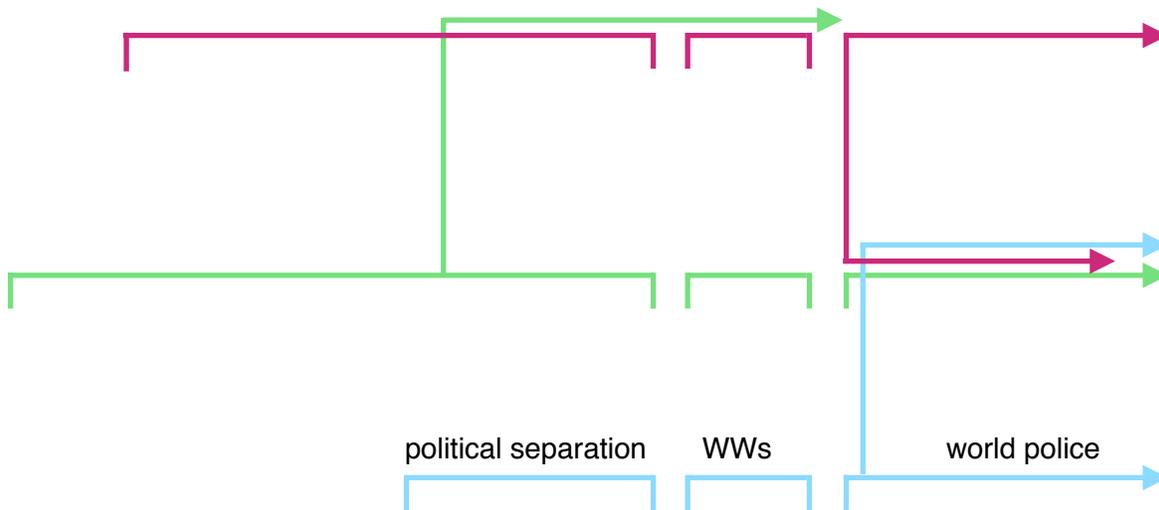


V. The United States as World Police Power

A. American Saves Europe from Russia

1. When supernationalist Russia threatened to conquer Europe after World War II, the United States decided to protect Europe from Russia. Here's what that looks like on a diagram:

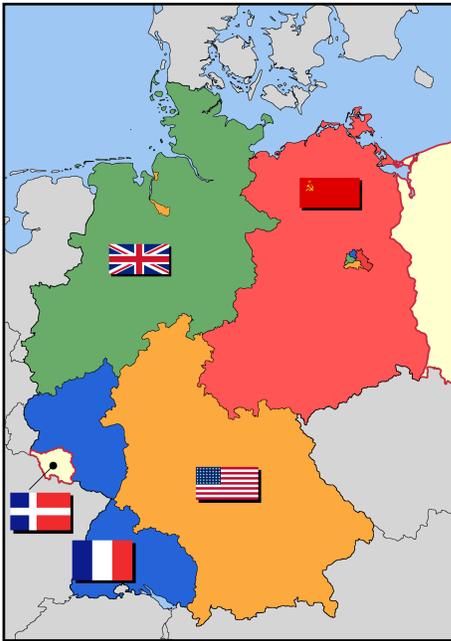


B. The Pledge

1. American president Harry Truman announced the “Truman Doctrine” in **1947**.
2. He said, “*I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples...*”

C. The Test

1. Russia wanted to know if America was serious, and just how far it would go.
2. Germany had been divided by its conquerors into multiple zones. Russia had been assigned one of those zones, surrounding the capital city of Berlin, which had also been divided between the four major powers that defeated Germany.
3. Since the Russian zone completely surrounded Berlin, the Russians believed they might be able to force their allies out by blockading the city.
4. They shut down all road and rail traffic into the city, to see whether or not they could get their allies turned rivals to leave the city. They shut down all road and rail traffic into the city, to see whether or not they could get their allies turned rivals to leave the city.
5. The United States responded by enacting the *Berlin Airlift* in **1948**. This kept the city of Berlin alive, and proved how far America was willing to go to protect Europe from Russia.



The occupation zones of Germany (map left) included an eastern zones under Russian control, and the city of Berlin inside of that zone, divided between the major allies. When Russia blockaded Berlin by land, the United States conducted the almost unimaginable feat of keeping the city alive by supplying it exclusively by air. The Berlin Airlift proved how far America was willing to go, to protect Europe from Russia.

C. The Treaty

6. To permanently protect Europe from Russia, the United States agreed to the *North Atlantic Treaty Organization* in **1949**.
7. NATO is a defensive alliance between the United States and Canada on one side of the Atlantic ocean, and western Europe on the other side. It has stood since **1949**, and was successful in its mission.
8. Russia abandoned control of eastern Europe in **1991**, and the European Union soon followed in **1993**.