

Postwar Soviet Expansion: Imperialism or Self-Defense?

Part A. The following map activity will help you to understand possible explanations for Soviet expansion in the years between 1945 and 1950. Put all of your work on the accompanying world map.

1. Locate and identify the USSR. Color the country in red.
2. Locate and identify by letter the following countries that became Communist in the years 1945–1950. Color these countries pink.
 - a. German Democratic Republic
 - b. Bulgaria
 - c. Hungary
 - d. Poland
 - e. Czechoslovakia
 - f. Yugoslavia
 - g. Romania
 - h. Albania
 - i. North Korea
 - j. China
 - k. Outer Mongolia
3. Locate and identify by letter the following countries in which the United States had defense commitments. Color these countries blue.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries:

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|-------------------|------------------|
| a. Iceland | g. Netherlands |
| b. Norway | h. Luxembourg |
| c. Denmark | i. Italy |
| d. United Kingdom | j. Portugal |
| e. France | k. Canada |
| f. Belgium | l. United States |

Rio Pact countries:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| a. Argentina | k. Haiti |
| b. Bolivia | l. Honduras |
| c. Brazil | m. Mexico |
| d. Chile | n. Nicaragua |
| e. Colombia | o. Panama |
| f. Costa Rica | p. Paraguay |
| g. Cuba | q. Peru |
| h. Dominican Republic | r. Uruguay |
| i. Ecuador | s. Venezuela |
| j. Guatemala | |

4. Locate and identify by letter the following countries that had no formal alliances with either the United States or the USSR in the period 1945–1950. Color them in green.

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|----------------|----------------|
| a. Japan | j. Pakistan |
| b. South Korea | k. Iran |
| c. Burma | l. Greece |
| d. Australia | m. Turkey |
| e. New Zealand | n. Iraq |
| f. India | o. Israel |
| g. Afghanistan | p. Philippines |
| h. Indonesia | q. Sweden |
| i. Finland | r. Switzerland |

Part B. Based on your completed map, answer the following questions.

1. For what reasons did the USSR want to control the countries in Eastern Europe?
2. Why have the Soviets given Yugoslavia greater freedom than they have given to the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), Hungary, or Poland?
3. What does this greater freedom for Yugoslavia suggest to you about Soviet motivations?
4. What significance does the Middle East have in supplying essential resources to the world?
5. Why was Britain determined not to allow the Soviet Union to control Iran, Turkey, and Greece?

