

# Subject: history

[War](#), [Cold War](#)



Subject: History Topic: 4. 1 The Outbreak and Escalation of the Cold War.

Reasons for Cold War | What are the reasons for the Cold War? | What are these reasons about? | Why did these reasons cause the Cold War? | 1.

Differing political systems | The West was capitalist while the East | This led to Cold War because as their | | | was communist. The West believes in | political beliefs were different, both | | | democracy where the people elect the | sides saw each other with suspicion and | | | government and the government carries out| distrust. This led to strained | | | the wishes of the people. The East | relationship with one another, leading to| | | believes in communism where the | the Cold War. | | | government imposes its decisions on the | | | people with the citizens having little or| | | no freedom of rights.

||| 2. Different economy system | A capitalist economy encourages private | This led to Cold War because as their | | | ownership, profit and free competition. A| economic beliefs were different, both | | | communist economy is controlled by the | sides saw each other with suspicion and | | | government; the state controlled and | distrust. This led to strained | | | planned all economic activities and owned| relationship with one another, leading to| | | the wealth and resources. | the Cold War. | | 3. History of distrust | Even before the end of the Second World | This led to Cold War because it meant | | | War, there was a lot of distrust between | that both sides lost confidence and trust| | | the West and the East. This led to | in each other. It also led to increased | | | incidents where both sides could not | bad feelings and mistrust between the | | | agree with one another. An example is | two, leading to the Cold War. | | | when USA informed the other allied powers| | | like Britain and France that it planned | | | to drop the atomic

bombs on the Japanese cities. However, the USSR was not informed of this until much later. The USSR thus became suspicious that the USA was planning to destroy the USSR with the nuclear weapons.

4. The USSR and Satellite States | The USSR suffered badly during the WW2 | This led to Cold War because both sides with over 20 million people dead. It could not agree on the fate of the Eastern European countries. This led to any future attacks by extending its unhappiness and distrust of each other | sphere of influence over the Eastern | which eventually led to the Cold War. | European countries. The USSR stated that this was solely for defensive or security reasons. The USA and West saw it as the communist aim of expanding and spreading communism further.

5. Personality clashes | During Potsdam Conference, USSR was led | This led to Cold War because it meant | by Stalin and USA by Truman. Truman was | that both of them could not agree with | anti-communist and did not trust the | one another and began to offend one | Soviet Union. Stalin and Truman found it | another, leading to the Cold War. | hard to understand each other.

6. Withdrawal of aid to the USSR | Before war: the USA was a superpower | This led to Cold War because the two | while the USSR was developing. The USA | sides viewed the withdrawal of aid in | thus provided financial aid to the USSR. | different ways. There was increased | | tension and distrust between the two | superpowers. USA stopped giving financial | powers, leading to the Cold War. | support to Soviet Union. USA saw no need | to do so as Soviet Union was a | superpower. USSR felt that this was to | cripple

Soviet Union, which was unlike USA, badly affected by the war

Impact of Cold War on Europe | What were the impacts? | What are these impacts about? | Why was this an impact? | 1. Europe was divided | Europe was divided into two blocs between | This was a negative impact of Cold War on | 1945 and 1948. The East comprised mainly | Europe because it further contributed to | of Communist governments and the West | the bad blood between the two | consisted of democratic countries. | superpowers. | The USSR expanded its control over | Eastern Europe by setting up Communist | governments in these countries. The USSR | could then influence these. Communist | governments to follow policies that were | non-threatening to it. The countries | with Communist governments were known as | satellite states. The West criticised | the USSR for setting up such governments | without holding free elections and for | their harsh tactics. Churchill's ' Iron | Curtain' speech was made in response to | the spread of communism in Eastern | Europe. | 2. Truman Doctrine was announced | Following Soviet expansion in Eastern | This was an impact of Cold War on Europe | Europe, President Truman decided that the | because it indicated that the Americans | USA must stop Communism from spreading. | were determined to resist the global | On 12 March 1947, he announced the Truman | expansion of communism and to protect the | Doctrine. The Truman Doctrine provided | capitalist system. | American aid to Greece and Turkey in | order to prevent the spread of Communism. | Agreeing with Truman's sentiments, | Congress soon voted \$400 million of aid | to Greece and Turkey. The Truman | Doctrine was a milestone in the US | postwar foreign policy. | 3.

Marshall Plan was put into action | Following the Truman Doctrine, the | This was an impact of Cold War on Europe | | Marshall Plan was introduced. The Plan | because the Marshall Plan brought | | sought to make Europe rich and strong | economic recovery and thus stopped the | | again and prosperous enough to resist | spread of communism in Western Europe. | |

Communism, by providing financial help. | | | Between 1948 and 1952, 16 countries in | | | Western Europe received a total of US\$13 | | | billion in aid, loans and goods. Soviet | | | satellites were forbidden from accepting | | | American financial aid. Stalin felt that | | | the West was using this to expand its | | | influence over Europe. | | | 4. Germany was divided | A crisis ensued among Britain, France, | This was a negative impact of Cold War on | | the USA and the USSR over how to | Europe because it worsened relations | | administer Germany in 1948. Germany was | between the Western powers and the USSR. | | | to be divided into four parts and Berlin | However, it did not develop into a ‘ hot’ | | | into four zones. In 1948, Britain, | war. | | | France and the USA decided to join their | | | separate zones in Germany. In order to | | | help the West German economy recover, | | | they agreed to create a new currency. | | | Afraid that Germany would grow strong and | | | threaten the USSR, Stalin planned to | | | seize control of West Berlin through a | | | blockade. He had hoped to force the | | | Western powers to leave the city by | | | blocking all supplies of food to West | | | Berlin. The USA was determined to | | | support West Berlin as it represented the | | | democratic system. After the crisis, the | | | British, French and American zones | | | combined to form the Federal Republic of | | | Germany (West Germany). The Soviet zone | | | became the German Democratic Republic | |

(East Germany). As a result of the blockade Germany became two separate countries. 5. NATO and Warsaw Pact were set up | The division of Europe into two spheres | This was an impact of Cold War on Europe | of influence forced both sides to set up | because the military alliance established | military alliances. In April 1949, the | enabled the two superpowers to check on | USA set up the North Atlantic Treaty | each other. | Organisation (NATO) for collective | security against any Soviet attack. | Similarly, the USSR set up an alliance | known as the Warsaw Pact in 1955, uniting | all Communist countries in Eastern Europe | except Yugoslavia. 6. Berlin was divided | | Reasons for Marshall Plan | The reasons | What were these reasons about? | Why were these reasons important? | 1. To bring about economic recovery in | When WWII ended, the situation in Europe | This led to the introduction of the | Europe | was desperate with there being shortages | Marshall Plan because USA could offer | of food and other necessities. Money was | financial aid to Europe so as to restore | urgently needed for the reconstruction of | the economies of Europe and end Europe's | houses, industries and communication | 'hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos'. | networks, and to jump-start the economies | of these countries. There was also | strong public feeling, in some parts of | US society, that the USA (as a wealthy | nation) should be doing something about | the poverty and suffering in Europe. | 2. To contain communism | Europe was ruined and — after the coldest | This led to the introduction of the | winter in record — starving. Truman was | Marshall Plan because by doing so, the US | afraid that all Europe would turn | hoped that Eastern European countries |

Communist unless the US helped. He would be attracted to capitalism and thus believed that Communism flourished where it gained a foothold in the Soviet sphere of influence. There was 'misery and want'. The USA feared that poor economic conditions could result in the election of Communist governments, even in countries like Britain and France. Therefore, Truman decided that the USA should help put an end to the poverty that existed and make communism less attractive to the people of Europe. Moreover, the plan was also offered to East European countries.

3. To create new markets for USA Truman knew that poor economic conditions in Europe would also affect the US economy and Americans, too. This led to the introduction of the Marshall Plan because by doing so it would help to improve US economy. Truman hoped to help the economies in Europe recover so that the Europeans could demand for US goods.

4. To bring prosperity and success to Western Europe

Impact of Marshall Plan | What are the impacts of Marshall Plan? | What was this impact about? | Why was this impact important? | 1. Containment through economic recovery | Economic recovery of the Western bloc was one impact of the Marshall Plan. | because with the financial aid given, President Truman persuaded the US Senate that many western European countries were able to help in the economic recovery of Europe to recover from the effects of WWII, and post-war Europe by giving aid to them. | thus, people in the Western bloc were not supportive of communism. | He said that the countries were going to have to choose between communism and democracy. Providing economic aid was a

| good way to prevent the spread of | | | communism in Europe as countries in | | | poverty were more receptive towards | | | communism. There was also strong public | | | feeling, in some parts of US society, | | | that the USA (as a wealthy nation) should | | | be doing something about the poverty and | | | suffering in Europe. The Marshall Plan | | | gave out \$13 billion across Europe. | | | 2. Worsened relations between USSR and | Instead of offering aid to the USSR under | This was an impact of the Marshall Plan | | USA | the Marshall Plan, the USA told the USSR | because it signifies a breakdown in the | | | it could join the Marshall Plan as | relationship between the two superpowers. | | aid-giver. While the USA had been | | | relatively untouched by the war, the USSR | | | had suffered terribly in terms of | | | devastation from the fighting, loss of | | | armed troops and also civilian losses. | | | The USSR refused to join the Marshall | | | Plan and told all of its satellite states | | | in the Eastern bloc not to accept aid as | | | Stalin felt that the Marshall Plan was | | | part of Western plans to expand its | | | influence over Europe. | | | 3. Economic recovery and cooperation in | In 1949, the USSR set up Comecon among | This was an impact of the Marshall Plan | | the Eastern bloc. | Eastern bloc countries to counter the | because with time, the USSR | | Marshall Plan, although the USSR did not | 'rationalized' the industries in its | | lend much money at first. Comecon was | satellites, Poland-shipbuilding, | | set up to exchange economic experiences, | Hungary-trucks. This brought the | | extend technical aid to one another, and | satellite states under USSR's control. | | to render mutual assistance with respect | | | to raw materials, foodstuffs, machines, | | | equipment, etc. It was also to tie the | | | USSR and its satellites together



more ||| tightly in various trade dependencies. ||| 4. USSR sets up  
COMECON |||