

## THE COLD WAR

During and after World War II, tension between the United States and the USSR grew. **Stalin** was disappointed in many of the United States' decisions regarding post-war aid and nuclear research. As a result of this, the Soviet Union had little trust in the United States and **President Truman**.

Another fundamental difference in the two nations lay in the ideas of **democracy** and **communism**. Both the United States and the USSR sought globalization of their ideas and political structure. At the forefront of this was the need to restructure Europe after World War II, and the race to see who could do so.

The two countries were in conflict philosophically but did not resort to actual physical conflict. The resulting '**Cold War**' lasted decades and involved countries all over the world. The conflict in Europe caused the continent to become divided almost exactly in two: the east and west were

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At home, the United States vehemently fought against the threat of any communist activity. Leaders adopted the concept of containment and banned any communist activity. Despite the tension that existed during this time, the U.S. economy prospered.