

# Reagan and Gorbachev: How the Cold War Ended

The Cold War was a period of intense geopolitical tension between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies, which lasted from the mid-1940s until the early 1990s. The conflict was primarily driven by ideological differences between capitalism and communism, and was marked by a series of proxy wars, nuclear arms races, and other forms of rivalry.



## Reagan and Gorbachev: How the Cold War Ended

by Mark R. Joslyn

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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The Cold War reached its peak in the early 1980s, when Ronald Reagan became President of the United States and Mikhail Gorbachev became General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Reagan was a strong anti-communist who believed that the Soviet Union could be defeated through a combination of military strength and economic

pressure. Gorbachev, on the other hand, was a reformer who believed that the Soviet Union needed to change in Free Download to survive.

In 1985, Reagan and Gorbachev met for the first time in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting was initially tense, but the two leaders eventually developed a personal rapport. They met again in Reykjavik, Iceland, in 1986, and in Washington, D.C., in 1987. At these meetings, they discussed a wide range of issues, including nuclear weapons, arms control, and human rights.

In 1987, Reagan and Gorbachev signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, which eliminated all intermediate-range nuclear missiles from Europe. This was a major breakthrough in arms control, and it helped to ease tensions between the two superpowers.

In 1989, the Berlin Wall fell, and in 1991, the Soviet Union collapsed. These events marked the end of the Cold War. Reagan and Gorbachev played a key role in ending the Cold War, and their efforts helped to create a more peaceful and stable world.

## **Reagan's Role in Ending the Cold War**

Ronald Reagan was a staunch anti-communist who believed that the Soviet Union could be defeated through a combination of military strength and economic pressure. He increased defense spending, and he also launched a series of initiatives designed to put pressure on the Soviet economy. These initiatives included the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), which was designed to develop a missile defense system that would protect the United States from Soviet nuclear attack, and the Grain

Embargo, which was designed to deprive the Soviet Union of hard currency.

Reagan's policies were controversial, but they ultimately helped to bring about the end of the Cold War. The Soviet Union was unable to keep up with the United States in the arms race, and its economy was crippled by the Grain Embargo. As a result, Gorbachev was forced to negotiate with Reagan, and the two leaders eventually reached a series of agreements that led to the end of the Cold War.

### **Gorbachev's Role in Ending the Cold War**

Mikhail Gorbachev was a reformer who believed that the Soviet Union needed to change in Free Download to survive. He introduced a series of reforms, including glasnost (openness) and perestroika (restructuring), which were designed to make the Soviet Union more democratic and efficient. Gorbachev also sought to improve relations with the United States, and he met with Reagan several times to discuss a wide range of issues.

Gorbachev's reforms were ultimately unsuccessful, and the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. However, Gorbachev's efforts did help to bring about the end of the Cold War, and he played a key role in creating a more peaceful and stable world.

### **The End of the Cold War**

The Cold War ended in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union. This was a major turning point in world history, and it marked the beginning of a new era of peace and cooperation. Reagan and Gorbachev played a key

role in ending the Cold War, and their efforts helped to create a more peaceful and stable world.

The Cold War was a long and dangerous conflict, but it ended peacefully in 1991. Reagan and Gorbachev played a key role in ending the Cold War, and their efforts helped to create a more peaceful and stable world.



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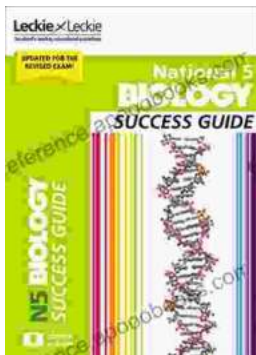
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