

## The Cold War The Policy Process



### STUDENT ACTIVITY

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#### DIRECTIONS

In this activity, you are going to play the role of presidential advisor. You will research a foreign policy issue and develop recommendations for United States action. Lessons from the Cold War should inform the development of the recommendations.

1. Developing a solution to a problem requires a definition of what is known and believed about the the problem. Based upon what you know about the foreign policy issue you are studying, write a statement identifying what you know and believe about the problem. Be sure to identify the key people and what you know about them.

#### Define the Problem

2. Make a list of things you would need to know before making a policy recommendation to the President. List them under the headings as you did in the “Problematic Situation” in Yalta activity.

Social Issues	Political/Military Issues	Economic Issues

3. Decide which category each person in your group will investigate. Use the video program “The Cold War,” library resources, and the Internet to gather information. Use the structured note-taking graphic organizer below and find information addressing at least three questions in your category.

Circle the category you are researching:

**Social Issues**

**Political/Military Issues**

**Economic Issues**



What are some of the issues in your category that would inform your team's recommendation to the president?

4. List the goals you want your policy solutions to meet. and write them in the matrix below. List the policy options you brainstormed. Use additional sheets of paper if you have more than four goals or four policy options. Complete the matrix below with a numbering system in which +2 = strongly promotes the goal; +1 = somewhat promotes the goal; 0 = has no effect on the goal; -1 = works somewhat against achieving the goal; and -2 = strongly works against achieving the goal. Total the scores for each policy option and fill in that column. Use the results to select the policy options you will recommend.

<b>1.</b>	<b>2. Goal 1:</b>	<b>3. Goal 2:</b>	<b>4. Goal 3:</b>	<b>5. Goal 4:</b>	<b>6. Total</b>
<b>7. Policy Option 1</b>	<b>8.</b>	<b>9.</b>	<b>10.</b>	<b>11.</b>	<b>12.</b>
<b>13. Policy Option 2</b>	<b>14.</b>	<b>15.</b>	<b>16.</b>	<b>17.</b>	<b>18.</b>
<b>19. Policy Option 3</b>	<b>20.</b>	<b>21.</b>	<b>22.</b>	<b>23.</b>	<b>24.</b>
<b>25. Policy Option 4</b>	<b>26.</b>	<b>27.</b>	<b>28.</b>	<b>29.</b>	<b>30.</b>

5. After you have completed your policy decision matrix above, decide which solutions to recommend to the President. Explain how the solutions meet the policy goals.