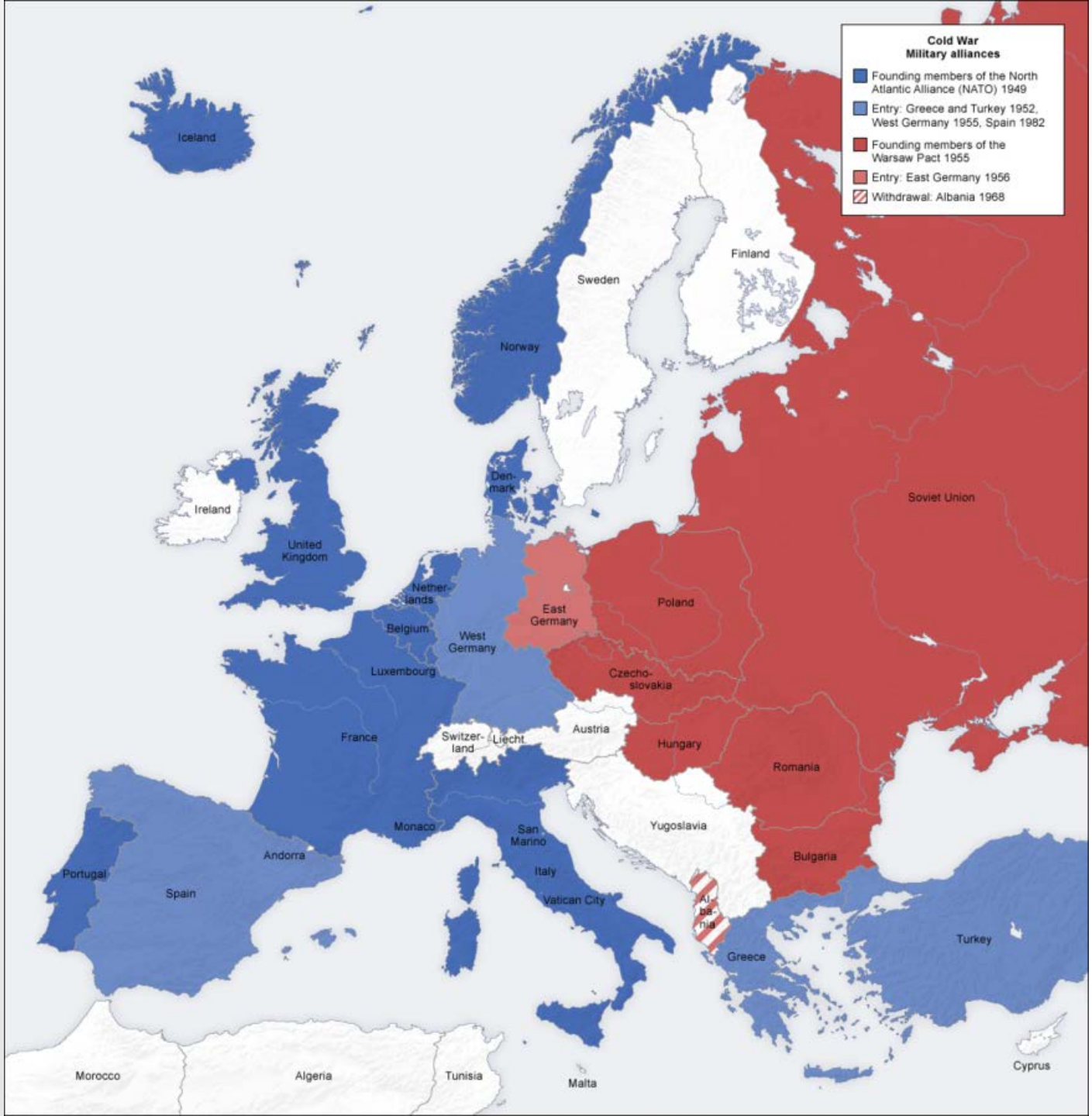


COLD WAR IN EUROPE, 1950





UNIFICATION OF GERMANY WITHIN NATO

◆ *In a one-page essay, describe the diplomatic process that brought the interests of the major players to the point where there could be commonality of interests in having a united Germany in NATO.*

THIS IS THE
THIRD TAKE-
HOME
ESSAY FOR
EXAM I

USE ONLY THE FOLLOWING FROM THE READING:

- ◆ OPENING PREVIEW
- ◆ BEGIN ON PAGE 133, "GERMAN UNIFICATION: AMERICAN CALCULATION" THROUGH "CONCLUSION," ON PAGE 146

PRE-EMPTION & PREVENTION (I)

- There are four key factors to think about when considering taking an action against someone, whom we believe may do us harm:
 - 1) do they have the capability to harm us?
 - 2) are they threatening us with that capability?
 - 3) are they about to act and harm us?
 - 4) what is our attitude toward risk?
- Of the four, the first three require knowledge about them and fourth, our attitude, requires knowledge about ourselves.

PRE-EMPTION & PREVENTION (II)

Risk. Our attitude toward risk is basically how much risk can we accept by waiting to act. It has two aspects: our **tolerance for risk** (how comfortable we are with taking risks in this situation) and **our ability to accept the consequences** if what we do not want to happen, happens.

Prevention and Preemption. If the answer to any of the first three factors is no and we act against our enemy, we are acting before there is any effective threat against us. **This is prevention.** This is usually not a good course of action. Such an action makes us the instigator of conflict without good justification. It may cause consequences that are undesirable and could be more costly than we wish than waiting. Usually, we should be able to wait to see what happens in their capabilities and behavior.

PRE-EMPTION & PREVENTION (III)

IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FIRST THREE FACTORS IS NO, BUT **WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE RISK** (HAVE A LOW TOLERANCE FOR RISK) OR IF THE ANSWER TO ALL THE **FIRST THREE FACTORS IS YES**, THEN IF WE ACT AGAINST THEM, WE ARE ACTING TO PREEMPT THEIR ACTION AGAINST US.

THIS IS **PREEMPTING**. THIS CAN USUALLY BE A GOOD COURSE OF ACTION. THERE IS JUSTIFICATION. WE NEED TO ENSURE THE THING WE FEAR DOES NOT HAPPEN.

