

## **VII. The United States as World Police Power**

### A. Europe and Russia in an America-Centric World

1. We began the year with the identification that the world we live in is “*an interconnected agglomeration of nearly two hundred countries that constitute ten major cultural blocks (and various outliers), predominated by five cardinal cultures, in which the United States has primacy.*”
2. The European Union and Post-Communist Russia are two of the cardinal cultures of the world, but world only has *one* military, cultural, and economic superpower. That is the United States.
3. Ever since World War II, the United States has been completely invested in protecting Western Europe from Russia, and ever since Russia became post-communist, America has extended its protection to Eastern Europe as well.
4. The expansion of America’s reach into Eastern Europe is part of the identify of America as the world’s foremost culture. The United States is: “*the world’s only cultural, economic, and military superpower, and self-appointed world police power, dedicated to the continuation and expansion of the America-centric world order.*”
5. Sensing Russia’s own status as a cardinal culture slipping away, and seeing that the United States was poised to incorporate Ukraine into its military alliance (NATO), Vladimir Putin resorted to the desperate measure of invading Ukraine to keep it from becoming a part of the American “sphere of influence.”
6. Meanwhile, Europe is trying to expand the European Union and find ways to make itself more independent from America as well. France’s leader, Emmanuel Macron, recently visited China to try to create a stronger link between Europe and China. China, whose population is now rapidly shrinking (like Russia), cannot rise beyond its current level as a cardinal culture, so it also needs Europe as some kind of all. While this may not precisely fall under the category of “the enemy of my enemy is my temporary ally,” it is a similar case, where two cardinal cultures—Europe and China—are both so threatened by American primacy that they are looking for ways to cooperate to prevent the world from becoming completely “unipolar.” (In the current context that would mean a world with only one cardinal culture: America.)
7. In order to understand how this configuration of cardinal cultures will evolve, we need to trace the trajectory of America as world police power...

### B. The Original America

1. The fact that the United States acts as the world police power today, which mission it first undertook for the purpose of protecting Europe from Russia, is a historical puzzle, because the early America was deliberately politically separate from Europe.
2. That separation as a deliberate policy began with the American Revolution. In that period of American history, the thirteen colonies belonging to Great Britain in what is now the United States, responded to increasingly oppressive taxation measures by their

mother country first by protests, and then by open rebellion, and finally by a *Declaration of Independence* issued in **1776**.

3. The Declaration stated that the former British colonists were compelled to create a new and independent country in order to secure the protection of the individual's inalienable rights to "*life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*"
4. Following the *Declaration* itself, Americans then had to fight a war of independence, in order to force Great Britain to acknowledge their political separation from it.
5. Subsequently, as European nations including Great Britain engaged in repeated wars revolving around the French Revolution and the reign of Napoleon that followed, American leaders took great pains to define a foreign policy for their new nation that would serve the purpose of protecting the rights of American citizens.
6. That policy was a policy of political separation, starting with the *Proclamation of Neutrality* by George Washington during the wars of the French Revolution, and continued by the later presidents up until and including James Monroe, who issued the **Monroe Doctrine** in **1823**.
7. This final contribution of the Founding Fathers to America's history became a lasting legacy. Monroe articulated the idea that the political system of America and Europe were essentially different and incompatible. He told Europeans that he expected them to respect the independence and political separation of the United States and other, younger countries in the Americas. In turn, he explained, America would continue to avoid participating in European wars.
8. The Monroe Doctrine guided American conduct with regard to Europe all the way until **World War I (1914-19)**. Indeed, the United States refrained from intervening in that war for the first three years of the war, despite various provocations, such as the sinking of the *Lusitania* (a cruise ship with over a hundred Americans on board) and the proposal of an alliance between Germany and Mexico against America. President Woodrow Wilson was hailed for this policy, and re-elected (to a second presidential term) on the slogan "*He kept us out of war!*"
9. However, the Monroe Doctrine was then repudiated by Wilson on the premise that the United States should embark on a new career to make the "world safe for democracy."