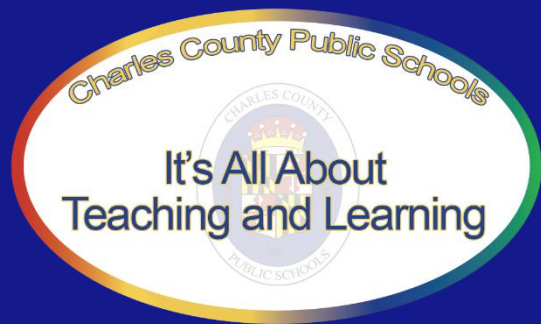


# World History (Grade 11)



**CHARLES COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**World History (Grade 11)**  
**Social Studies**  
**Weeks 7 – 8**  
**(May 18 – May 29)**

Dear parents,

If your child is participating in distance learning solely through the completion of our instructional packets, you are required to call or email the principal to inform them of your child's participating status, since packet-assignments will not be collected until a later time. Please keep all your child's work in a safe place until you are notified of when, where, and how to submit. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



# **World History (Grade 11)**

Estimados padres,

Si su hijo/a está participando en el aprendizaje a distancia completando solamente nuestros paquetes de instrucción, deberá llamar o enviar un correo electrónico al director para informarle sobre el estado de participación de su hijo/a, ya que las asignaciones realizadas en los paquetes no se recopilarán hasta más tarde. Por favor mantenga todo el trabajo de su hijo/a en un lugar seguro hasta que se le notifique cuándo, dónde y cómo presentarlo. Gracias por su atención a este asunto.

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# World History (Grade 11)

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Block/Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Packet Directions for Students**

Students should complete the following sections of the APEX World History course.

### **9 Unit Overview: Globalization and the World Economy**

#### **WEEK 7 – 9.1 Lesson Overview: Globalization and Its Challenges**

##### 9.1.2 Study: Globalization and its Challenges

Learn about challenges associated with globalization, including population growth, mass migration, living standards, urbanization, and environmental strains. Explore the role of technology in increasing globalization and helping to solve problems.

##### 9.1.3 Quiz: Globalization and its Challenges

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

#### **WEEK 8 – 9.3 Lesson Overview: International Cooperation and Conflict**

##### 9.3.2 Study: International Cooperation

Learn about the formation and goals of organizations between governments and other groups.

##### 9.3.3 Quiz: International Cooperation

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

# World History (Grade 11)

## WEEK 7 – Globalization and the World Economy

### Goods, Services, and Trade Relationships Around the Globe

If you use the Internet, buy products made in China, or have ever made a phone call to another country, you have experienced different aspects of globalization.

Although it is a trend commonly associated with the world we live in today, the interconnectedness of globalization is nothing new. Economic trade and cultural exchange have been elements of human society for thousands of years.



*Overseas trade is nothing new. But the way we do it today — in large container ships — certainly is.*

What makes trade and exchange in the 21st century different from eras past is technology. People can now communicate instantly halfway around the world or fly there in one day. This means that geographic distance is no longer the barrier it once was. The implications of this are staggering, and they define the global economy of the 21st century.

In this lesson, you'll learn about the way globalization and the global economy affect our lives today.

### Objectives

- Analyze challenges associated with globalization, including population growth, mass migration, urbanization, and increased environmental concerns.
- Examine the significance of technological innovations in creating a global economy.
- Examine the roles played by governments and other organizations in the global economy.
- Describe the pros and cons of different approaches to participating in the global economy.

# World History (Grade 11)



## 9.1.2 Study Guide: Globalization and its Challenges

Complete this study sheet to keep track of the important concepts covered in this activity.



### DEFINE TERMS

Define the following terms.

Word	Definition
developed nation	
developing nation	
forced migration	
globalization	
mass migration	
natural resource	
refugee	
renewable resource	
underdeveloped nation	
voluntary migration	

# World History (Grade 11)



## REVIEW IDEAS

Write a short answer to each question.

1. Describe the main differences between developed and underdeveloped nations.

2. Fill in the table with an explanation of each type of mass migration.

Environmental	
Political	
Economic	

3. What are some of the reasons for urbanization?

4. What are some of the bigger challenges of urbanization?

# World History (Grade 11)

5. How does globalization lead to epidemics and pandemics?

6. How have advances in technology aided the spread of disease?

7. Why is lack of water a problem for so many people? How does globalization affect the availability of freshwater?

8. How does the need to feed the increased global population cause environmental problems?

9. List at least three ways globalization is helping to solve global problems.

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## THINK FURTHER

Expand your thinking on questions raised in this activity.

10. Based on what you've learned in this study, what do you think is the greatest threat to humanity, and what do you think shows the most hope for humanity?

11. What type of person does globalization most benefit? What type of person would not see globalization as a positive thing?



## SUM IT UP

In one or two sentences, write the "big idea" or main point of this study.



# World History (Grade 11)

## Globalization and Its Challenges – Coping with a Growing World



*Globalization has made the world feel like a much smaller place.*

One hundred years ago, the idea of a global community was far different than it is today. What takes a moment to do today — communicating with friends and family, answering questions about anything from antelopes to Albuquerque — took days, or maybe even weeks, back then. As recently as the 1980s, if you wanted to find a decent recipe for spaghetti sauce, you had to flip through magazines or cookbooks or ask someone for ideas. And if you didn't recognize an ingredient like "bay leaf," you'd have to look it up in the dictionary (the actual book!) or go to the grocery store and ask around.

Globalization and technological growth have made activities like communicating and finding information easier. But they've also created a number of challenges. In this activity, you'll learn about some of the larger challenges associated with globalization, including population growth, mass migration, unequal living standards, urbanization, and strains on the environment.

### **Understanding Globalization – A Turning Point That Created a More Connected World**

In today's globalized world, people from any country can come together in the same place. How does globalization affect you?

With globalization, countries and economies around the world are interdependent. If one country is a superpower, that affects you. At the same time, another country's pursuit for independence also affects you. And a third country's health problems? Yes, those affect you too. This interdependence — or interconnectedness — affects all areas of life, from the clothes you wear to the food you eat and the people you vote into political office. Before learning more about the challenges of globalization, consider whether you think the interconnectedness associated with globalization has more of a positive or a negative impact on the world today.

### **Categorizing Countries – Developed, Developing, and Underdeveloped**

India is a developing country and, as you can see from these photos, has aspects of both developed and underdeveloped countries.

As you learn more about globalization, you will often see countries divided into three categories: developed, developing, and underdeveloped. People living in a developed nation typically have a high standard of living that comes from a strong economy, well-maintained infrastructure, and access to advanced technology. The United States, Japan, Australia, South Korea, and many other countries are considered developed. Citizens in a developing nation have a somewhat lower standard of living. These countries are generally undergoing large-scale industrialization for the first time. Their economies are growing quickly, but they often lack the widespread advanced technology or the established infrastructure found in developed countries. China and India are both examples of developing countries.

# World History (Grade 11)

Citizens in an underdeveloped nation are struggling economically. Their economies have not undergone large-scale industrialization, so most people work producing food. Access to technology in these countries is extremely limited, which further weakens their economic prospects. Afghanistan, Haiti, and many countries in sub-Saharan Africa fall in this category.

## **Population Growth – Are There Too Many People in the World?**

One of the most important factors related to globalization is population growth. The world is growing more crowded by the moment. If you live in the United States, population increase may not be affecting you that much. According to the World Bank, the average population density in the United States in 2014 was 35 people per square kilometer. But in Vietnam, there were close to 300 people living in that same amount of space; in Rwanda, there were 460. And are you ready for this? In Macau, a peninsula in China, there were, on average, almost *20,000 people* packed into that same space that housed 35 Americans.<sup>1</sup>

Do you feel crowded? How much space would you be willing to give up as the global population grows?

## **Migrations – Dealing with Population Growth**

As the number of people in any given area increases, those people have to adapt to changing conditions and competition for resources, or they have to move. Throughout history, great numbers of people have taken part in a mass migration either because they choose to or because they're forced to.

- **Environmental:** Mass migrations take place where land becomes uninhabitable or where natural disasters threaten lives.
- **Political:** Throughout history, and even today, mass migrations take place for political reasons. Wars or changes in policies create hostile situations for segments of the population.
- **Economic:** Mass migrations take place when many people in a region decide that they have a better chance of making a living somewhere else.
- **Cultural:** People may migrate for cultural reasons, seeking a place where they can find an education or practice their religion, for example.

## **Forced Migrations – Moving Isn't Always by Choice**

Within each type of migration you just read about, there are two categories: forced and voluntary. A voluntary migration takes place when there are "pull" factors that draw people: more freedom, better quality of life, and a culture where they feel welcome. A forced migration takes place when people leave against their will, or because of "push" factors.

Sometimes the line between forced and voluntary migration is blurry. For example, you could argue that during the Dust Bowl, people in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas didn't *have* to leave their farms when the wind and dust storms made it impossible for crops to grow. A person living in a country with dangerous political revolts doesn't *have* to leave and become a refugee, either. But the situations are so awful that to remain would mean living in life-threatening conditions.

Migrations have been influential in defining the modern era. The voluntary migration of Europeans to the Americas — along with their plants, animals, and diseases — helped characterize the modern era as one of movement and global connectedness. Meanwhile, the Atlantic slave trade — an example of a *very* forced migration — brought increased racial and cultural diversity to the Americas, but it did so at the expense of millions of African lives, and it left a legacy of racial tension that remains today.

# World History (Grade 11)

## Rural versus Urban – Population Growth in Cities

A type of migration — usually voluntary — that can occur for environmental, political, economic, or cultural reasons is the movement of people from rural areas to urban areas. This is known as urbanization. According to a 2014 report by the United Nations, more than half of the world's population lives in or near cities.

## Urbanization – The Benefits of the Big City

There are many reasons people give up the countryside for the city:


- Greater job opportunities
- Community resources like hospitals and schools
- Increased potential to make personal and professional connections
- Cultural enrichment opportunities such as libraries and museums
- Social services such as homeless shelters, soup kitchens, and job assistance programs
- Easier access to resources such as retail and transportation

For those who hope to increase their standard of living by moving to urban areas, technological advancements have made the work much easier. Advances in transportation technology allow a person or family to travel thousands of miles in hours or days. And the Internet has made searching for jobs, homes, and other resources relatively easy tasks in comparison to years past. As with almost everything in life, there are downsides to urbanization. Earlier, you answered a poll about your view on global population growth. Maybe you imagined having three times more people on the bus; maybe you thought about waiting in long lines at the grocery store or gas station.

## Global Health - The Spread of Disease

Globalization brings us all closer, but is that always a good thing? Throughout history, populations with high densities have suffered epidemics and pandemics that have wiped out great numbers of people.

Overcrowding, poor sanitation, and, until recently, a lack of understanding about how germs spread have been the primary culprits.

Type of disease	How it spreads	Historical event
Ebola	Direct contact with blood or other bodily fluids	In 2014, an Ebola outbreak in western Africa was declared an international public health emergency. More than 11,000 deaths had been reported by mid-2016. <sup>1</sup>
HIV/AIDS	Sexual contact or blood contamination	A person can be HIV positive and survive with minimal symptoms, though the person is vulnerable to other infections. If symptoms develop, the disease is known as AIDS. Since the disease was discovered in the 1980s, an estimated 39 million people have died from it.
Malaria	Mosquitoes	While many global organizations are fighting malaria, the World Health Organization estimates that in 2015 there were close to 440,000 deaths due to the disease. <sup>2</sup>
H1N1 (swine flu)	Coughing, sneezing, poor sanitation, overcrowding	The 2009 H1N1 pandemic killed an estimated 150,000 to 575,000 people in its first year, mostly in Africa and Southeast Asia. <sup>3</sup> 

# World History (Grade 11)

## Travel and Overpopulation – How Globalization Promotes Disease



Thanks to increased populations and technological innovations in travel, germs get to do a lot of traveling too. While diseases have affected humans throughout history, globalization, urbanization, and population growth have done a great deal to increase the spread of disease. An infected person 100 years ago could spread a disease to only the people in his or her local area; today, as you just saw, that disease can spread around the globe in very little time.

The overcrowding caused by population growth also creates conditions that are ideal for diseases. When many people live in proximity, they spread germs to each other more quickly. In addition, the poor sanitation and contaminated water that often result from overcrowding increase the health risks to everyone in the area.

## The Global Water Crisis – Access to Clean Water Is Necessary for All People

One of the biggest health risks to humans is the contamination of freshwater. Access to clean water is a problem everywhere. Consider these facts:

- Only 2.5 percent of the world's water is not salt water. Twenty percent of the remaining water is difficult to access or comes in the form of monsoons (heavy rains) and floods. Humans can use less than 0.08 percent of the world's water.
- Almost 8 million people in the world lack access to clean drinking water. More than a third of the world's population has no access to adequate sanitation.
- Diseases from contaminated water or poor sanitation and hygiene include trachoma (which causes blindness or visual impairment to between 10 and 40 million people), cholera, hepatitis, typhoid fever, scabies, and norovirus.
- Improved access to clean water, sanitation, and proper hygiene could prevent more than 6 percent of global deaths.

Does globalization add to the water crisis? Yes. Population growth and industry create more competition for this natural resource.

## Aid Agencies – Helping with Water Problems

Water should be a renewable resource, but it often becomes *nonrenewable* when it is used or polluted faster than it can be replenished or cleaned naturally by the environment.

Lack of water hinders economic growth and lowers the standard of living. And it is an especially common problem in underdeveloped nations. Aid agencies, like USAID, recognize that access to clean water is a global challenge. USAID provides countries with financial help to solve their water problems. Countries use this money to find new water sources by digging wells, fighting river pollution, and building desalination plants to harvest freshwater from the sea.

# World History (Grade 11)

## **Other Health Risks – Unexpected Dangers**

You have now seen how globalization can lead to the spread of disease and affect people's access to clean water. Globalization creates challenges to our health in other ways as well. How does your level of health depend on where you live and the work you do? Which practices lead to healthy workers, and which cause disease and injury? Let's look more closely at some of the health concerns globalization can cause.

## **Other Environmental Threats – Dangers to Water, Air, and Land**

Access to clean water is not the only challenge to human health. Population growth and globalization have created other threats to water resources and the environment as well, including:

- **Climate change:** Changes in weather patterns can make certain places uninhabitable or dangerous for humans and can reduce available resources.
- **Air pollution:** Particles in the air from human activity can cause diseases, allergies, and death and can damage elements of the environment we depend on.
- **Desertification:** An area can turn into a desert because of poor agricultural practices, deforestation, or drought.

The need to feed the increasing numbers of people on the planet creates its own challenges. Increased agriculture leads to:

- **Deforestation:** As people clear forests to grow crops, they interfere with trees' ability to contribute to the water cycle.
- **Destruction of wetlands and rivers:** Draining wetlands for agriculture depletes another water source.
- **Over-farming and overuse of chemicals:** Chemical fertilizers and animal feed with chemicals pollute water.

## **Agriculture – Feeding the World**

One method of addressing the challenge of feeding the global population is industrialized agriculture.

Industrialized agriculture uses new techniques and technologies to increase the quantity of food an area can produce. As early as the Industrial Revolution, farmers began taking advantage of the innovations in technology and machinery to make farming more efficient. Advances in chemistry identified elements such as nitrogen and potassium as crucial for plant growth.

In the early to mid-1900s, the Green Revolution resulted in significantly higher agricultural production around the world. Developments included new types of seeds and crops, known as *high-yield crops*, that produced more food at a faster rate; in addition, practices like irrigation and the use of pesticides and fertilizers were spread to poor, non-industrialized nations thanks to innovations in communication and transportation. Criticisms of industrialized agriculture point to the excessive use of industrial chemicals, water, and energy. Herbicides and insecticides pollute the ground and water. And the development of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) has become an extremely controversial issue in recent years.

## **Imagining Solutions – Humans, Environment, Health, and Living Standards**

Ensuring a clean water supply, growing food, dealing with pollution, controlling health hazards, and fighting the spread of disease — all these challenges are related to globalization. Technological advances create challenges as well: They often increase pollution that endangers the air, water, and land. And crowding from new industrial centers creates new health hazards, while increased travel makes the spread of disease more likely.

# World History (Grade 11)

## Technology – Using Technology to Solve Human Problems

You've just looked at a number of ways globalization creates challenges to our health and the health of the environment. But it's not all bad. Globalization allows people from all over the world to share data, ideas, and solutions to global health challenges. Advancements in technology improve hospital conditions, water purification methods, and sanitation.

Problem	Solution
<b>Malnutrition</b>	As the population of the planet grows, so does the problem of world hunger. Technology can be used to produce more food and create jobs so that people can afford to buy food.
<b>Disease</b>	International organizations use new technologies to fight global diseases, such as AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. Information technology helps scientists who study diseases identify world outbreaks quickly.
<b>Health care</b>	The cost of health care is high. New technologies can provide cheaper solutions that will be available to all.
<b>Food production</b>	Genetic modifications, fertilizers, pesticides, and <b>agricultural revolutions</b> (such as the Green Revolution) help create more food resources for the increased population.

## Conclusion – Sustainability and Hope

Technological innovations are helping to solve some of the challenges of globalization and population growth, but people are making efforts in other areas as well — areas much closer to home.



In your own community, it's likely that there are grassroots organizations working toward making your area a cleaner, safer place to live. Do your grocery stores charge for bags? They're not doing it to be annoying; they're trying to reduce pollution and waste. Does your school or community have recycling bins near the garbage cans? Those recyclables will be used to make new materials, reducing the need for industries to exploit more natural resources.

At the same time, people in your community are likely volunteering to donate their time, money, or other resources to your town or to other regions in the world that need help.

Like anything else, there are pros and cons to globalization, urbanization, and population growth. Our ability to communicate and connect with each other helps us find solutions to the challenges we face.

# World History (Grade 11)

## Quiz: Globalization and its Challenges

### Question 1 of 10

Which scenario describes a mass migration caused by environmental factors?

- A. Farming families leave an area to avoid the many tornadoes that affect the land.
- B. Ethnic communities relocate to a new nation-state led by members of their ethnicity.
- C. Skilled workers leave impoverished states for the chance to work in wealthier areas.
- D. Members of one religious group leave a country to escape discriminatory policies.

### Question 2 of 10

Why has urbanization increased the risk of disease epidemics in the modern era?

- A. People living in urban areas are unlikely to be educated about disease prevention.
- B. Urban areas generally have little access to hospitals and other modern medical facilities.
- C. City residents are often exposed to diseases that cannot survive in harsh rural climates.
- D. Overcrowding in urban areas makes it easier for diseases to spread quickly to many people.

### Question 3 of 10

What is one of the major factors contributing to the global water crisis?

- A. A global decrease in urban population densities
- B. The introduction of sanitation systems in impoverished countries
- C. The spread of desalinization plants around the world
- D. The contamination of river water by industrial pollution

# World History (Grade 11)

Question 4 of 10

How can globalization negatively affect American farmers' health?

- A. By preventing farmers from using agricultural techniques developed in the green revolution
- B. By introducing international laws forcing farmers to house animals in unsanitary conditions
- C. By pressuring farmers to use dangerous pesticides to compete on a global scale
- D. By making it easier for companies to outsource dangerous farm work to foreign countries

Question 5 of 10

Which statement *best* describes both the positive and negative effects of industrialized farming?

- A. It avoids using genetically modified organisms but is much more expensive.
- B. It increases the global food supply but uses potentially dangerous chemicals.
- C. It produces food cheaply but cannot be used in most climates.
- D. It uses less water than other types of farming but produces less total food.

Question 6 of 10

Which scenario describes a forced migration?

- A. A family relocates from a poor rural area to seek new jobs in a large urban center.
- B. A group of neighbors agree to sell their property to a developer for a huge profit.
- C. A group of farmers leave their homes to search for more fertile lands elsewhere.
- D. A group of activists are arrested and deported due to their political beliefs.



# World History (Grade 11)

Question 7 of 10

What is one advantage that often draws migrants from rural areas to cities?

- A. Access to more job opportunities
- B. Lower population densities
- C. Lower levels of pollution
- D. Reduced risk of pandemic disease

Question 8 of 10

Which scenario is the *best* example of globalization?

- A. A girl in Japan wears blue jeans made in Denmark.
- B. A man in India walks several miles to visit a temple.
- C. A woman in New Mexico makes tortillas for her family.
- D. A boy in Tennessee sends a letter to India.

Question 9 of 10

Which phrase is the *best* definition of the word *technology*, in the narrow sense?

- A. Exchange of new ideas
- B. Fast communication
- C. Tools and their use
- D. Better ways to do things

# World History (Grade 11)

Question 10 of 10

The average summer high temperature in Palm Springs from June through September is more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit. At these high temperatures, few people are comfortable and people older than 65 are at higher risk of heat stroke. Yet among retirees over age 65, Palm Springs is one of the most popular areas to move to and retire. In the 1960s, few people lived in Palm Springs year-round. Today, tens of thousands of people live year-round in houses built by real estate developers to attract people to the area.

Which technological innovation has *most* likely contributed to the growth of the year-round population in Palm Springs?

- A. The Internet
- B. Wind farms
- C. Factory farming
- D. Air-conditioning

# World History (Grade 11)

## WEEK 8 – International Cooperation and Conflict

### Global Security and Human Rights



*Addressing today's global challenges and conflicts requires the cooperation of individuals and governments around the globe.*

There are almost 200 countries in the world, and even more whose existence as independent states is in dispute. Many of these countries work together for the mutual benefit of their political, economic, and social systems. Yet, within and among these countries, there are ongoing conflicts that have caused millions of deaths in recent decades.

In the years since the world wars and the Cold War, intergovernmental organizations have made efforts to prevent or stop violence, to ensure that all humans have equal rights, and to bring the global community together in a safe and beneficial manner for everyone.

In this lesson, you'll learn about some of those organizations and analyze how effectively they're meeting their goals. You'll focus specifically on threats to global security, such as terrorism and nuclear proliferation, and on human rights violations such as ethnic cleansing and genocide.

#### **Objectives**

- Examine the international organizations that work to maintain peace and protect against oppression and violence around the globe.
- Describe examples of terrorism and other threats to global security.
- Analyze human rights violations, including genocide and ethnic cleansing.

# World History (Grade 11)



## 9.3.2 Study Guide: International Cooperation

Complete this study sheet to keep track of the important concepts covered in this activity.



### DEFINE TERMS

Define the following terms.

Word	Definition
African Union	
European Union	
intergovernmental organization	
nongovernmental organization	

# World History (Grade 11)



## REVIEW IDEAS

1. Fill in this chart about intergovernmental organizations as you progress through the study.

Organization	Type	Membership	Actions
United Nations	Global IGO	193 countries around the world	Sends peacekeeping forces; protects human rights; delivers humanitarian aid
African Union			
Organization of American States			
European Union			
Community of Portuguese Language Countries			

2. What are the five categories of UN efforts?

3. How does a global IGO differ from a regional IGO? How are they similar?

# World History (Grade 11)

4. What are some of the advantages of joining an IGO?

5. What are some of the disadvantages of joining an IGO?

6. What's the main difference between an IGO and an NGO?



**THINK FURTHER**

7. Many IGOs are meant to protect peace and human rights. Do you feel they're successful?

# World History (Grade 11)

8. Do you think governments should support IGOs that focus on cultural, linguistic, or historical connections? Why or why not?



## SUM IT UP

In one or two sentences, write the "big idea" or main point of this study.

# World History (Grade 11)

## WEEK 8 – International Cooperation and Conflict

### International Cooperation - Solving and Preventing Conflicts Between Nations

There are almost 200 countries on the Earth and a projected global population of 10 billion people by 2050. At the same time, the exchange of goods and ideas is greater now than at any point in history. However, with all this interaction comes the potential for conflict. How do countries deal with conflict over political, social, economic, and environmental issues?

In the poll above, each option is a real example of how nations today respond to conflict. For instance, if you chose "membership in an international alliance," you might have been thinking about some of the political and charitable organizations you've heard of. Today, thousands of organizations exist to coordinate efforts and solve problems around the world, and that number is growing.

In this activity, you'll learn about intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) that work to maintain peace and the well-being of the population and to protect against oppressive or violent governments and groups.

### Intergovernmental Organizations – Communities Around the Globe



*Countries with common interests form intergovernmental organizations to address global issues.*

An intergovernmental organization (IGO) can involve either a few different countries or dozens. IGOs are built around specific national interests, such as economic growth, protection from potential enemies, or solutions to climate change. The push to establish IGOs to address global problems began after World War I with the League of Nations. Although it ultimately collapsed, the League of Nations was followed by a number of more successful organizations. IGOs typically fall into one of three categories: global organizations; regional organizations; or cultural, religious, or linguistic organizations.

IGO type	Members	Examples
Global organizations	Member nations from all over the world	<b>United Nations; World Trade Organization</b>
Regional organizations	Member nations from a particular region of the world	European Union; <b>NATO; Organization of American States; African Union;</b> Pacific Islands Forum
Cultural, religious, or linguistic organizations	Member nations that typically share common cultural traits	Commonwealth of Nations; Community of Portuguese Language Countries; Organisation of Islamic Cooperation



# World History (Grade 11)

## **The United Nations – The World's Largest Global Intergovernmental Organization**

Of the thousands of global intergovernmental organizations in the world, the United Nations (UN) is the largest. The efforts of the UN fall under five categories: maintain international peace and security, promote sustainable development, protect human rights, uphold international law, and deliver humanitarian aid.

Let's take a look at how the member nations tackle just one of those categories: maintaining peace.

The UN has no army, but member nations provide special forces to carry out mandates from the Security Council. UN peacekeepers, who are sometimes called Blue Berets because of their blue hats, remain members of their countries' armed forces. Sometimes, the UN authorizes other military organizations, such as NATO, to carry out peacekeeping tasks.

UN peacekeepers perform different roles:

- They monitor the peace in post-conflict areas, as they did in Kosovo.
- They supervise free elections. The UN supervised elections in Namibia in 1978, in Mozambique in 1994, and in Haiti in 1990.
- They help distribute aid in areas hit by disasters or conflicts. In 2011, UN relief workers brought aid to Darfur, Sudan, Somalia, and western Africa, among other places.

## **The African Union – An Example of a Regional IGO**

Like global IGOs, regional IGOs often have a common goal of increasing the well-being and prosperity of member countries. But instead of trying to include every country in the world, regional IGOs are focused on a specific region or area. The African Union (AU), for example, was founded in 1999 with the goal of bringing the countries of Africa together and increasing the continent's role in the global economy. The AU has a number of different official groups.

- **Peace and Security Council:** This group is tasked with responding to potential or existing conflicts within Africa, including those that violate human rights, such as genocide. Members are elected to represent a broad range of African countries.
- **Pan-African Parliament:** This group is the legislative body of the AU. It's made up of three main bodies: the Plenary, the Bureau, and the Secretariat. Members are elected from the 54 states in the union, in order to promote participation and unity.
- **Economic, Social, and Cultural Council:** This group is designed to ensure that civil society — that is, nongovernmental institutions, private groups, and families — has a voice in the African Union.

## **The Organization of American States – Another Example of a Regional IGO**

Made up of all 35 independent countries in the Americas, the Organization of American States (OAS) is a regional intergovernmental organization that aims to build political, economic, and social cooperation among its members. The OAS is driven by four main concerns: promoting democracy, defending human rights, ensuring a thorough approach to security, and encouraging development and prosperity. To address these concerns, the OAS monitors and reports on human rights, oversees elections, and promotes diplomatic relations among its members. While some praise the organization for its work providing information and high-level discussion, others consider it ineffective.

In this exercise, you will read about an economic crisis in the South American country of Venezuela. As you read about the crisis, consider what you've learned about the role of intergovernmental organizations in solving global problems. What could an organization like the OAS do to help the people of Venezuela?

# World History (Grade 11)

## **The European Union – A Political *and* Economic IGO**

The European Union (EU) is an intergovernmental organization that represents the political and economic interests of European countries. The EU has created a standard system of laws that apply to all of its member nations. With its own court system and policies, the EU tries to ensure that citizens within the region can travel freely across borders, live and work in member countries, and be part of the European community as a whole. The EU enables its member countries to unite in support of European interests, but it also requires those same nations to sometimes submit to authorities beyond their national governments.

## **Community of Portuguese Language Countries - An IGO Created Because of a Shared Language**

The member countries of the African Union, the Organization of American States, and the European Union are unified by geography. And while shared geography does create strong connections between countries, it is not the only reason nations come together to create intergovernmental organizations — culture, language, and religion are also strong unifying elements. The Community of Portuguese Language Countries is an example of an IGO created by countries with shared cultural elements — in this case, the Portuguese language. The CPLP (the group's acronym in Portuguese) has worked to help member countries solve political problems, and one of its goals is to spread fluency in the Portuguese language. There are nine members of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries, which are shown on the map on this page. Portuguese is the official language of each of these countries.

## **Decision Making in IGOs – The Challenge of Representing Multiple Interests**

Intergovernmental organizations are made up of representatives from individual countries. These representatives must balance the interests of their own country with the interests of the IGO in order to reach decisions that are good for their citizens and the international community at large.

Imagine you are the UN representative from Germany. The year is 1999. On the Balkan Peninsula, southeast of Germany, there is fighting between the former states of Yugoslavia. The Kosovo region wants independence. The United Nations has to decide whether to support Kosovo — with military force if necessary. As Germany's UN representative, what will you decide?

## **Membership in IGOs – Examining Two Countries' Membership in the European Union**

Participation in intergovernmental organizations can be controversial. Sometimes IGOs are exclusive, refusing to allow countries to join if they might jeopardize part of the organization's mission. Other times, member nations decide to leave an IGO they believe is no longer meeting the needs of their citizens.

Consider why countries might choose to join (or leave) an IGO as you complete the exercise below. You will learn about Turkey's attempts to join the European Union and the United Kingdom's decision to leave it.

## **Is IGO Membership Worth It? – Weighing the Pros and Cons of Participating in IGOs**

Intergovernmental organizations provide a range of advantages to members:

- **Strength in numbers:** One nation alone may have little economic, political, or military power. There is power in the group.
- **Better organization:** Members improve communication when they work toward common goals.
- **Neutrality in disputes:** When two member countries have a disagreement, they can let the group decide on a solution. This lessens conflict.

But members of an IGO may find disadvantages too:

- **Loss of individual control:** Nations may have to accept policies that their citizens don't like.

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- **Expense:** Membership has its price. Member countries may not like paying for other countries' economic problems.
- **Enforcement problems:** Sometimes after a decision has been made, member states won't cooperate, which causes tension.

## Pros and Cons of IGOs

Joining an Intergovernmental Organization	
Pros	Cons
Communication	Membership fees
Economic power	Accepting others' decisions
Mutual support	Giving up control
Cooperation	

## Nongovernmental Organizations – Organizations with No Ties to Government

Of course, not all groups that provide humanitarian aid or social services are directly affiliated with governments or intergovernmental organizations. An organization that works toward a social, political, or similar cause but *isn't* affiliated with a government is called a nongovernmental organization, or NGO. NGOs are typically not-for-profit, which means their purpose is something other than making money. The main difference between IGOs and NGOs is that NGOs are funded by donations or are run by volunteers. This ensures that they can work toward their goals without any concern about changing priorities or shifting alliances in the government.

NGOs have goals that are often similar to those of IGOs: helping people in need, fostering community service, and educating people on social, political, and economic issues that affect their lives. And like IGOs, NGOs can also be global, regional, or founded on cultural, religious, or other ideals.

## Moving Forward – What Does the Future Hold for IGOs and NGOs?

There are tens of thousands of international organizations operating in the world today. In fact, the Union of International Associations — an organization that has been researching and monitoring international organizations for more than 100 years — maintains information on over 68,000 international organizations. This includes more than 25,000 nongovernmental organizations and about 5,000 intergovernmental organizations.

Nations have good reasons for joining international organizations. Together, representatives from different nations can decide issues, improve their countries' chances of success, reap economic rewards, and exert greater influence in the world.

But sometimes nations reject the idea of joining a particular organization — often because they don't want to give up too much power. They might also believe that the benefits the organization offers would not make up for the loss of control.

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## Quiz: International Cooperation

Question 1 of 10

Which of the following are the members of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)?

- A. Armies
- B. Individuals
- C. Charities
- D. Nations

Question 2 of 10

What is one major benefit countries get from joining intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)?

- A. IGOs give their member countries greater political independence.
- B. IGOs improve communication between their member countries.
- C. IGOs prevent wealthy countries from having to pay to help poor countries.
- D. IGOs allow countries to solve conflicts without outside interference.

Question 3 of 10

Which characteristic *most* distinguishes nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) from intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)?

- A. NGOs are supported by donations rather than government funding.
- B. NGOs are legally considered corporations and are allowed to profit from their work.
- C. NGOs work to help people deal with problems like poverty and natural disasters.
- D. NGOs operate at the national, regional, or international levels.

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Question 4 of 10

Which country would be *most* likely to join an intergovernmental organization?

- A. An aggressive country that believes countries should resolve disputes on their own
- B. A poor dictatorship that hopes to improve its reputation with other countries
- C. A powerful democracy whose people worry about giving up any political autonomy
- D. A highly restrictive country that wants to avoid interacting with the outside world

Question 5 of 10

What is a major similarity between the African Union and the European Union?

- A. Both were created as subgroups of the United Nations.
- B. Both bring together countries based on language.
- C. Both operate on a regional level.
- D. Both are nongovernmental organizations.

Question 6 of 10

What is one of the United Nations' primary goals?

- A. To discourage countries from joining regional, rather than global, organizations
- B. To help countries maintain complete control over their foreign policies
- C. To bring together countries that speak the same language
- D. To prevent countries from going to war with one another

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Question 7 of 10

Suppose a civil war has just ended in one country and the United Nations agrees to send in Blue Berets to help keep the peace. How will the United Nations get people to do this work?

- A. It will ask member nations to provide soldiers voluntarily.
- B. It will call the UN's reserve forces to active duty.
- C. It will invite citizens of that country to wear UN uniforms.
- D. It will request individual volunteers from around the world.

Question 8 of 10

What is one major challenge for countries that participate in the United Nations?

- A. Balancing their national interests with the UN's international priorities
- B. Determining how many troops to supply to the UN standing army
- C. Deciding whether to give up regional IGO membership for UN membership
- D. Finding ways to fund the UN's expensive nongovernmental organizations

Question 9 of 10

What is the primary goal of regional intergovernmental organizations?

- A. Protecting member countries from military attacks from outside the region
- B. Establishing and operating nongovernmental organizations in a region
- C. Uniting countries in a specific region to work toward their mutual well-being
- D. Organizing a region's countries that were not admitted to the United Nations

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Question 10 of 10

Which situation would be *best* addressed by an intergovernmental organization rather than a nongovernmental organization?

- A. Two powerful countries are on the verge of war and refuse to negotiate directly with one another.
- B. A hurricane has devastated a small country whose government is actively hostile to most other countries.
- C. A country that has refused to join the United Nations is facing widespread poverty and an epidemic of disease.
- D. A powerful country is badly polluting its water supply, but its actions do not violate any international treaties.