

The End of the Cold War

Guide to Reading

Connection

In the previous section, you learned about life in the United States during the 1980s. In this section, you will discover how the Cold War ended.

Main Idea

- Since many Americans had benefited from the economic boom of the 1980s, they elected Republican George Bush as president in 1988. (p. 915)
- Reforms in the Soviet Union and the collapse of the Communist regime led to the end of the Cold War. (p. 916)

- Bush used his foreign policy expertise to deal with crises in China, Panama, and the Persian Gulf. (p. 917)
- To stimulate the economy, President Bush raised taxes, but lost the election to Bill Clinton. (p. 918)

Content Vocabulary

perestroika, glasnost, downsizing, capital gains tax, grassroots movement

Academic Vocabulary

revolution, relax, task

People and Terms to Identify

Boris Yeltsin, Tiananmen Square, Saddam Hussein, H. Ross Perot

Reading Objectives

- **Identify** the events that brought an end to the Cold War.
- **Explain** the domestic challenges facing the Bush administration.

Reading Strategy

Categorizing As you read about the administration of President Bush, complete a chart similar to the one below by describing U.S. foreign policy in each of the places listed on the chart.

Place	Foreign Policy
Soviet Union	
China	
Panama	
Middle East	

Preview of Events



The following are the main History–Social Science Standards covered in this section.

11.1.3 Understand the history of the Constitution after 1787 with emphasis on federal versus state authority and growing democratization.

11.8.4 Analyze new federal government spending on defense, welfare, interest on the national debt, and federal and state spending on education, including the California Master Plan.

11.9.5 Analyze the role of the Reagan administration and other factors in the victory of the West in the Cold War.

11.9.6 Describe U.S. Middle East policy and its strategic, political, and economic interests, including those related to the Gulf War.

11.11.7 Explain how the federal, state, and local governments have responded to demographic and social changes such as population shifts to the suburbs, racial concentrations in the cities, Frostbelt-to-Sunbelt migration, international migration, decline of family farms, increases in out-of-wedlock births, and drug abuse.

The Big Idea

International competition can lead to conflict and cooperation. The economic boom of the 1980s convinced many Americans to elect another Republican president in 1988. While President George Bush's foreign policies were widely praised, his domestic policies were less popular. The need for economic reform in the Soviet Union and the collapse of its Communist regime led to the end of the Cold War and the start of tremendous change around the world. Bush used his experience in foreign policy to handle crises in China, Panama, and the Persian Gulf. In order to combat inflation and the economic slowdown at home, President Bush broke a major campaign promise by raising taxes. The country's recession and growing federal deficit led many Americans to elect Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton in the 1992 election.