

The Russian View of Territorial Encroachment

By: Stephen Travis

Level:

Grade 12-Global studies

Inquiry Question:

Why Does Russia object to the expansion of NATO?

Geography Standards:

Standard 1:

How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process and report information from a spatial perspective.

Standard 3:

How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on the Earth's surface.

Standard 6:

How culture and experience influence people's perception of places and persons.

Standard 13:

How the forces of cooperation and conflict among influence the control and division of Earth's surface.

Standard 17:

How to apply geography to interpret the past.

Standard 18:

How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future.

Materials:

- Internet sources
- Student global studies text
- Colored pencils/pens
- A current map of Europe with borders

Time Allotted:

Two 85-minute block periods (one for research and one for producing the finished map to go with their written work), plus time outside of class.

Prior Learning:

Students will have completed a unit on modern day Russia. This will have included an overview of Russian history, coverage of the Cold War Era, including NATO and the Warsaw Pact, and the “break-up” of the Soviet Union. Students will have an understanding of Russian desires for secure borders.

Teacher Administration Directions:

Provide students with assessment handout, blank map(s) of current day Europe. The requirements of the assessment are discussed with the students. Students complete assessment activities individually.

Scoring Guides:

There is no social science scoring guide for this type of work at this time. Essay will be scored using the writing-scoring guide developed by the state of Oregon.

Russia and the Expansion of NATO

Student Responsibility:

- 1- Produce a map showing the current (2000) NATO members, nations that are slated to be members in the near future, and nations that have applied for NATO membership that are under consideration.
- 2- Through research find:
 - A) The most current information regarding NATO membership, current expansion plans, and the future NATO membership considerations;
 - B) Russian viewpoint about future NATO expansion.
- 3- Analyze the information found and produce an essay discussing NATO expansion and the Russian response(s). This essay will also contain your proposal for a possible solution that would meet the security needs of nations that have applied for the membership as well as the security needs of Russia.

This essay will follow MLA format, 12 point font, double-spaced, 3-5 pages with the map and a list of sources used.