community only |  Joined European Community 1973—1986 |
|  | Warsaw Pact and COMECON |  Left COMECON 1961, left Warsaw Pact 1968 |

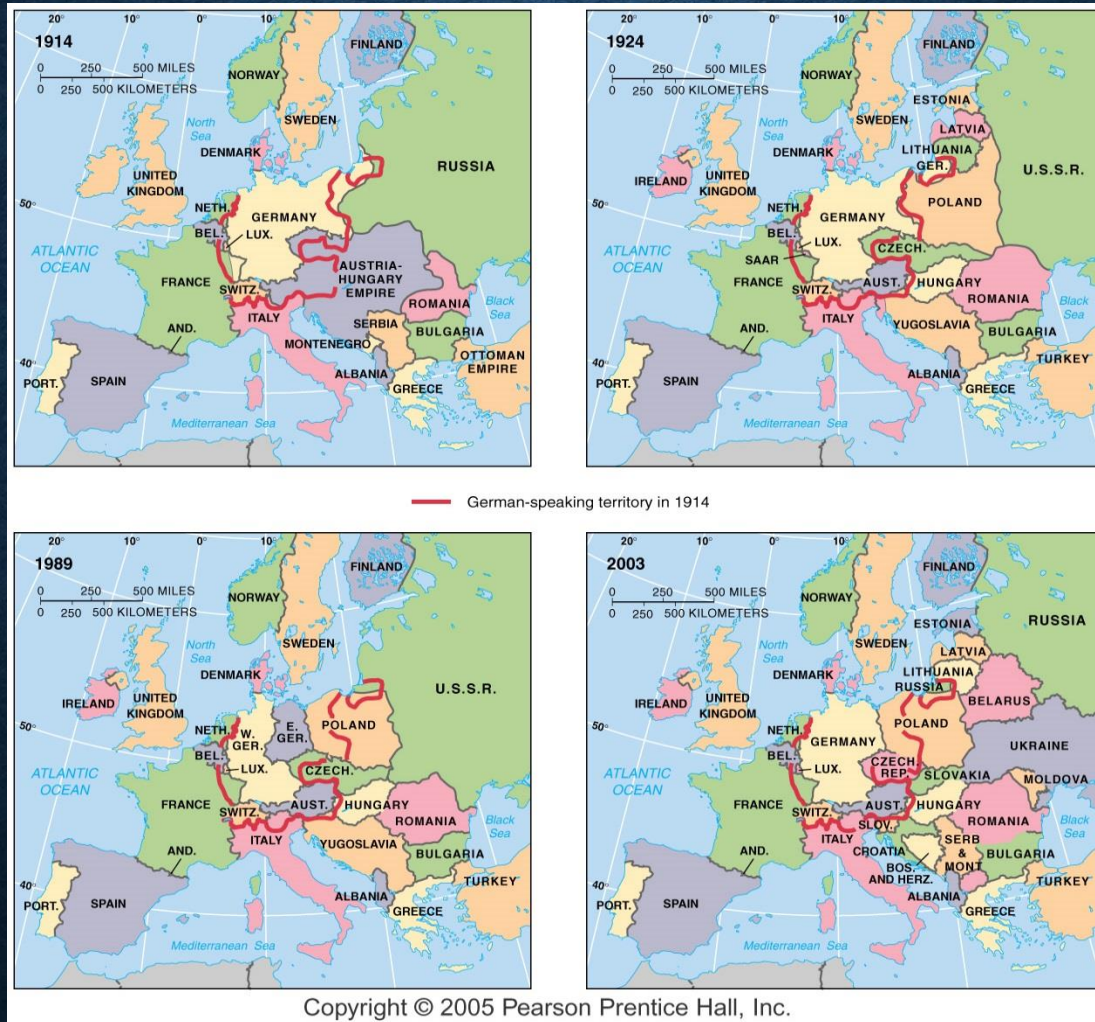


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|---|-------------------------|--|
|  | NATO and European Union |  Will Join European Union 2007 |
|  | NATO only | |
|  | European Union only | |

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NATO and the European Union have expanded and accepted new members as the Warsaw Pact and COMECON have disintegrated.

EUROPEAN BOUNDARY CHANGES



Twentieth-century boundary changes in Europe, 1914 to 2003. Germany's boundaries changed after each world war and the collapse of the Soviet Union.