

WESTERN EUROPE IN THE WORLD TODAY



Celebrating German Reunification In 1990, Germans celebrated the reunification of their nation, which had been divided since Germany was defeated in World War II. Germany also belonged to a regional alliance, the European Community. By the late 1990s, this organization, now called the European Union, hoped to achieve both economic and political union. **Geography** What geographic features might help spur European unity?

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- 1 Political Directions
- 2 Economic and Social Change
- 3 Regional and Global Issues
- 4 Literature and the Arts

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for these tasks before God and the people. We want to serve the peace of the world in a united Europe. ”

CHAPTER PERSPECTIVE

After World War II, the Cold War led to the division of Europe into two hostile camps. Bitterness and fear separated the democratic nations of Western Europe and the communist nations of Eastern Europe. In the early 1990s, however, the Cold War ended. Europe then faced new challenges, especially as Eastern European nations sought to achieve their goals.

As you read, look for these chapter themes:

- ▶ For 45 years after World War II, the Cold War influenced world events.
- ▶ After World War II, Western European nations rebuilt their governments and their economies.
- ▶ Close cooperation and the use of technology helped Western Europeans advance their economies, raise their standard of living, and achieve an important role in the global economy.
- ▶ The literature and arts of Western Europe reflected the changing modern world.

Literature Connections

In this chapter, you will encounter passages from the following works:

“1914,” Wilfred Owen

“My Heart Leaps Up When I Behold,”
William Wordsworth

A Doll’s House, Henrik Ibsen

For other suggestions, see Connections With Literature, pages 804–808.

1

POLITICAL DIRECTIONS

FIND OUT

- What challenges did Western Europe face after World War II?
- How did the Cold War affect Western Europe?
- What kinds of governments do Western European nations have?
- How did Germany become a unified country during the 1990s?

Vocabulary containment

In 1945, Europeans celebrated the end of World War II. Less than a year later, however, British statesman Winston Churchill warned that Europe faced a new danger:

“A shadow has fallen upon the scenes so lately lighted by the Allied victory. Nobody knows what Soviet Russia and its Communist international organization intends to do. . . . From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent. ”

Churchill’s “Iron Curtain” speech, delivered in Fulton, Missouri, made it clear that the wartime alliance of Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union had ended. A new struggle—the Cold War—now pitted the western Allies against the Soviet Union. For almost 45 years, the Cold War divided Europe.


Postwar Challenges

In 1945, Europeans looked over a bleak landscape. More than 30 million people in Europe had died as a result of the war. At least half of them were civilians. The war left

The Two Germanies

millions homeless, and many people faced starvation. Cities and factories, schools and hospitals, railroad lines and roads, lay in ruins.

Throughout Western Europe, many nations faced economic and political collapse. At the same time, nationalists in Africa and Asia demanded an end to colonial rule in their countries. As European nations gradually lost their colonial empires, their political power declined around the world.

The Cold War. Western Europe faced the threat of further Soviet expansion. The Soviets, for their part, feared the West. By 1949, the Soviet Union had installed communist governments in all the nations of Eastern Europe. (See Chapter 33.) The western Allies condemned the Soviet Union for its actions in crushing democratic forces in the region. They also feared Soviet support of communist movements throughout the world. ( See Connections With Literature, page 808, "My Melancholy Face.")

Weakened by the war, Britain and France had few resources with which to resist Soviet expansion. As a result, the United States emerged as leader of the "free world," the democratic nations of the West. On the other side were the Soviet Union and its "satellites," the communist nations of Eastern Europe. The 45-year struggle between the free world and the communist bloc became known as the Cold War.

Cold War tensions often focused on Germany. After World War II, the Allies divided Germany into four zones of occupation—British, French, American, and Soviet. Germany's capital city of Berlin, which lay within the Soviet zone, was also divided into four sectors.

The western Allies soon realized that rebuilding Germany was necessary to bring about the recovery of Europe. In 1949, they united their zones and set up the Federal Republic of Germany, or West Germany. The new nation established a democratic government. Led by Konrad Adenauer (AD eh n ow er), West Germany began to rebuild its economy.

Many countries, however, strongly opposed the reunification of Germany. They were afraid there would be a rebirth of Nazism and militarism. Joseph Stalin, the Soviet leader, feared that a united Germany might again invade the Soviet Union. He therefore set up a dictatorship led by German communists in the Soviet zone. The new country was called the German Democratic Republic, or East Germany. Berlin, too, was divided into West Berlin and East Berlin.

Crises over Berlin. During the Cold War, Berlin was the center of several crises. In 1948, Stalin set up a blockade in an attempt to stop the western Allies from uniting their portions of the city. He closed all roads and rail-



Liberation A 1945 painting by the American artist Ben Shahn contrasts a bombed-out building with the figures of children at play. World War II caused the death of more than 10 million people in Western Europe. In 1945, many experts predicted that it would take the region 20 years to rebuild.

Interdependence How did the United States help Western Europe recover?

Cold War in Europe



MAP STUDY

Soon after World War II ended, rivalries between the nations of the free world and the communist world led to the Cold War. Mutual distrust led to the formation of two powerful opposing alliances.

- 1. Location** Which alliance included the Soviet Union and its satellites?
- 2. Region** (a) Which nation was divided as a result of World War II? (b) To which alliance did each part of that nation belong?
- 3. Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think that NATO maintained a large number of troops in West Germany?

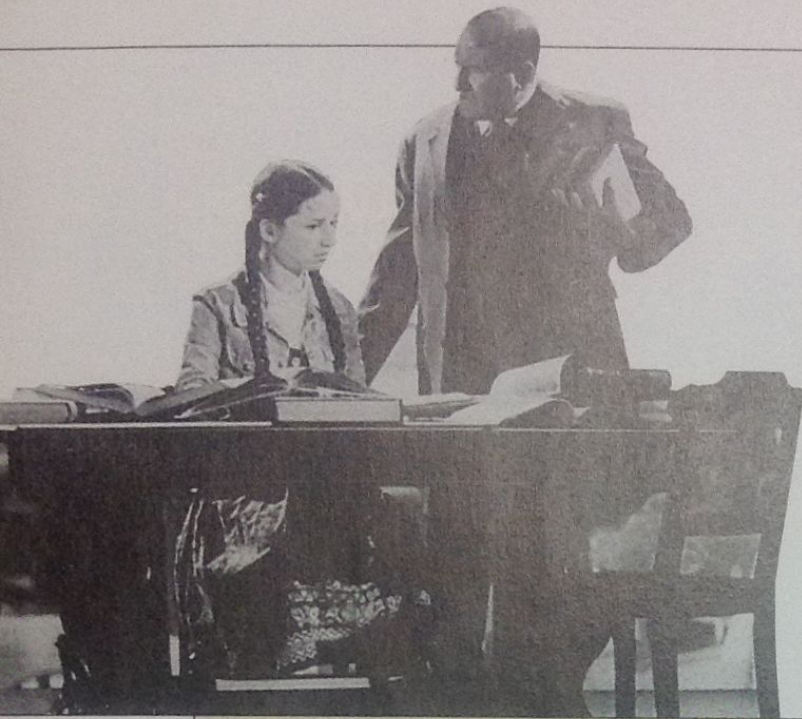
road lines leading to West Berlin. The United States responded to the Soviet move by launching a massive airlift. American planes carried tons of food and fuel into West Berlin. The Berlin airlift lasted for 11 months until the Soviets finally ended the blockade.

In 1961, a new crisis arose. Thousands of East Germans were fleeing to freedom in West Berlin. To stop these flights, the East German government built a huge concrete wall to seal off East Berlin. The United States

then put its military forces on alert. The crisis finally eased, but the Berlin Wall remained for 28 years—a symbol of a divided Germany and a divided Europe.

Cold War Policies

The United States launched several policies to counter Soviet influence in Europe. One of these policies, **containment**, was a pledge to stop Soviet expansion. In 1947,



A Scene From *The Nasty Girl* In real life, Rosmus has also spoken out against German neo-Nazis—people who are trying to revive the teachings of Nazism. This small but disturbing group has preached anti-Semitism, attacked Gypsies and Africans, and publicly celebrated Hitler's birthday. **Choice** Do you think *The Nasty Girl* was a good title for this movie? Explain.

school students. She had no idea that her history project would stir the anger of the entire town.

When Rosmus interviewed townspeople, she found they were reluctant to talk about the war. When she tried to find research documents, the town librarians told her that records from 1939 to 1945 were still classified, or secret. Rosmus protested that these documents were supposed to be declassified after 30 years. Officials told her the period of secrecy had just been extended to 50 years.

Still, Anna Rosmus persisted. She soon discovered some startling facts. Some leaders in her hometown had strongly supported the Nazis' persecution of the Jews. Moreover, Hitler and other leading Nazis had once lived in Passau. The teenager's discoveries and her efforts to publicize them created a furor. She received angry phone calls. Nazi sympathizers

tossed stones through the windows of her home.

Eventually, Rosmus's report was published. In 1990, a German filmmaker made Anna Rosmus's story into a movie called *The Nasty Girl*. Millions of Germans saw the movie. They debated whether such films about the past should be made.

Many young Germans felt that they should not be held responsible for war crimes committed long before they were born. But Rosmus felt that it was vital for young Germans to know about the past. She said:

“ The German people have an obligation to speak out because we are responsible for the victims of those years. We need to enlighten; we need to shame people. . . . We cannot forget the wounds, so that we don't repeat them. ” ■

SECTION 1 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** (a) West Germany, (b) East Germany, (c) Berlin.
- 2. Identify:** (a) “free world,” (b) communist bloc, (c) Berlin airlift, (d) Berlin Wall, (e) Truman Doctrine, (f) Marshall Plan, (g) NATO, (h) Warsaw Pact.
- 3. Define:** containment.
- What were three problems Western Europe faced in 1945?
- (a) Describe a parliamentary system of government. (b) What is a coalition government?
- Describe two steps that led to the reunification of Germany.
- 7. Linking Past and Present** Why do you think some Europeans might fear a united Germany?
- 8. Writing Across Cultures** Interview a parent, grandparent, or other adult about how the Cold War affected his or her life. Write a paragraph summarizing what you have learned.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGE

FIND OUT

- How did European economies recover after World War II?
- Why did economic progress slow down during the 1970s and 1980s?
- What goals has the European Union pursued?
- How did life change for Europeans during the postwar period?

Vocabulary per capita income, welfare state

“The uniting of Europe will come,” predicted a European leader in the late 1980s. “As far as I am concerned, it is written in the stars.” Two world wars severely weakened Europe and reduced its power in the world. As Europe recovered from World War II, leaders worked toward increasing cooperation and unity. Despite setbacks, Europeans moved step by step toward the goal of building a “United States of Europe” before 2000.

Recovery and Growth

After World War II, the nations of Western Europe rebuilt their ruined economies with massive aid from the Marshall Plan. Europeans repaired war-damaged factories and transportation systems. They rebuilt their cities.

Economic expansion. West Germany led the recovery, with spectacular economic growth. By the late 1950s, German factories were booming. German exports such as cameras, electronic goods, chemicals, and automobiles gained a place in the world market.

The rate of growth varied throughout Western Europe, but the region as a whole made remarkable progress. By 1963, production far exceeded what it had been in the

1930s. Between 1950 and 1970, **per capita income**—the average income per person in a country or region—rose as much as it had in the preceding 150 years.

Reasons for expansion. Several conditions explain the postwar expansion. Although Europe was severely damaged by the war, it already had an industrial base and a skilled, educated labor force. Europeans were able to take advantage of the latest technology as they rebuilt their factories. The Marshall Plan encouraged European nations to cooperate closely. As a result, trade within the region flourished.

The nations of Western Europe also benefited from their diversified economies. They produced a variety of goods to meet their own needs as well as to sell in the world market.

Agriculture and industry. In the postwar boom, both agriculture and industry expanded. Western Europe has some of the world’s richest farmlands. European farmers use high-yield crops, chemical fertilizers, and modern farm methods and machinery to increase farm output.

Today, the industrial output of Western Europe is greater than that of any other region in the world. Factories in Germany, France, Britain, Italy, and other countries produce a variety of manufactured goods. These range from steel and chemicals to consumer goods such as automobiles, appliances, and clothing.

In Western Europe, as in other highly industrialized areas, the number of factory and farm workers is declining. Mechanization is partly responsible. More and more people, however, now have jobs in service industries such as health care, government, recreation, and education.

Economic Challenges

Since World War II, European governments have taken a strong hand in economic planning. Most nations have an economy that mixes elements of socialism and the free market. In the postwar years, Western European governments nationalized major industries

such as railroads, electric companies, and banks. (Nationalization of an industry directs its profits to the government.) The government controls costs and invests profits. At the same time, governments also supported private enterprise.

MAP STUDY

The European Union (EU) grew out of the efforts of Western European nations to work together to promote economic growth and political unity.

- 1. Location** What is the relative location of the members of the EU?
- 2. Movement** Why are good transportation and communications systems important to the goals of the EU?
- 3. Forecasting** Which do you think will be the more powerful force among EU members in future years, nationalism or the desire for political unity? Explain.

European Union



The welfare state. In many countries, governments created a welfare state. In a **welfare state**, the government assumes responsibility for its citizens' social and economic well-being. The governments use tax money to support programs such as public housing for the poor and free or low-cost medical care for all citizens. They provide unemployment insurance along with pensions for the elderly. To finance these services, citizens pay very high taxes. Britain, Sweden, and Norway are among the strongest welfare states in Western Europe.

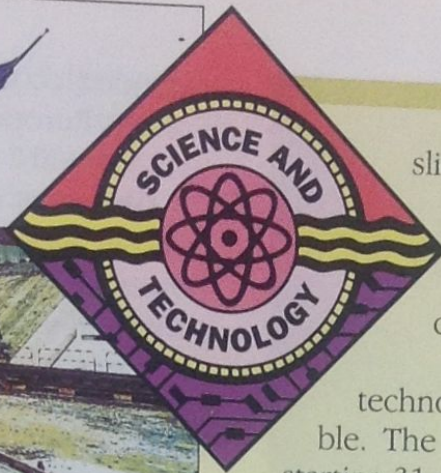
Economic slowdown. During the 1970s and 1980s, economic expansion slowed. In Western Europe, as elsewhere, rising oil prices contributed to inflation. Unemployment also soared. As inflation increased the cost of social services, governments faced severe budget crises. They had to make difficult decisions that included raising taxes.

Many voters opposed paying higher taxes to support the welfare system. To reduce inflation and ease the budget crisis, governments cut back on some social services. They also returned some nationalized industries to private ownership. State-owned industries, critics claimed, were inefficient and operated at a loss. By contrast, private industries had to be efficient to survive. Also, if they were profitable, they would pay taxes to the government.

Working Toward Unity

During the postwar years, European governments tried to reduce trade barriers in the region. Cooperation, they realized, would create larger markets for their goods and increase trade. In 1952, France, West Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Italy formed the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). They pooled their coal and steel resources and abolished tariffs on these vital materials.

European Community. By 1957, the success of the ECSC led member nations to set up the European Economic Community, which was also known as the Common Market. At first, its goal was to reduce trade barriers among member nations. By abolishing tariffs, the new organization created a large market



Building “Chunnel”

The giant drill roared in the underground tunnel. Stone rumbled down the conveyor belt. On December 1, 1990, French and British workers shook hands—150 feet (45 meters) beneath the English Channel. For the first time since the Ice Age, Britain was linked by land to the European continent.

The idea of building a tunnel underneath the Channel, “Chunnel,” was not new. As early as 1751, a French farmer suggested such a project. One engineer even drew up plans for a stagecoach tunnel, with air supplied by chimneys rising high above the water. Technology, however, took almost 200 years to catch up with the idea.

When work began on Chunnel in 1987, British and French engineers took advantage of the latest tunnel-digging technology. The key machine was a huge drill with a rotating head. (One observer compared it to a gigantic electric razor.) Slowly and steadily, the drill

sliced through the chalky rock beneath the Channel. Mechanical arms then lined the tunnel with segments of preformed cement or cast iron.

The drill was one of many new technologies that made Chunnel possible. The British and French crews were starting 31 miles (50 km) apart. Working underground, how could they avoid drilling right past each other? To solve this problem, the engineers used laser technology. With lasers to steer the drills, the two crews ended up only four inches off target. “We scored a bull’s eye,” boasted a British investor in the expensive project. “It’s like going ’round the moon and back again and landing where you took off.”

In 1994, Britain’s Queen Elizabeth and French President François Mitterand opened Eurotunnel, as the channel tunnel is called. Fast trains then sped passengers, cars, trucks, and freight between France and Britain. The Paris-to-London trip fell from seven hours to less than three.

Many Britons were sad to lose their status as a separate island nation. Still, most accepted Chunnel as part of the changing world of Europe.

1. What technological advances allowed engineers to dig Chunnel?
2. **Forecasting** (a) What effects might Chunnel have on Britain and France?
(b) How might it affect the unification of Western Europe?

that helped stimulate economic growth in Western Europe. By 1986, the Common Market had grown from 6 to 12 members.

Today, the Common Market is called the European Union (EU). (See Skill Lesson, page 766.) The EU encourages the free movement of goods, people, and capital among member nations. It promotes common economic and social policies and seeks political unity in Europe.

Members see unity as a way to compete with economic superpowers like the United States and Japan. In 1999, the European Union introduced the euro, a single European currency. National coins and bills will continue to circulate until 2002, when euro coins and bills will replace them.

By the mid-1990s, the European Union had taken on a new role. After the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, the EU



Skiing in the Austrian Alps Western Europeans today have one of the highest standards of living in the world. Many Europeans have leisure time to enjoy skiing and many other sports. Because distances are short, vacation travel is easy and relatively inexpensive. **Geography** In what other European countries would you expect to find Alpine ski slopes?

extended economic aid to that region. Many Eastern European nations hope to be admitted to the EU. Turkey, too, seeks to join.

Obstacles to unity. The goal of a unified Europe faces obstacles. Nationalism is a powerful force, and most people have a strong sense of their national identity. EU members differ on what political union means. They debate how much power a European parliament should have, especially over foreign policy. Small countries such as Portugal and Belgium fear they could be outvoted by large nations such as Germany and France. The number of new nations seeking to join the EU could make unity even more difficult.

Science and Technology

Cooperation among European nations led to advances in science and technology. In the 1960s, for example, Britain and France worked together to develop a supersonic jet. They built the *Concorde*, a passenger airplane that can fly at twice the speed of sound.

In 1975, governments of Western Europe organized the European Space Agency (ESA). Scientists from member nations developed spacecraft and satellites. In 1986, ESA's space probe *Giotto* passed near Halley's comet and sent valuable photographs and information back to Earth.

Changes in Society

Since 1945, Europeans have experienced great changes in their daily lives. Large numbers of people moved from rural areas to cities. Today, three out of four people in Western Europe live in cities. In some countries, such as Britain and the Netherlands, about 90 percent of the population is urban.

Standard of living. Advances in science and technology created many new products. At the same time, inventions and new methods of production increased agricultural and manufacturing output. These changes spurred economic growth, which enabled Europeans to achieve a high standard of living.

Western Europeans own the same kinds of appliances that Americans own. By the

1950s, Europeans could buy refrigerators, washing machines, and televisions. Automobiles, which were once a luxury, became a necessity. People enjoyed more leisure time to attend concerts, plays, and sports events, pursue hobbies, or watch movies and television. The law required most companies to give their employees a four-week paid vacation.

Social classes. European society became more democratic. Old class lines based on birth and wealth became blurred. Although differences in wealth remained, people had greater opportunities to improve their lives.

Other changes benefited people at all levels of society. Social welfare programs helped poor families to meet their basic needs. Advances in medicine and low-cost medical care increased life expectancy. Educational opportunities expanded, giving Western European nations high literacy rates. The number of students enrolled in schools and universities soared.

Changing Lives of Women

In 1949, the French writer Simone de Beauvoir (boh vWAHR) wrote *The Second Sex*. In this influential book, Beauvoir analyzed the treatment of women in western society and protested against discrimination:

“The two sexes have never shared the world in equality. And even today woman is heavily handicapped, though her situation is beginning to change. Almost nowhere is her legal status the same as man’s, and frequently it is much to her disadvantage.”

New opportunities. In the years after the war, however, women won new rights. They gained new educational opportunities. More and more women worked outside the home. In the 1960s, the growing women’s movement led working women to demand equal pay and an equal chance to advance in the workplace.

Women became more visible in the professions and in politics. In 1979, Margaret

Thatcher became the first woman to serve as prime minister of Britain. She held office for 12 years, longer than any British leader had done in more than 100 years.

Changing family life. Although the family remained at the heart of European societies, women had fewer children than they did in the past. Also, women who worked outside the home expected their husbands to take on a larger share of household tasks and child care.

Like other advanced industrial societies, the nations of Western Europe have enjoyed great material progress. At the same time, they face serious social problems such as rising crime rates and drug addiction. Many people want to blame these problems on the breakdown of the traditional family. In Western Europe, as elsewhere, the divorce rate has risen and a growing number of children are living in single-parent families.

SECTION 2 REVIEW

- 1. Identify:** (a) European Coal and Steel Community, (b) European Union, (c) Margaret Thatcher.
- 2. Define:** (a) per capita income, (b) welfare state.
- 3.** (a) Why did European economies recover quickly after World War II? (b) Why did economic progress slow down during the 1970s and 1980s?
- 4.** (a) Describe three goals of the European Union today. (b) How is the EU helping Western Europe become a major world power?
- 5.** Describe two ways in which life has changed for people in Western Europe since 1945.
- 6. Defending a Position** Do you think governments should be responsible for the well-being of their citizens? Why or why not?
- 7. Writing Across Cultures** List three ways in which Western European political and economic unity might affect the United States.

3

REGIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES

FIND OUT

- How has the role of NATO changed?
- What ties does Western Europe have with other parts of the world?
- How have European nations responded to environmental issues?
- How have cultural divisions and other differences created conflict within European nations?

Vocabulary *détente*

Inside the large United States military base at Frankfurt, Germany, American soldiers went about their daily tasks. When they went outside the gates, however, they faced the chanting and banners of protesters. "No More Nuclear Weapons!" "America Go Home!"

During the late 1960s and 1970s, young protesters throughout Western Europe gathered at American military bases. Dressed in T-shirts and jeans, with headbands and beads, they represented the generation born after World War II. They condemned the United States for the Vietnam War and for stockpiling nuclear weapons in Europe.

By the 1990s, however, the Cold War had ended, easing fears of a nuclear war between the superpowers. Europe took steps to reduce the military power it had built up during the Cold War. By 1999, though, Europe faced a new challenge as fighting broke out in the Balkans.

European Security

During the early years of the Cold War, tensions ran high in a divided Europe. Fearing a Soviet invasion, Western European nations welcomed United States military aid. They supported the buildup of NATO forces to protect their security. At the same time, they wor-

ried about the growing arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union.

NATO. Although NATO members joined forces against the Soviet threat, they differed on many issues. The United States felt that Western Europe should pay a larger share of NATO's costs. Many people in Western Europe feared that American policies might plunge them into another war.

A furious debate erupted when NATO decided to install nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Europeans felt trapped. If the superpowers went to war, nuclear weapons were sure to fall on European cities. As the debate raged, peace movements gained support in Western Europe.

Arms control. At times during the Cold War, relations between the superpowers improved. This relaxation of tensions was called **détente** (day TAHNT). During the détente of the 1970s, the United States and the Soviet Union entered into arms-control talks. Europeans welcomed these efforts to slow the arms race and reduce the threat of nuclear war. By the late 1980s, changes in the Soviet Union resulted in increased progress toward disarmament. In 1987, the Soviet Union and the United States signed a treaty banning intermediate-range missiles armed with nuclear warheads from Europe.

After the Cold War. When the Cold War ended, Europe faced a new situation. The Soviet Union had collapsed, and Eastern Europe had become democratic. Germany was reunited. The Warsaw Pact, which NATO had seen as a threat, had dissolved.

NATO itself had to redefine its role. It began by reducing its forces but still took a role in dealing with emergency situations. Several Eastern European nations applied to join NATO. Russia protested but could not stop its former allies from controlling their own destinies.

In 1999, NATO celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. That year, it admitted three new members—Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic, all former Soviet allies. This brought NATO membership to 19.

Recent challenges. Despite the end of the Cold War, NATO faced new challenges

NATO Expands In 1999, three former communist countries—Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic—joined NATO. Here, representatives of the three nations watch as their flags join those of other NATO members. At left is American Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. **Change** Would the event shown here have been possible ten years earlier? Why or why not?



in the 1990s. In what was once Yugoslavia, several provinces broke away to declare independence. A brutal war erupted in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Later, another conflict raged in Kosovo. (See page 758.)

In time, a peace plan was worked out for Bosnia with NATO peacekeepers to prevent further fighting. In early 1999, however, diplomacy failed to solve the conflict over Kosovo. NATO used air strikes to try to force Yugoslav leaders to accept a negotiated agreement.

Global Ties

Europe's relationships with other parts of the world changed greatly after 1945. Nationalism in Africa and Asia forced European powers to give up their colonial empires. A few European countries tried to hold on to their colonies. Only after bitter fighting did France withdraw from Vietnam and Algeria. Portugal battled fiercely before giving up its colonies in Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea.

Aid to the developing world. Most European nations maintained ties with their former colonies. Most British colonies that had

gained independence joined the Commonwealth of Nations. Through the Commonwealth, Britain maintained social and economic ties with its former colonies. France, too, continued to play a role in Africa by supporting governments in several of its former colonies with economic and military aid.

Through the United Nations and other international organizations, European nations provided aid and technical experts to developing nations. Multinational corporations based in Western Europe invested in the developing world, although industrialization has brought mixed blessings to these areas. In addition, European banks loaned money for development projects.

Competition with the United States.

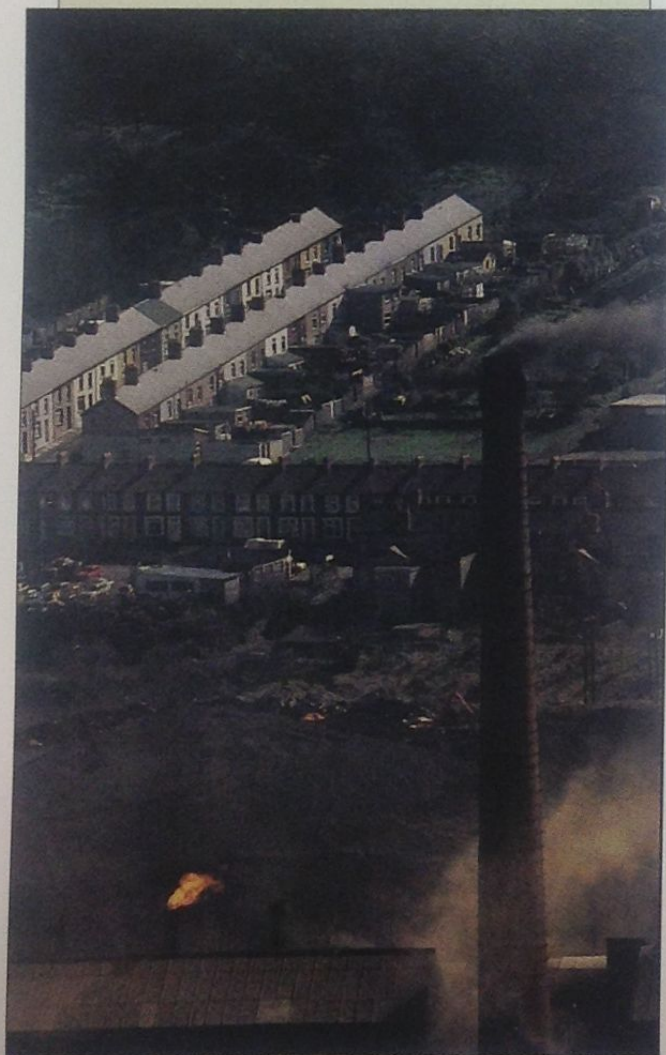
Since 1945, close economic and military ties have linked the United States and Western Europe. Economic aid provided by the United States helped Western Europe to rebuild after the war. As Europe recovered, United States companies set up branches there.

By the mid-1970s, Western European financial power and technology had grown strong enough for competition with the United States. In the 1980s, European companies

found investment opportunities in the United States. European manufacturers sold goods such as airplanes, automobiles, and appliances to American buyers. Throughout the world, Western European manufacturers and businesses offered strong competition to the United States.

Oil from the Middle East. Although Europe gets some oil from the North Sea, it imports most of its oil from the Middle East. As a result, the decision of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to

Mining Town in Wales For centuries, Wales has provided the coal that Britain uses to fuel its industries and heat its homes. An important fuel, coal is also a major cause of air pollution. Burning coal gives off sulfur dioxide, a cause of acid rain and smog. Since the 1950s, strict laws have greatly limited the use of coal and helped reduce air pollution in Britain. **Environment** How might British emission controls also affect other nations of Western Europe?



raise oil prices in the 1970s slowed economic growth in Western Europe.

Since then, Western European nations have tried to limit their dependence on foreign oil. Most have embarked on new energy-conservation programs. For example, many countries expanded mass transportation, especially their railroad systems. High gasoline prices also encouraged conservation. Western European countries have also turned to alternative energy sources, including coal and nuclear power. In France, more than 50 percent of electrical power is now generated by nuclear reactors. In addition, scientists are experimenting with solar and wind power.

Environmental Issues

In Western Europe, as elsewhere, people are becoming increasingly aware of threats to the environment. Because the region consists of more than 20 countries in a small area, pollutants can spread across national borders very quickly. In 1986, a fire at a chemical plant near Basel, Switzerland, led to massive pollution of the Rhine River, threatening the water supply of Switzerland, France, the Netherlands, and Germany. Also in 1986, an accident at the Soviet nuclear power plant in Chernobyl sent radioactive fallout across the Soviet Union and Europe. From manufacturing centers in Britain, France, and Germany, winds carry pollutants that cause acid rain in Scandinavia, especially Norway.

During the 1970s, environmentalists in West Germany formed the Green party. Other environmental parties sprang up throughout Western Europe. The leaders of these parties demanded that European governments take immediate action to protect the environment. In many countries, "green" candidates have been elected to public office and have introduced important reforms.

The members of the European Union, along with national governments, have cooperated to try to reduce pollution. European nations have passed strict air-pollution laws. Since Chernobyl, some nations have dropped plans to build nuclear power plants. Other plants are being closed as inspectors examine

them. The EU has also supported research on environmental issues such as global warming and threats to the ozone layer.

Regionalism and Nationalism

Television, movies, and advertising have eased some cultural differences among Europeans, but many still exist. In some regions, ancient rivalries and hatreds remain strong.

In Italy, people in the north and south see huge differences between themselves. In Germany, religious differences between Protestants and Roman Catholics date back hundreds of years. After Germany reunited, a new split emerged between “Westies” and “Easties.”

The Basque people in northern Spain have their own language and culture. Many Basques want their own separate country, which Spain rejects. A few have turned to terrorism to achieve their goal.

Northern Ireland. Social, economic, and religious issues led to conflict in Northern Ireland. Starting in the late 1500s, Protestants from Scotland and England settled in Ireland. There, they gained a privileged status. For centuries, Irish Catholics were oppressed. In 1921, Ireland won independence from Britain. Northern Ireland, which had a large Protestant population, remained part of Britain. The Protestant majority dominated the government and economy, and Catholics faced discrimination.

From the 1960s on, violence rocked the region as extremists on both sides turned to terrorism. The Irish Republican Army (IRA) battled to end British rule in the north. Militant Protestant groups fought to prevent any change.

In 1998, the United States helped bring about a peace accord. The agreement called for the IRA to disarm and for a new government to ensure self-rule for Northern Ireland. Despite tension and even some violence, the peace process has continued.

Immigration. Antiforeign nationalism has surfaced across Europe in response to a rising tide of immigrants. During the postwar



North Africans in Spain Young men from Morocco line up to obtain work visas in Barcelona. In recent years, Spain has attracted thousands of immigrants seeking jobs. These newcomers have aroused some ill feelings, however, because Spain has a fairly high unemployment rate.

Scarcity Why would unemployment in Spain cause hostility toward immigrants?

economic boom, European nations depended on “guest workers” from Turkey, Algeria, Pakistan, and other countries. These immigrants filled many low-paying jobs that most Europeans did not want.

When economic growth slowed, some Europeans wanted to expel foreign workers and restrict immigration. Many immigrant workers had brought in their families and did not want to leave. As immigration grew during the 1980s, newcomers suffered racist attacks. Immigrants organized to protect themselves, and riots broke out in some cities.

For the first time in their history, some Western European countries, such as Britain and France, are becoming multiracial societies. These countries face the challenge of integrating newcomers into their societies while respecting the immigrants’ religious and cultural traditions.

SECTION 3 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** (a) North Sea, (b) Northern Ireland, (c) Ireland.
- 2. Identify:** (a) Commonwealth of Nations, (b) Green party, (c) IRA.
- 3. Define:** *détente*.
- 4.** (a) What was the goal of NATO during the Cold War? (b) Why has NATO had to redefine its role?
- 5.** (a) How are Western European nations linked to the developing world? (b) Why has competition between Western Europe and the United States grown?
- 6.** Why has antiforeign feeling grown in Western Europe?
- 7. Analyzing Ideas** Why is international cooperation necessary if environmental problems are to be solved?
- 8. Writing Across Cultures** Antiforeign feeling has broken out in the United States several times during the nation's history. Write a paragraph explaining how the causes of antiforeign feeling in the United States have been similar to or different from the causes in Europe.

4

LITERATURE AND THE ARTS

FIND OUT

- What traditions have influenced literature and the arts in Europe?
- How have individual writers and artists shaped European culture?
- How have social, economic, and political conditions affected European literature and the arts?

Vocabulary *romanticism, realism, impressionism*

As World War I broke out in Europe, young British poet Wilfred Owen described his dismay at the coming conflict:

“ War broke: and now the Winter of the World
With perishing great darkness closes in.
The foul tornado, centered at Berlin
Is over all the width of Europe
whirled,
Rendering [tearing] the sails of
progress. ”

On November 4, 1918, Owen himself was killed in action—exactly one week before the war ended.

To Western Europeans who witnessed the slaughter of the war, civilization seemed to have collapsed. During the postwar years, European writers and artists expressed a sense of despair and hopelessness. A generation earlier, Europeans had held great faith in their civilization. Science had brought amazing progress, and people felt sure that such progress would continue to improve human society. In Europe, as elsewhere, historical developments helped shape literature and the arts.

A Rich Heritage

The many peoples of Europe have their own languages and national cultures. Yet, they share a common heritage whose roots lie in ancient Greece and Rome and in biblical traditions. Ever since the Middle Ages, Europeans have drawn on this heritage to create masterpieces in literature, music, and the visual arts. When Europeans expanded overseas, they introduced their art forms to peoples throughout the world. At the same time, Europeans absorbed important ideas from the civilizations of Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

Since the 1800s, a variety of artistic movements have emerged in Europe. These movements developed partly as a result of industrialization, urbanization, and nationalism. In this century, the mass destruction of two world wars has also helped shape European culture.

Literature

During the early 1800s, many European writers reacted against the Enlightenment, with its emphasis on reason. They created a

movement known as **romanticism**, which valued feelings and emotions above reason. Romantic poets such as William Wordsworth and John Keats glorified nature. Wordsworth wrote:

“ My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die! ”

Romantics often glorified the Middle Ages as a heroic period. In the novel *Ivanhoe*, Sir Walter Scott created an imaginary medieval world of knights, Robin Hood, and the Crusades. The French novelist Victor Hugo used medieval Paris as the setting for his novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Romantics also reflected the spirit of nationalism. Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm roamed the German countryside collecting folktales for their famous *Grimm's Fairy Tales*.

Realism. By the mid-1800s, some writers had begun to rebel against the romantics' emphasis on emotion. They turned instead to

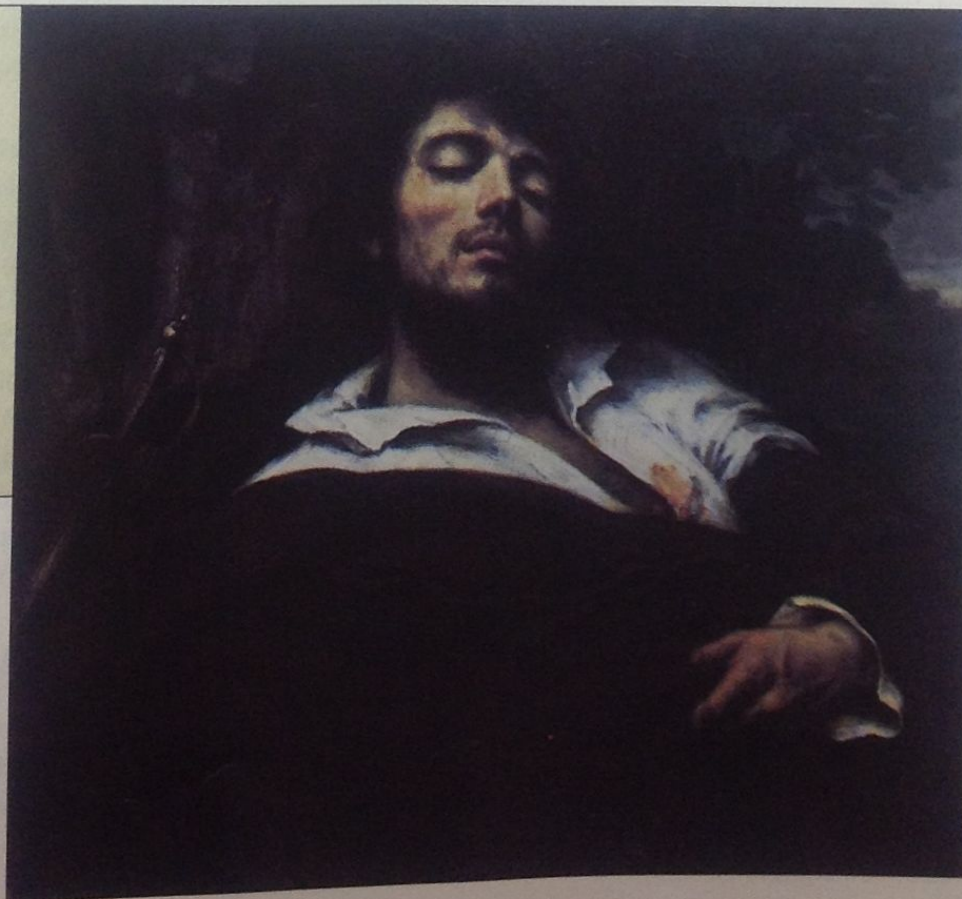
realism, a school of writing whose goal was to describe life as it really was. Writers of realism examined social problems caused by urbanization and the evils of industrial society. In *David Copperfield*, *Oliver Twist*, and other novels, Charles Dickens exposed such social ills as slum conditions and the mistreatment of children.

The Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen was a champion of realism. In *A Doll's House*, he showed how social customs restricted the lives of middle-class women. The heroine of the play tells her husband:

“ When I lived at home with Papa, he told me all his opinions, so I had the same ones too; or if they were different I hid them, since he wouldn't have cared for that. . . . Then I went from Papa's hands into yours. You arranged everything to your own taste, and so I got the same taste as you—or pretended to; I can't remember. . . . I don't believe in that anymore. I believe that, before all else, I'm a human being, no less than you—or anyway, I ought to try to become one. ”

The Wounded Man

Gustave Courbet, a French painter of the mid-1800s, offended many critics with his realistic works of ordinary people. People also disliked Courbet's strong views and opinions. “Show me an angel,” he stated, “and I will paint one.” **Fine Art** Do you think this painting shows life “as it really is”? Explain.



Modern writers. During the 1900s, writers experimented with new styles and forms. The ideas of the Austrian physician Sigmund Freud (froid) greatly influenced literature. Freud explored how the unconscious part of the mind affects human behavior. In *Remembrance of Things Past*, the French novelist Marcel Proust (proost) recorded the smallest details of his past in an effort to find meaning in his life. The British novelist Virginia Woolf and the Irish novelist James Joyce used inner monologues to reveal the subconscious minds of their characters. (📖 See Connections with Literature, page 808, “The Lady in the Looking Glass: A Reflection.”)

The upheaval of two world wars left many writers disillusioned. They began to reject long-held beliefs. Because of World War II, French writers such as Simone de Beauvoir, Albert Camus (ka MOO), and Jean-Paul Sartre (SAHR treh) searched for meaning in what they saw as a chaotic and meaningless world. In plays, novels, and essays, Sartre expressed his view that people were “alone, abandoned on Earth.”

The Visual Arts

Like writers, artists responded to changing social conditions and values. In the early 1800s, romantic artists created huge landscapes that glorified the awesome power of nature. Painters charged their work with emotions that ranged from joy to terror.

In Britain, the painter John Constable experimented with light, shade, and vivid colors to produce realistic landscapes. After his wife's death, Constable's paintings became less colorful, reflecting his more somber emotions. The Spanish artist Francisco Goya blended romanticism and nationalism. His painting *Third of May* shows foreign invaders executing Spanish patriots, who die nobly in the cause of liberty.

By the mid-1800s, romanticism had given way to realism. Artists now depicted the everyday lives of ordinary people, such as peasants and industrial workers.

Impressionism. In the late 1800s, a school of painting called **impressionism** revolution-

ized art. Impressionists tried to capture fleeting visual “impressions” made by light and shadows. By placing bright, glowing colors side by side, they created shimmering effects to capture the viewer's eye. The European artists Claude Monet, Edgar Degas, Paul Cézanne, and Pierre Auguste Renoir were leading impressionists.

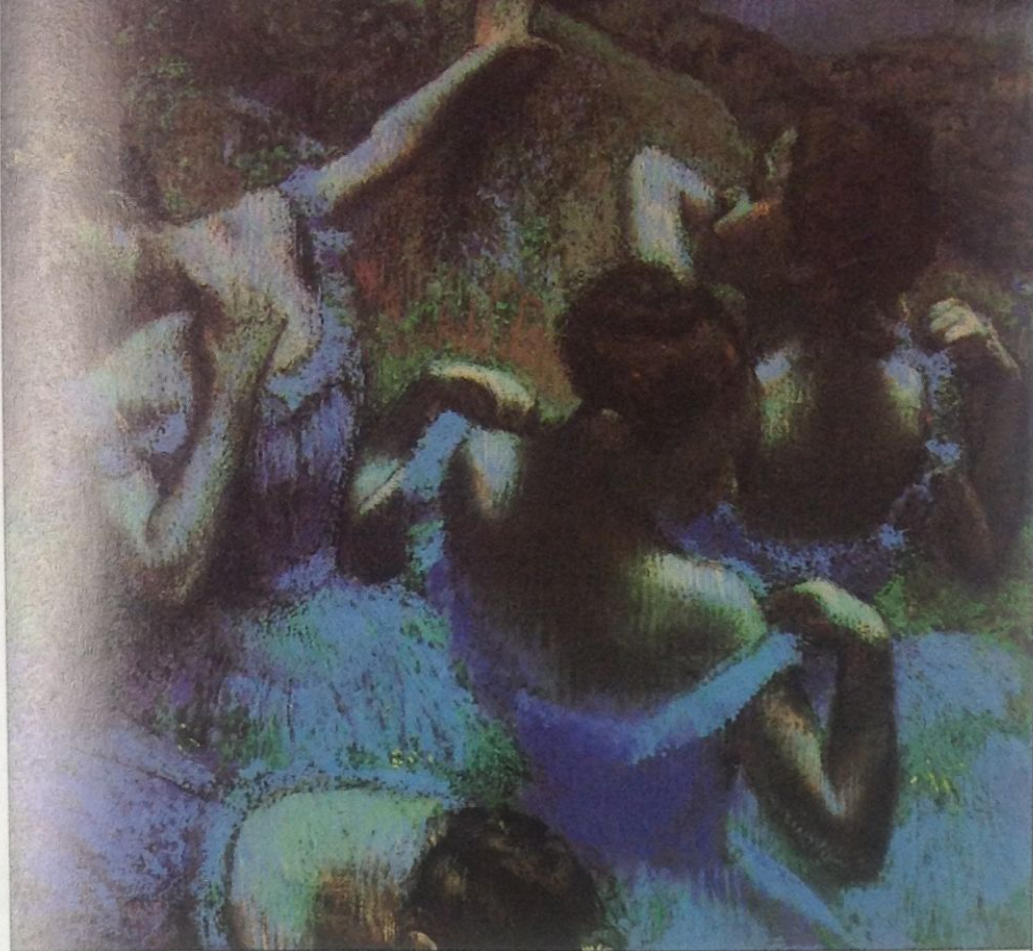
Modern art. Since 1900, artistic styles have changed rapidly. Often, artists distorted or exaggerated the real world to convey a particular feeling or an idea. After World War I, Marcel Duchamp and other painters expressed their disgust with modern society by creating works that shocked viewers. These painters came to be known as dadaists. On one occasion, Duchamp copied Leonardo da Vinci's famous portrait the *Mona Lisa* but gave the woman a mustache.

The Spanish painter Pablo Picasso was probably the most influential artist of modern times. He studied the art of other cultures, especially African art. Picasso pioneered new art forms, including the movement known as cubism. He used geometric blocks of color that showed his subject from many different angles at the same time. In a powerful mural, *Guernica*, Picasso combined cubism and other modern styles to show the bombing of a Spanish town. Jumbled images of the dead and dying capture the confusion and terror of war.

Architecture. European cities display a variety of building styles, from medieval Gothic cathedrals to towering glass skyscrapers. During the early 1800s, architects favored the graceful columns of Greek and Roman buildings. Architects influenced by romanticism preferred neo-Gothic spires and towers. By 1900, architects were using steel frames, reinforced concrete, and mass-produced glass to construct tall buildings. In Germany, the Bauhaus school emphasized functional buildings that had no ornamentation.

Music

Many European musical traditions had their origins in the Renaissance. Instruments, melodies, and musical styles evolved over the



Four Ballerinas Among the most popular impressionist works are the paintings of dancers by Edgar Degas. This French painter used pastel colors to create an impression rather than a photographic image of what he saw. His art was influenced by the style of Japanese prints. **Fine Art** How do you think the development of photography may have encouraged the development of impressionism?

centuries. In the late 1700s, European music reached a peak of creativity in Austria and Germany. Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig van Beethoven composed great works of classical music. The dramatic, emotional qualities of Beethoven's symphonies influenced romantic composers.

Opera. During the 1800s, opera captured the imagination of brilliant composers and of the public. Opera blends orchestral music, skilled singing, and dramatic acting to tell a story. Italian composers Giacomo Puccini and Giuseppe Verdi created many of the most stirring operas, such as *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *La Traviata*. The operas of Richard Wagner reflected German nationalism. Wagner drew on German legends to create powerful musical dramas.

Modern music. In this century, musical styles have continued to evolve. The French composer Claude Debussy produced the

same effect in music that impressionist painters created in their works. In order to stir the emotions, Debussy used sounds to suggest moods and images such as moonlight or the wind.

Other composers rejected traditional styles and harmonies. In Austria, Arnold Schoenberg experimented with atonal music, or music without a key. He used his own 12-note scale, instead of the usual 8-note scale, to write symphonies. Although many people complained that his work sounded "unmusical," Schoenberg influenced many young composers.

Technology also opened up new directions for modern music. Composers can now use electronic sounds to produce effects that earlier composers could not have imagined. Through recordings and radio broadcasts, the works of both classical and modern composers now reach a new mass audience.



The Beatles The world's most famous rock group was formed in Liverpool, England, in the late 1950s. It lasted until 1970. Most of the Beatles' songs were written by Paul McCartney, far left, and John Lennon, far right. The other two members were George Harrison, center, and Ringo Starr, on drums. **Technology** How has electronics affected modern pop music?

Movies

Since the early 1900s, movies have become a major source of mass entertainment. European films have reached audiences throughout the world. Italian, French, and German filmmakers have portrayed a variety of themes, from the effects of the Nazi occupation on Europe to the materialism of modern society.

In Europe, directors have often been more important than film stars. Italian filmmakers such as Vittorio de Sica and Roberto Rossellini used realistic methods to convey the poverty, corruption, and violence of post-war Italy. The French director François Truffaut won international recognition for movies that examined love and human relationships. His first feature-length movie, *The Four Hundred Blows*, was a moving story of a teenage boy from a broken home who gets into trouble with the law.

The Swedish director Ingmar Bergman produced stark films that explored the nature of evil and suffering. In the 1960s and 1970s, the movies of the German directors Werner Fassbinder and Werner Herzog carried strong social messages. The works of European directors have influenced filmmakers in the United States and elsewhere.

SECTION 4 REVIEW

- Identify:** (a) William Wordsworth, (b) Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm, (c) Henrik Ibsen, (d) Sigmund Freud, (e) Jean-Paul Sartre, (f) Francisco Goya, (g) Marcel Duchamp, (h) Pablo Picasso, (i) Ludwig van Beethoven, (j) Richard Wagner, (k) Claude Debussy, (l) Arnold Schoenberg.
- Define:** (a) romanticism, (b) realism, (c) impressionism.
- (a) How did the ideas of Sigmund Freud influence literature? (b) What effect did World War II have on literature?
- Describe two ways in which Pablo Picasso influenced modern art.
- How has technology affected modern music?
- Applying Information** (a) Give examples of how nationalism has affected literature and the arts in Western Europe. (b) Why do you think nationalism had a powerful impact on culture?
- Writing Across Cultures** Write a brief review of a film or play you have seen that deals with current social problems. Describe how the movie depicts the problems and explain what solutions, if any, it offers.

CHAPTER 31 REVIEW

Understanding Vocabulary

Match each term at left with the correct definition at right.

1. containment
 2. welfare state
 3. détente
 4. romanticism
 5. realism
- a. country in which the government assumes major responsibility for its citizens' social and economic well-being
 - b. artistic movement that emphasized emotions above reason
 - c. relaxation of tensions between the superpowers
 - d. policy to stop Soviet expansion
 - e. artistic movement that tried to show life as it really was

Reviewing the Main Ideas

1. (a) Why did Berlin become a focus of the Cold War? (b) Describe two crises that arose over Berlin.
2. How did each of the following affect Europe after World War II: (a) containment, (b) the Marshall Plan, (c) NATO?
3. (a) In what ways are the economies of Western European nations "mixed" economies? (b) How have the governments of these nations moved away from socialism?
4. How has technology helped both agriculture and industry in Western Europe?
5. Why did many Europeans support efforts to end the arms race between the superpowers?

Reviewing Chapter Themes

1. After 1945, the Cold War shaped events in Europe. (a) Describe two ways in which Cold War tensions affected Europe. (b) Describe two effects of the end of the Cold War.
2. During the postwar period, European nations moved toward greater cooperation and unity. (a) How has economic cooperation benefited European nations? (b) Describe two other ways in which European nations have cooperated.
3. Since 1945, important social and economic developments have changed people's lives in Western Europe. Describe changes in two of the following areas: (a) social welfare, (b)

social classes, (c) standards of living, (d) women's rights.

4. European writers, artists, and composers have responded to social changes and world events. Choose two movements or two individuals and describe how each has influenced European literature or the arts.

Thinking Critically

1. **Making Global Connections** Compare the parliamentary system of government in Western Europe with the government of the United States. (a) How are the two systems similar? (b) How are they different?
2. **Analyzing Ideas** (a) What are some of the themes that European film directors have examined? (b) How can filmmakers have an impact on the world?

Applying Your Skills

1. **Using Your Vocabulary** Use the Glossary on pages 794–803 to review the meaning of the following terms: *interdependence*, *socialism*, *pacifism*, *multiculturalism*. Use each term in a separate sentence about developments that have taken place in Western Europe since World War II.
2. **Comparing Maps** Study the maps on pages 681 and 687. (a) How did the map of Europe change after World War II? (b) Which former Axis countries became members of NATO?