



Historical General Assembly

Working towards political stability

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Topic: Preventing the escalation of tensions between the Western democratic and Eastern Bloc states of Central and Eastern Europe

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II. Introduction

Committee

Welcome to the Historical General Assembly, where we will travel to the aftermath of WW2 to participate in the first sessions of a newly created General Assembly.

The GA is the main policy-making organ of the Organization. Comprising all Member States, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter of the United Nations. Each of the 193 Member States of the United Nations has an equal vote.

The first session of the *UN* General Assembly was convened on 10 January 1946 in the Methodist Central Hall in London and included representatives of 51 nations, and we will situate our session around 1948, as the GA resolution 271 A declaring the *Human Rights* passed. Meanwhile, the military success of the Red Army in Central and eastern Europe in World War 2 had led to a consolidation of power in communist hands, and many states had already adopted communist regimes, causing disputes between eastern and western Europe.

We find ourselves in a very tense period, with the communist and the capitalist block starting to confront and with the Soviet Union and the United States at the doors of what in the future will be the *Cold War*, so debate will be guaranteed.

Topic

Nowadays many new foes fall and rise for each country, and that has always been the case. Due to rivalries of many countries, it is impossible to avoid tensions between two or even more powers.

There is no country that does not desire power, and achieving world peace is something only seen in utopias. In the aftermath of WWII, an enormous power vacuum has been left to be filled, resulting in a tense proxy war between two rising superpowers and their allies.

Is there any way to prevent the two titans to clash and cause a world catastrophe, or will the world allow this earth destroying cycle to continue?

III. Definitions of key terms

Aftermath

The consequences or after-effects of a significant unpleasant event.

Proxy War

A war instigated by a major power which does not itself become involved.

Superpower

An extremely powerful nation, especially one capable of influencing international events and the acts and policies of less powerful nations.

Power vacuum

A condition that exists when someone has lost control of something and no one has replaced them.

Capitalism

Capitalism is an economic system in which most means of production are privately owned and production is guided and income distributed largely through the operation of markets.

Communism

Communism (from Latin communis, 'common, universal') is a philosophical, social, political, and economic ideology and movement whose ultimate goal is the establishment of a communist society, namely a socioeconomic order structured upon the ideas of common ownership of the means of production and the absence of social classes and money.

Means of production

Are the facilities and resources for producing goods

Socialism

Is a political and economic theory of social organization which advocates that the means of production, distribution, and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.

Fascism

Fascism is a far right, authoritarian, ultranationalist political ideology and movement, characterized by a dictatorial leader, centralized autocracy, militarism, forcible suppression of opposition, belief in a natural social hierarchy, subordination of individual interests for the perceived good of the nation or race, and strong regimentation of society and the economy.

Belligerent

A country, group, or person who is fighting a war.

Satellite states

A satellite state or dependent state is a country that is formally independent in the world but under heavy political, economic, and military influence or control from another country

Buffer zone

Is a neutral area serving to separate hostile forces or nations

Balance of power

Balance of power, in international relations, the posture and policy of a nation or group of nations protecting itself against another nation or group of nations by matching its power against the power of the other side, either by increasing their own power or by adding to their own power that of other states.

Liberal democracy

Is a democratic system of government in which individual rights and freedoms are officially recognized and protected, and the exercise of political power is limited by the rule of law

Market economy

Is an economic system in which production and prices are determined by unrestricted competition between privately owned businesses

Planned economy

Is an economy in which production, investment, prices, and incomes are determined centrally by the government

IV. History of the topic – Timeline of precedents

The Great War

The first World war was caused by a Serbian nationalist killing the Austro-Hungarian Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Following the later parts of this conflict and many defeats from the Russians and the unhappiness of its people with the Monarchy, the latter was abolished, but was followed by a civil war. One side was the provisional government, also known as the White Army, and the Red Army was the other side, which was made of leftist, socialist and communist parties such as the Mensheviks and the Bolsheviks, who later on came at the top after five years of struggle in 1922, managing to take power. That was the first time that a country was ruled by such a party, one who believed in a communist utopia.

The Russian Civil War

This 5 year long conflict was not as simple as it seems, as it included more than the two previously mentioned factions. Separatist movements were also part of it, as well as the early involvement of the central powers, who made peace with Russia in December of 1917 and then the intervention of the British, French, Americans and Japanese in hopes of reopening the eastern Front of WWI and containing communism.

After the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia in March 1917 and the installation of a provisional government, many Russians hoped to get peace with the Central Powers, however, that wasn't made. The lack of peace led to the October Revolution, in which the Reds took power of the central government.

Following the October Revolution, the Bolsheviks signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, an humiliating treaty in which they gave up Ukraine, Belarus, their Baltic and Caucasian possessions to mostly the German and Austro-Hungarian Empires.



This also led them to recognize the independence of Finland in 1918, as well as Starting the Westward offensive of 1918-1919, in which they sought to reconquer Belarus and Ukraine after the defeat of the Central Powers, but got themselves at war with the Poles. This war was won by Poland in 1921, in which they got their pre-World War II borders with the Soviet Union.



Although the Revolutionaries were in control of the Capital, they weren't popular amongst everybody. Therefore, an opposing faction called the whites was created, being formed mostly by the monarchists, nationalists, republicans and also anti- Soviet and Bolsheviks, which marked the beginning of the Russian Civil War. The white movement was backed by the allied powers, who wanted to reopen the eastern front with the German Empire, as well as stop communism from spreading, as they saw them as authoritarians. The last allied forces fully retreated in 1920, as most of the nation was under direct control of the Red.

Interwar period

This period gets its name from being the period between the two world wars.

There has been many important events during this time, apart from what has been written

beforehand, one of them being the rise of fascism. This is different for every nation that was and still is that way. There are many reasons why fascism came to power in Germany for example. The Germans were humiliated with the Treaty of Versailles, which not only created one of the highest if not the highest inflation rate seen by mankind, due to the overprinting of money to repay the war reparations, but also losing all of their overseas colonies as well as many of their territories in mainland Europe. Unsurprisingly, the German population wasn't very pleased, and after 15 years of a failed Weimar Republic, Adolf Hitler, along with his Nazi party came to power. A similar time of events happened in Italy, as they didn't get what was promised by the western allies, what led to Mussolini's party growing to the point, that they peacefully forced with 30 000 people for the Italian prime minister to resign and Mussolini to take charge.

However, the case in Spain was different, due to failures of the socialist government, a civil war broke out, in which the nationalists got support from Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, and the republicans from the Soviet Union. This conflict lasted for 3 years and was extremely destructive, as it left years of trauma.

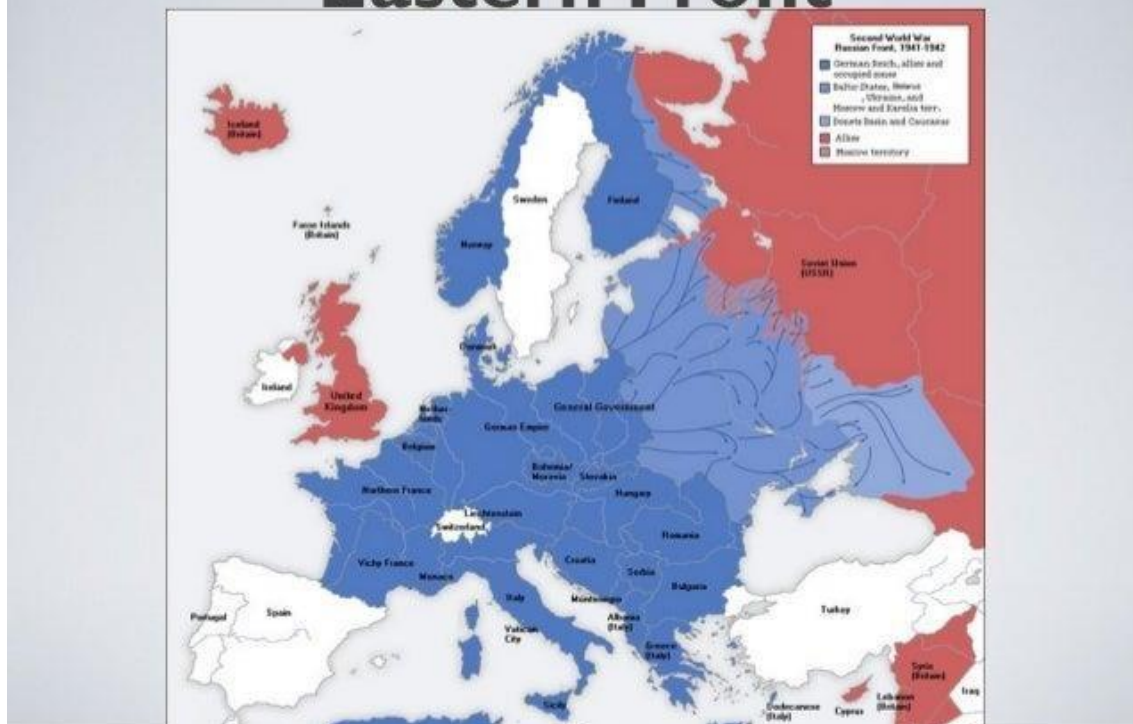
In Nazi Germany, when Hitler got to power, he gradually started to arrest, enslave or even kill his political enemies or those the Nazi party considered inferior or as a threat to the state. This period was called the Holocaust, in which over 17 million people were murdered, with 6 million being Jews, and almost 10 million slaves. This lasted until Germany's defeat in WWII. He also annexed Austria and Czechoslovakia into Germany without any real war, what other powers didn't necessarily like, but tried to appease them. In 1939, with little success with Poland to have territorial concessions amongst other factors, war broke out, and was the last straw for the western allies.

In the other side of the World, in China, power was divided between many parties and warlords since 1928 who sought to bring China under their rule, after the collapse of the Chinese Empire. Two parties in particular stood out from the rest, they were Kuomintang (nationalists) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), who didn't exactly get along, however, Japan invaded Manchuria in 1931. Manchuria was a Chinese province and so, the Chinese fought them together until Japan's surrender in 1945.

WW II

With the start of the second World War and Germany swiftly managed to make all of allied mainland western Europe capitulate by 1940. After the dishonoring of the Molotov Ribbentrop Pact by Germany executing the Barbarossa Operation in July 1941, the Nazis managed to conquer their way to Moscow, but were pushed back all the way to Berlin by the Soviets in 1945, the same year they capitulated, bringing an end to Nazism and the Holocaust. Millions of people died in the European front, and the continent was completely devastated.

Eastern Front



The front in Asia was a little different, with Japan managing to occupy almost all European colonies in East Asia and the Chinese coastline. Then Japan attacked a American maritime base called Pearl Harbor in November 1941, the US entered the War on the allied side and putting an end to the war in 1945 after nuking Japan twice.



Post WW II

In Asia every colony was returned to their previous overlords, however, the USSR gained the rest of the Sakhalin Island and a supervision over the northern half of Korea, with the other half as well as Japan to the US. The USSR ceded its occupied Manchuria to the CCP and aided them to fight the civil war with the nationalist Party, which is still happening and has to be dealt with, as it is currently in full swing.

In Europe however, the modern borders were designed during the Potsdam Conference, with a partitioned Germany, Berlin, Austria and Vienna between France, the British Empire, the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics even before the German unconditional surrender. Months later the Yalta Conference was held, the goal was to give self-determination of the liberated people, however, Europe quickly fell in two spheres of influence, the East and the West.

The relations between the two blocks started to sour, with Churchill's speech mentioning how the political, ideological and military barrier which he called the "Iron Curtain" is preventing all of Europe to recover from the war and further develop itself. The Truman Doctrine didn't help mending the blocs relations either, as it was meant to combat communism within Greece and protect Turkey. And now with the ignoring of Soviet objection on the Marshall Plan, it was enacted with a focus on Germany.

V. Major countries position

United States of America

Confirming its global dominance after its second world war, the USA wishes to rebuild the world and grant freedom to everyone, but is it the only nation with the power to determine that, or will a competition arise? The US is emerging as the most powerful country on earth, but not everyone thinks highly of them.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

After defeating Germany, the USSR strives to create its own sphere of influence as compensation for its cooperation with bringing down their former enemy, but will they still want or manage to maintain its relations with the west, or will a rivalry solidify?

France

France is currently in a very precarious position, as it suffered a lot under Nazi rule. The fourth French Republic was founded in 1946, and with the country starting to repair itself with current help of the Marshall Plan, it might become as stable as it was before the war. However, it is just a question of time from when France loses its current colonies, as the everlasting French titan was put back to sleep.

British Empire

The golden age of the British Empire is coming to a dawn, as it was severely affected by WWII. The question remains if the British will be able to hold its crumbling empire together, or just be another European country, as it has fallen in an unpleasant economical situation.

China (both parties)

China has seen peace for almost three decades, and there is no clear sign that the conflict might end. The communist party has slowly occupying more and more territory from the nationalists, but for how long is it going to last? China is in desperate need of peace, but can it be achieved, as the Chinese have all the potential of rising to the global stage.

Yugoslavia:

Yugoslavia has seen itself as one of the most devastated countries from the Second World War and has had warm relations with the Soviet Union, as they share a similar ideology. This did not last very long, and relations between these two eastern countries has been going for the worst. Yugoslavia is slowly taking a more neutral approach during this time, and seeks not to get involved in any conflict.

VI. Conclusion

The world is about to take a turn to the bad, many and many conflicts arise. That is something that should not be happening, as many places of the world have been reduced to ashes. More war is inevitable, but something that isn't is another great conflict, from which none would benefit in any way. Any further action might lead to a third World War, which none hopes for, as nuclear warfare is in the arsenal. This is why this gathering might not just be, one of the most important meetings of humanity. The choices here will determine the future of this planet, whether it leading to disagreements and chaos, or the start of a new era. Every point made will be critical as change will be more than necessary. The need of

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