**The End of the Cold War: The Expansion of Democracy and Continuing Challenges  
A. The American Policy of Détente**

• Diplomatic opening to China

• Strategic Arms Limitation Talks

• Jimmy Carter’s human rights basis for diplomacy

**B. Breakup of the USSR**

• History

Arms race exhausts USSR economy, Afghanistan War

Helsinki Accord on human rights, Andrei Sakharov

Mikhail Gorbachev

Solidarity labor movement, Lech Walesa

Reunification of Germany, demolition of the Berlin Wall

• Geography

Consequences of the breakup of the Soviet Union

New European states from former Soviet Union: Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Ukraine

Newly independent Muslim states in Asia (with ethnic Russian minorities): Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan,  
 Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Caucasus, mountainous region where Western and Islamic cultures meet: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia

• Legacies of Soviet policies

Numerous internal republics, many language distinctions

Forced relocation of large numbers of ethnic minorities

Environmental poisoning from industrial and farm practices

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**C. Contemporary Europe**

• Toward European unity

European Economic Community, “Common Market”

European Parliament, Brussels, Maastricht Treaty on European Union

France linked to Britain by the Channel Tunnel (“Chunnel”)

European Union; the Euro

• Conflict and change in Central Europe

Geography of the Balkan region

Ethnically fragmented, mixture of languages and religions

Mountainous region, Danube River

Seas: Adriatic, Ionian, Black, Aegean, Mediterranean

Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Albania

Countries that emerged from the breakup of Yugoslavia: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
 Macedonia

Bosnian conflict

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