

Russia's Transformation: Challenges for U.S. Policy

Fifth edition. July 2018.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- Begins with the Russian Revolution.
- Includes Stalinization, World War II, Kennan's Long Telegram, containment, detente, Gorbachev's reforms, transition to democracy 1991, and Gazprom.
- Concludes with an overview of the political, economic, and social issues facing Putin.

STUDENT TEXT

- Profiles regional geography and the resources of Russia.
- Explains how the Cold War shaped Russian domestic and foreign policy.
- Describes the rise of oligarchies and the fragility of the Russian economy.
- Contextualizes continued tensions that simmer in the U.S.-Russia relationship.
- Presents the political and social dilemmas the United States faces in light of Russia's foreign policy.

CENTRAL ROLE PLAY ACTIVITY

Question: What policies should the United States make to manage its relationship with Russia?

Setting: U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

A short description of each lesson can be found on the unit webpage [here](#).

Students will:

- **Read maps;** identify physical and human characteristics of Russia.
- **Close read** George Kennan's Long Telegram.
- **Compare** a portrayal of U.S. society in a Soviet textbook to a U.S. portrayal of the USSR in a comic book.
- **Analyze** photographs of Russian society and daily life.
- **Collaborate** to synthesize readings, lessons, and position profiles into class presentations.
- **Listen** actively and deliberate with peers on the complex viewpoints expressed.
- **Write** a coherent set of policy recommendations for U.S.-Russia relations.

LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

Videos - A free online [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions.

Print Format - This unit [preview](#) includes the table of contents, a reading excerpt, and a sample lesson plan.

Digital Editions Format - Interested in what the Digital Editions format looks like? Check out our web-based curriculum [here](#).