

- Italy: Fascist **Benito Mussolini** takes control
 - 1922: Mussolini takes power after fascist march on Rome
 - 1929: Vatican and Italy make peace in Lateran Accord
 - 1935: Italy invades **Ethiopia**; France, Britain do not act
- Germany: Adolf Hitler** leads Nazi Party into power
- 1919: **Weimar Republic** is liberal but weak
 - 1925: Hitler's *Mein Kampf (My Struggle)* outlines Nazi plans
 - 1933: Hitler becomes chancellor
 - S.S. (protective force) police surveillance expands
 - 1935: **Nuremberg Laws** revoke Jewish citizenship
 - 1938: **Kristallnacht**: Nazis destroy Jewish stores, synagogues
- Spain:** Fascist **Francisco Franco** conquers Spain
- 1936-1939: **Spanish Civil War** between fascists and republicans (supported by Communists); USSR aids republicans; Germany and Italy aid fascists; Britain, France remain neutral
- France and Britain hope **appeasement** will avoid another war despite fascist aggression; believe Hitler's goals to be limited

WORLD WAR II 1939-1945

Germany acquires territory, claims right to Germanic ethnic lands

- 1935: Hitler rearmars, rejecting Treaty of Versailles
- 1938: **Anschluss** ("connection"): Germany incorporates Austria
- 1938: **Munich Conference**: Britain, France allow German occupation of part of Czechoslovakia, hope to prevent war
- 1939: **Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact**: Surprise Germany-USSR alliance

1939: Germany invades **Poland**; USSR invades Poland soon afterward, beginning World War II in Europe

1939: Britain and France declare war on Germany but do not fight immediately; so-called **Phony War**

1940: Germany invades Norway, Denmark; USSR invades Finland

1940: Germany invades France through Low Countries

- France falls quickly, is split in two parts: northern **occupied zone**, southern unoccupied zone under **Vichy** government
- Vichy government collaborates with Germans, sends Jews to concentration camps

1940: **Battle of Britain**: Germany bombs U.K. but does not invade

1941: Germany invades Greece, Yugoslavia

German allies include Italy, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Japan

1941: Germany breaks pact with **USSR**, invades by surprise

- Fighting especially brutal as Germany tries to kill, capture or force out Slavic people to make room for Germans

Resistance movements in occupied countries hampered by supply shortages, internal rivalry, German retaliation against civilians; most successful in Yugoslavia under Communist **Josip Tito**

Holocaust: Nazis kill millions of Jews in concentration camps and in mass slaughter; Nazis aim to exterminate all Jews

- Nazis also target gays, Romanies (Gypsies), Slavs, dissenters
- Many occupied nations help Germany gather Jews to be killed

• **Concentration camps** at Auschwitz, Dachau, Bergen-Belsen

1941: Japan bombs **Pearl Harbor**, Hawaii; U.S. enters war

Allied leaders: U.S. President **Franklin D. Roosevelt**, U.K. Prime Minister **Winston Churchill**, unequal partner French General **Charles de Gaulle** work uneasily with USSR's Stalin



- 1942: Allies (U.K., U.S.) land in North Africa, Italy
 - 1943: Mussolini falls in Italy
 - 1942-1943: Russians win **Battle of Stalingrad**; Germans retreat
 - 1943: Allies begin strategic bombing of Germany; Germans retreat east
 - 1945: Germany surrenders after Soviet army captures Berlin; Japan surrenders after U.S. drops two **atomic bombs**
- Results of war:** Cities leveled, millions killed, millions of displaced people seek new homes, new fear of atomic war

COLD WAR IN EUROPE

Cold War between U.S. and USSR creates **"iron curtain"** between Eastern, Western Europe, heightens fear of nuclear war but does not lead to combat in Europe

U.S. policy of **containment** aims to stop spread of communism; USSR wants buffer states to protect against invasion

- 1945: **United Nations** founded to settle international problems and watch over human rights, using military force if necessary
- 1947: U.S. **Marshall Plan** aids postwar recovery in Western Europe
- 1948-1949: USSR blocks roads through East Germany; U.S. sends aid to West Berlin in **Berlin airlift**

- 1949: **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)** formed: U.S., Canada, U.K., France, Italy, Portugal, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Norway, Iceland
 - 1949: Germany split into Communist **German Democratic Republic** (east), capitalist **German Federal Republic** (west); Berlin (located in East Germany) also split into eastern, western zones
 - 1953: Stalin dies; new Soviet leader **Nikita Khrushchev** denounces Stalin's crimes three years later
 - 1955: **Warsaw Pact** (Communist East's counterpart to NATO): USSR, Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria; Communist Yugoslavia and Albania stay independent
- Communist countries experience unrest as economies stagnate, political expression is limited, and West continues to prosper; USSR sends army to keep Eastern bloc under control
- 1956: USSR crushes Hungarian reform movement
 - 1961: Concrete **Berlin Wall** divides city in two
 - 1968: USSR suppresses **Alexander Dubcek's** Prague Spring reform movement in Czechoslovakia
 - USSR proclaims right to intervene under **Brezhnev Doctrine**

DECOLONIZATION

Decline of imperialism due to nationalism, anger against oppression, military withdrawal during World War II, weakness of European nations after World War II

- 1947: Peaceful demonstrations led by **Mohandas Gandhi** lead to independence of **India** and **Pakistan** from U.K.
- 1947-1954: France fights in vain to prevent independence of **Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia**
- 1948: Jews who had left Europe for British-controlled **Palestine** create **Israel** as Jewish homeland, excluding Arab Palestinians
- 1949: Dutch leave East Indies, now independent **Indonesia**
- 1954-1962: French war to hold onto **Algeria** fails
- 1950s-1970s: Countries in **sub-Saharan Africa** independent
- Immigrants from former colonies face racial, religious prejudice in Europe

ART, IDEAS, & CULTURE 1914-PRESENT

Modernism: Writers challenge expectations, explore stream-of-consciousness, change forms of novels:

- 1913-1927: *In Search of Lost Time* by **Marcel Proust** (French, 1871-1922)
- 1922: *Ulysses* by **James Joyce** (Irish, 1882-1941)
- 1927: *To the Lighthouse* by **Virginia Woolf** (English, 1882-1941)

State-controlled **socialist realism** in USSR promotes Communism

Television provides news, sports, entertainment

Air travel for business and leisure increases

1957: USSR launches first **satellite, Sputnik**

Filmakers challenge audiences with innovation: Italian **Federico Fellini** (*La Dolce Vita*, 1959), Swedish **Ingmar Bergman** (*The Seventh Seal*, 1956), French **Jean Truffaut** (*400 Blows*, 1959)

Existentialism: Writers **Jean-Paul Sartre** (*Nausea*, 1938), **Albert Camus** (*The Stranger*, 1942) explore absurdity of existence

Feminist and existentialist **Simone de Beauvoir's** *The Second Sex* (1949) questions the way gender shapes people's lives

Europeans import, create their own jazz, rock-and-roll, rap **music**, creating common European culture, use music to criticize society

Sports, especially **soccer**, become international passion for players and spectators

American influence in film, music, clothing, commercialism, fast-food, soda companies, language causes cultural tension

African, Asian cultures influence dress, food, music, literature

Participation in organized religion, traditional faith drop sharply, but churches continue to influence society

- 1959-1965: **Vatican II** calls for more non-European, non-North American bishops, Mass in vernacular rather than Latin
- 1978: Election of first Polish pope, **John Paul II**

Postmodernism: Intellectuals like French **Claude L'Évi-Strauss** argue that language and culture shape society

1990s-2000s: **Personal computers** and **internet access** hasten information revolution

SOCIETY & ECONOMY 1945-PRESENT

1946-1964: **Baby boom** after World War II; life expectancy rises

1964: Birth rate starts to fall, due partly to **birth control pill**

1945-1970s: **Welfare state** in U.K. provides health care, social security, better housing

Agricultural production doubles due to mechanization, new fertilizer; peasants nearly disappear

1950s-1960s: **Mass production and industrial productivity** rise all over Europe, especially in Germany

Standard of living rises with sharp increase in indoor plumbing, automobiles, refrigerators

More Europeans use **credit, banks** to manage money, purchases

1970s: Economic growth slows; inflation, stagnation, unemployment, hurt by Arab oil embargo (1973)

Global economy spreads: International companies, outsourcing jobs, international economic cooperation and competition

Europe tightens **immigration policies** after 9/11 attacks in U.S.

EUROPEAN UNION

After World War II, Europeans aim for economic power, common defense, diplomatic leverage against U.S. and USSR through cooperation via **European Union**

- 1951: European Coal and Steel Community begins **economic cooperation** among Western European nations
- 1957: France, Italy, West Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands form **European Economic Community (EEC)**
 - EEC member nations end tariffs and trade restrictions
 - 1973-1986: U.K., Ireland, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Greece join
- 1993: **Maastricht Treaty** plans for common currency, the **Euro**; EEC renamed **European Union (EU)**
- 1995: Austria, Finland, Sweden join EU
- 1999: Euro unites EU economies; goes into circulation in 2002
- 2002: EU begins work on constitution; member nations cooperate in **economic planning** and **open border crossing** but retain their boundaries, languages, culture, laws
- 2003: EU has **no united foreign policy**; U.K. joins U.S. in invasion of Iraq against protests of France, Germany, Russia
- 2004: **Ten nations join EU**, including Poland, Czech Republic

NEW POLITICAL MOVEMENTS

- Christian Democratic parties** promote social reform, democracy, anti-communism
- 1968: Students worldwide protest against Vietnam War, overcrowded schools, so-called authoritarianism of older generation
- French students, workers cooperate briefly in 1968, causing general strike, national standstill, leading to fall of de Gaulle
- 1968: Revived **feminism** encourages women to take control of lives, fight for equal pay, equal opportunities, reproductive rights
- 1970s-present: Separatists use **terrorism** in Northern Ireland (U.K.), Basque country (Spain), Chechnya (Russia)
- 1975: Franco dies; King **Juan Carlos I** commits to democracy
- 1979: Conservative **Margaret Thatcher**, first female prime minister of U.K., cuts government spending
- 1980s-present: **Green Parties** promote environmental causes
- 1980s-present: **Far-right nationalistic parties** gain support by blaming immigrants for economic downturn
- 1999: Nazi sympathizer **Jorg Heider** elected Austrian P.M.
 - 2002: Anti-Muslim National Front party candidate Jean-Marie Le Pen finishes second in French presidential election
- 1990s-present: Protests against **globalization** (corporations, banks, environmental threats, unregulated labor) gain support

END OF THE COLD WAR

- 1979-1989: **Invasion of Afghanistan** demoralizes Soviet army
- 1980-1981: Polish trade union **Solidarity**, under **Lech Walesa**, becomes first non-Communist union; Communist Party allows candidate choice in elections, but martial law ends experiment
- 1980s: Soviet leader **Mikhail Gorbachev** pushes reform through **glasnost** (openness), **perestroika** (economic restructuring)
- Nationalist movements, economic crisis, calls for democracy, arms race with U.S. contribute to **fall of Communism**
- 1989: **Solidarity** gains support in Poland, wins elections; first non-Communist prime minister since 1945
- 1989: Thousands of East Germans emigrate, leading to fall of Berlin Wall; **Germany reunifies** in 1990
- Communist governments topple in Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Albania; USSR does not intervene
- 1990: **Lithuania** declares independence from USSR

1991: Attempted conservative coup in USSR fails; USSR breaks up; Gorbachev resigns; **Boris Yeltsin** becomes president of Russia

1993: **Velvet Revolution:** Czechoslovakia splits peacefully into **Czech Republic**, led by playwright **Vaclav Havel**, and **Slovakia**

Yugoslavia splits, falls into chaotic civil war, **ethnic cleansing**

- 1991: **Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia** declare independence
- 1992-1995: **Bosnia-Herzegovina** declares independence; civil war follows; belated **NATO intervention** ends conflict
- 1998: Yugoslavian **Serb** majority forces ethnic Albanians from **Kosovo** province; NATO bombs Serb targets in 1999
- 2000: Serbian leader **Slobodan Milosevic** overthrown, turned over to **International War Crimes Tribunal** at The Hague
- 2003: Remaining Yugoslavian provinces renamed **Serbia-Montenegro**

