

Post Cold War World (1990 – Present)

With the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the Cold War was over. Communist governments remained in only a few countries, including China, North Korea, Cuba, and Vietnam. The end of a bipolar world presented myriad opportunities, as well as several formidable challenges. Political alliances changed, and economic interactions among nations expanded. With this new openness, particularly with regard to trade, the world became more interconnected than ever before, which produced greater wealth for many, but hardships for others. The post-Cold War world had to grapple with new democracies, vast economic inequality, ethnic conflict and genocide, terrorism, environmental degradation, and global epidemics.

I. Economic Globalization

- a. Causes of Globalization
- b. Emerging and Developing
 - i. Japan
 - ii. The Tiger and China
 - iii. India, Brazil, Russia
- c. Trade and Economic Development
- d. Effects of Globalization
 - i. Resistance
 - ii. Technology
 - iii. Upheaval
 - iv. Popular Culture
 - v. Religion

II. Struggles for Democracy

- a. Civil Rights
- b. South African Apartheid
- c. Chinese Protests
- d. China and the Environment

III. Global Security

- a. New World Order
- b. Growth of Terrorism
- c. Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq

IV. Genocide and Human Rights

- a. Bosnia
- b. Rwanda
- c. Sudan

V. Global Challenges

- a. Hunger
- b. Environmental
- c. Gender Issues
- d. Medical Challenges and Breakthroughs

VI. So what comes next?