

## **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. In order to understand why this is happening, we need to trace the story of America as world police power...

### B. The Original America

1. The fact that the United States acts as the world police power today is a historical puzzle, because the early America was deliberately politically separate from Europe.
2. That separation began with the American Revolution. In that period of American history, the thirteen colonies belonging to Great Britain rebelled against oppressive laws by their mother country and issued the *Declaration of Independence* 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. Monroe explained that the political systems 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 the war. 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."