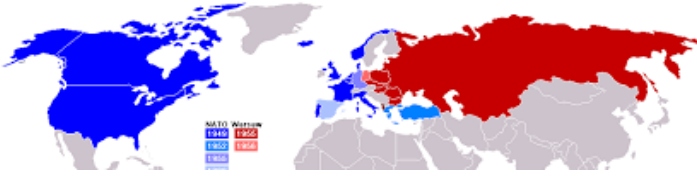


## Knowledge Organiser: Origins of the Cold War 1941-1956

The Cold War refers to the period of tension between the United States of America (USA) and the Soviet Union (USSR). The expression is used to describe the 'frosty tension' between the two superpowers that lasted for nearly 50 years. In this unit you will study how this conflict developed and the early crises.		Chronology: What happened on these dates?		Vocabulary: Define these keywords:	
		1943	<b>Tehran Conference:</b> the 'big three' met to discuss the post-World War Two situation in Europe.	<b>Soviet Union</b>	Short for USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics). Consisted of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Poland and others.
February 1945	<b>Yalta Conference:</b> the 'big three' agreed to divide Germany into 4 zones.				
Summarise your learning:		July 1945	<b>Potsdam Conference:</b> Truman's differences with Stalin led to the start of tension.	<b>Ideology</b>	A set of shared beliefs. The USA believed in capitalism, whilst the USSR was ran by communism.
<b>Topic 1:</b> Ideological differences	The conflict grew initially from ideological differences. The Soviet Union was a communist country whose government and economic system was at odds with that of capitalist democratic America.	1947	President Truman issued the ' <b>containment</b> ' policy and agreed to the ' <b>Marshall Plan</b> '.		
		<b>Topic 2:</b> Atomic bomb and the arms race	When the USA dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Japan, it changed the nature of warfare forever. The threat of atomic warfare between the 2 superpowers led to 'mutually assured destruction' (MAD), the threat of mutual annihilation. This led to an arms race between the 2 superpowers, where they competed to have the most nuclear weapons.	1947-49	<b>Cominform</b> was set up by the USSR to create a networking zone for the communist countries. Then, <b>Comecon</b> was created, a financial plan that would also financially aid east Europe.
1948-49	The <b>Berlin Blockade</b> and the <b>Berlin airlift</b> .				
<b>Topic 3:</b> Soviet expansion	Keen to form a buffer zone, the USSR began to expand into eastern Europe, targeting Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The West became increasingly alarmed at Soviet expansion. Churchill referred to the expansion as an 'Iron Curtain' forming in Europe. The USA followed its containment policy and sent financial aid (\$17billion) through the Marshall Plan.	1949	<b>NATO</b> formed, which stands for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The aim was to create a military alliance between the Western powers.	<b>Communism</b>	Communists believe that all property and businesses should belong to the state and shared equally.
		1949	<b>NATO</b> formed, which stands for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The aim was to create a military alliance between the Western powers.		
<b>Topic 4:</b> Berlin crisis and the Hungarian Uprising	The differences over what to do with Germany led to the first major Cold War crisis in Berlin, when Stalin ordered a blockade into West Germany. The Allies responded with an airlift, which led to Stalin ending the Berlin blockade. Then, in 1956, the Hungarians held an uprising against Rakosi's brutal rule. The USSR responded by sending in tanks, shooting on protestors and reversing Imre Nagy's attempts at reform, which worsened its relations with the West.	1955	The <b>Warsaw Pact</b> formed, which was a defensive military alliance of the USSR and its Soviet satellite states.	<b>Veto</b>	To forbid a decision to pass at the UN's security council.
		1955	The <b>Warsaw Pact</b> formed, which was a defensive military alliance of the USSR and its Soviet satellite states.		
		1956	The <b>Hungarian Uprising</b> .	<b>United Nations</b>	The international organisation that is meant to promote peace between countries.
					
				<b>Containment Policy</b>	The USA limiting or preventing the spread of communism across Europe and the world.
				<b>Superpower</b>	A country which has great power and influence globally.
				<b>Nuclear Deterrent</b>	Something that discourages someone from doing something e.g. not using nuclear weapons in order to not have nuclear weapons used against you.
		Do you know these people?			
		<b>Winston Churchill</b>	Prime Minister of Britain from 1940-45 and then 1951-55.		
		<b>Theodore Roosevelt</b>	US president from 1901-1909.		
		<b>Joseph Stalin</b>	The leader of the USSR from 1922-1953.		
		<b>Harry Truman</b>	US president from 1945-1953.	<b>Satellite state</b>	Countries under the control and authority of another state e.g. the USSR.