### MILITARISM WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION

MILITARISM WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION IS A PIVOTAL CONCEPT FOR UNDERSTANDING THE FORCES THAT HAVE SHAPED SOCIETIES, GOVERNMENTS, AND MAJOR GLOBAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT HUMAN HISTORY. MILITARISM REFERS TO THE BELIEF IN OR THE DESIRE OF A GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLE THAT A COUNTRY SHOULD MAINTAIN A STRONG MILITARY CAPABILITY AND BE PREPARED TO USE IT AGGRESSIVELY TO DEFEND OR PROMOTE NATIONAL INTERESTS. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE ORIGINS AND DEFINITION OF MILITARISM, ITS HISTORICAL EVOLUTION, KEY EXAMPLES FROM DIFFERENT WORLD REGIONS, ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETIES AND POLITICS, AND ITS MODERN RELEVANCE. BY DELVING INTO THE CAUSES, CHARACTERISTICS, AND CONSEQUENCES OF MILITARISM, READERS WILL GAIN A COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF HOW THIS IDEOLOGY HAS INFLUENCED WORLD HISTORY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AND CONFLICTS. THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE COMPLEXITIES OF MILITARISM'S WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION, ITS ROLE IN SHAPING NATIONS, AND THE LESSONS IT PROVIDES FOR TODAY'S GLOBAL LANDSCAPE.

- DEFINITION AND ORIGINS OF MILITARISM
- Key Features and Characteristics of Militarism
- MILITARISM IN ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS
- MILITARISM IN MODERN WORLD HISTORY
- Consequences and Impacts of Militarism
- MILITARISM IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY
- DEBATES AND CRITIQUES OF MILITARISM

## DEFINITION AND ORIGINS OF MILITARISM

MILITARISM IS DEFINED AS THE BELIEF OR DESIRE OF A GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLE THAT A COUNTRY SHOULD MAINTAIN A STRONG MILITARY CAPABILITY AND BE PREPARED TO USE IT AGGRESSIVELY TO DEFEND OR PROMOTE NATIONAL INTERESTS. THE CONCEPT HAS ROOTS TRACING BACK TO EARLY HUMAN SOCIETIES, WHERE SURVIVAL OFTEN DEPENDED ON THE ABILITY TO PROTECT RESOURCES AND TERRITORY FROM RIVALS. THE WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION OF MILITARISM ENCOMPASSES NOT ONLY THE PRESENCE OF A POWERFUL MILITARY BUT ALSO THE INFLUENCE OF MILITARY VALUES, PRIORITIES, AND LEADERS ON A NATION'S POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LIFE.

THROUGHOUT HISTORY, MILITARISM HAS APPEARED IN VARIOUS FORMS, FROM TRIBAL WARRIORS TO ORGANIZED NATIONAL ARMIES. THE RISE OF STANDING ARMIES AND THE PROFESSIONALIZATION OF MILITARY LEADERSHIP MARKED SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES. MILITARISM OFTEN EMERGES IN SOCIETIES FACING EXTERNAL THREATS, UNDERGOING EXPANSION, OR SEEKING TO ASSERT DOMINANCE REGIONALLY OR GLOBALLY.

# KEY FEATURES AND CHARACTERISTICS OF MILITARISM

### CENTRAL ROLE OF THE MILITARY

A DEFINING CHARACTERISTIC OF MILITARISM IS THE CENTRALITY OF THE MILITARY IN GOVERNMENT DECISION-MAKING AND NATIONAL CULTURE. MILITARY LEADERS OFTEN WIELD SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE, AND DEFENSE PRIORITIES DOMINATE NATIONAL BUDGETS AND POLICY AGENDAS.

## GLORIFICATION OF MILITARY VALUES

MILITARISTIC SOCIETIES TEND TO GLORIFY VALUES SUCH AS DISCIPLINE, LOYALTY, BRAVERY, AND OBEDIENCE. THESE VALUES PERMEATE EDUCATION, MEDIA, AND PUBLIC CEREMONIES, REINFORCING THE IMPORTANCE OF MILITARY SERVICE AND SACRIFICE.

## PREPARATION FOR WAR

- EMPHASIS ON MILITARY READINESS AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT
- FREQUENT MILITARY DRILLS, PARADES, AND PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF POWER
- Promotion of aggressive foreign policies

MILITARISM OFTEN MANIFESTS THROUGH EXTENSIVE PREPARATIONS FOR WAR, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED WEAPONS, FREQUENT EXERCISES, AND A WILLINGNESS TO USE FORCE TO RESOLVE DISPUTES.

## MILITARISM IN ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

### SPARTA

ANCIENT SPARTA IS A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF MILITARISM IN WORLD HISTORY. THE SPARTAN STATE WAS ORGANIZED AROUND THE NEEDS OF ITS MILITARY, WITH CITIZENS TRAINED FROM CHILDHOOD TO BE SOLDIERS. THE SOCIETY PRIORITIZED MILITARY DISCIPLINE AND PROWESS ABOVE ALL ELSE.

### IMPERIAL ROME

THE ROMAN EMPIRE'S EXPANSION WAS DRIVEN BY ITS MILITARY MIGHT. ROMAN SOCIETY CELEBRATED MILITARY VICTORIES AND LEADERS, AND THE ARMY PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE. THE ROMAN LEGIONS WERE CENTRAL TO MAINTAINING ORDER AND PROJECTING POWER ACROSS VAST TERRITORIES.

### CHINA'S WARRING STATES PERIOD

DURING CHINA'S WARRING STATES PERIOD, MILITARISM DEFINED THE ERA AS RIVAL KINGDOMS INVESTED HEAVILY IN ARMIES AND MILITARY TECHNOLOGY. THE PHILOSOPHY OF WAR, AS OUTLINED IN SUN TZU'S "THE ART OF WAR," BECAME INFLUENTIAL IN BOTH STRATEGY AND POLITICAL LIFE.

## MILITARISM IN MODERN WORLD HISTORY

## 19TH-CENTURY EUROPE

MILITARISM INTENSIFIED IN 19TH-CENTURY EUROPE, PARTICULARLY IN PRUSSIA AND LATER UNIFIED GERMANY. MILITARY OFFICERS GAINED PROMINENCE IN GOVERNMENT, AND NATIONAL IDENTITY BECAME CLOSELY TIED TO MILITARY STRENGTH. THIS ERA SAW THE RISE OF CONSCRIPTION AND LARGE STANDING ARMIES.

### WORLD WAR I

THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR I IS OFTEN ATTRIBUTED TO THE MILITARISTIC CULTURES OF THE MAJOR POWERS. THE ARMS RACE, ALLIANCE SYSTEMS, AND THE BELIEF IN THE NECESSITY OF WAR LED TO UNPRECEDENTED DESTRUCTION. MILITARISM WAS BOTH A CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE OF THE GLOBAL CONFLICT.

## WORLD WAR II

MILITARISM REACHED EXTREME LEVELS IN NAZI GERMANY, IMPERIAL JAPAN, AND FASCIST ITALY. THESE REGIMES PRIORITIZED MILITARY EXPANSION AND CONQUEST, LEADING TO GLOBAL WARFARE AND IMMENSE HUMAN SUFFERING. THE AFTERMATH OF WORLD WAR II PROMPTED A REEVALUATION OF MILITARISM'S ROLE IN SOCIETY.

### THE COLD WAR

DURING THE COLD WAR, MILITARISM PERSISTED AS THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BUILT MASSIVE ARSENALS AND MAINTAINED HIGH LEVELS OF MILITARY SPENDING. THE IDEOLOGICAL CONTEST BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND COMMUNISM WAS OFTEN EXPRESSED THROUGH PROXY WARS AND NUCLEAR BRINKMANSHIP.

# CONSEQUENCES AND IMPACTS OF MILITARISM

## POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES

MILITARISM OFTEN LEADS TO THE CONCENTRATION OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF MILITARY LEADERS OR AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENTS. DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES MAY BE UNDERMINED, AND CIVIL LIBERTIES CAN BE RESTRICTED IN THE NAME OF SECURITY.

### SOCIAL AND CULTURAL IMPACTS

- INCREASED NATIONALISTIC FERVOR AND UNITY
- MARGINALIZATION OF PACIFIST OR DISSENTING VOICES
- NORMALIZATION OF MILITARY SERVICE AND WAR IN DAILY LIFE

SOCIETIES SHAPED BY MILITARISM TEND TO VALUE UNIFORMITY AND LOYALTY, SOMETIMES AT THE EXPENSE OF DIVERSITY AND OPEN DEBATE.

## **ECONOMIC EFFECTS**

MILITARISM CAN REDIRECT NATIONAL RESOURCES TOWARD DEFENSE SPENDING, OFTEN AT THE COST OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE. THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX MAY GAIN OUTSIZED INFLUENCE OVER ECONOMIC PRIORITIES.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

MILITARISTIC POLICIES FREQUENTLY RESULT IN HEIGHTENED TENSIONS BETWEEN NATIONS, ARMS RACES, AND THE INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF CONFLICT. DIPLOMACY MAY TAKE A BACK SEAT TO THE PURSUIT OF MILITARY ADVANTAGE.

## MILITARISM IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

## MODERN EXAMPLES

MILITARISM REMAINS RELEVANT TODAY, WITH COUNTRIES SUCH AS NORTH KOREA, RUSSIA, AND THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINING SIGNIFICANT MILITARY CAPABILITIES. DEFENSE SPENDING CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR COMPONENT OF NATIONAL BUDGETS, AND MILITARY TECHNOLOGIES ARE RAPIDLY ADVANCING.

## INFLUENCE ON POLICY AND CULTURE

CONTEMPORARY MILITARISM INFLUENCES FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS, DOMESTIC SECURITY MEASURES, AND CULTURAL REPRESENTATIONS OF STRENGTH AND HEROISM. PUBLIC DEBATES OFTEN CENTER ON THE BALANCE BETWEEN SECURITY NEEDS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES.

## GLOBALIZATION AND MILITARISM

THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF GLOBAL ECONOMIES AND SOCIETIES HAS BOTH INCREASED THE RISKS OF MILITARISTIC COMPETITION AND OFFERED NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WORK TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF MILITARISM THROUGH ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS AND PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS.

## DEBATES AND CRITIQUES OF MILITARISM

### ARGUMENTS AGAINST MILITARISM

- EXCESSIVE MILITARISM CAN LEAD TO UNNECESSARY WARS AND HUMAN SUFFERING
- Undermines democratic values and institutions
- DIVERTS RESOURCES FROM ESSENTIAL SOCIAL NEEDS
- FOSTERS AN ENVIRONMENT OF FEAR AND AGGRESSION

CRITICS ARGUE THAT MILITARISM IS INHERENTLY DESTABILIZING AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO LONG-TERM PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

## ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF MILITARY STRENGTH

Some supporters of militarism maintain that a strong military is essential for national defense, deterrence, and the protection of sovereignty. They argue that military capability can prevent conflict and promote stability in an uncertain world.

## BALANCING SECURITY AND FREEDOM

THE CENTRAL CHALLENGE FOR SOCIETIES INFLUENCED BY MILITARISM IS FINDING AN APPROPRIATE BALANCE BETWEEN SECURITY NEEDS AND THE PRESERVATION OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS. ONGOING DEBATE SURROUNDS HOW BEST TO ACHIEVE THIS EQUILIBRIUM IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING GLOBAL CONTEXT.

# QFA: MILITARISM WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION

# Q: WHAT IS THE MILITARISM WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION?

A: THE MILITARISM WORLD HISTORY DEFINITION REFERS TO THE IDEOLOGY OR POLICY THAT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF MILITARY POWER, READINESS, AND INFLUENCE IN SHAPING A NATION'S GOVERNMENT, CULTURE, AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

# Q: HOW DID MILITARISM CONTRIBUTE TO THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR I?

A: MILITARISM CONTRIBUTED TO WORLD WAR I BY ENCOURAGING ARMS BUILDUPS, AGGRESSIVE ALLIANCES, AND A WILLINGNESS AMONG MAJOR POWERS TO USE FORCE TO RESOLVE DISPUTES, ULTIMATELY ESCALATING TENSIONS THAT LED TO WAR.

## Q: WHICH ANCIENT CIVILIZATION IS MOST ASSOCIATED WITH MILITARISM?

A: Sparta is one of the most well-known ancient civilizations associated with militarism, as its society and government were heavily centered on military training and values.

## Q: WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF MILITARISTIC SOCIETIES?

A: MILITARISTIC SOCIETIES TYPICALLY FEATURE STRONG MILITARY INFLUENCE IN POLITICS, GLORIFICATION OF MILITARY VALUES, HIGH DEFENSE SPENDING, AND FREQUENT PREPARATION FOR WAR.

## Q: How does militarism impact a country's economy?

A: MILITARISM OFTEN LEADS TO INCREASED DEFENSE SPENDING, WHICH CAN DIVERT RESOURCES AWAY FROM SOCIAL PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE, WHILE BOOSTING THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX.

## Q: WHAT ARE SOME MODERN EXAMPLES OF MILITARISM?

A: Modern examples of militarism include countries like North Korea, Russia, and the United States, where military power plays a significant role in national policy and culture.

# Q: WHAT ARE THE MAIN ARGUMENTS AGAINST MILITARISM?

A: CRITICS ARGUE THAT MILITARISM PROMOTES UNNECESSARY CONFLICT, UNDERMINES DEMOCRACY, DIVERTS RESOURCES FROM ESSENTIAL NEEDS, AND FOSTERS AGGRESSION AND FEAR.

# Q: How do international organizations address militarism today?

A: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ADDRESS MILITARISM BY PROMOTING ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS, AND DIPLOMATIC SOLUTIONS TO CONFLICTS.

# Q: CAN MILITARISM EXIST IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES?

A: YES, MILITARISM CAN EXIST IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES WHEN MILITARY INFLUENCE SHAPES POLITICAL DECISIONS, PUBLIC VALUES, AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES, SOMETIMES AT THE EXPENSE OF CIVIL LIBERTIES.

# Q: WHY IS UNDERSTANDING MILITARISM IMPORTANT IN WORLD HISTORY?

A: Understanding militarism is important because it helps explain the causes of wars, the evolution of societies, and the ongoing challenges in balancing security with freedom and peace.

# **Militarism World History Definition**

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# Militarism World History Definition: A Deep Dive into the Rise and Fall of Military Power

Militarism. The word itself evokes images of marching soldiers, powerful weaponry, and the looming shadow of war. But what does it truly mean, and how has it shaped the course of world history? This comprehensive guide will delve into the definition of militarism, explore its historical manifestations, and analyze its enduring impact on global politics and society. We'll unravel its complexities, examining both its causes and consequences, offering you a nuanced understanding of this pervasive force. Prepare to embark on a journey through centuries of conflict and power struggles, understanding the profound influence of militarism on the world we inhabit today.

# **Defining Militarism: More Than Just a Strong Military**

When we talk about "militarism," we're not simply referring to a nation possessing a strong military. A robust defense force is a matter of national security; militarism, however, transcends this. Militarism, in its purest form, is the belief or desire of a government or people that military power should dominate both domestic and foreign policy. This ideology prioritizes military strength above all else, often at the expense of economic development, social welfare, and diplomatic solutions. It's a pervasive cultural phenomenon where military values, ideals, and priorities permeate all aspects of society, from education and media to political discourse and everyday life.

# **Historical Manifestations of Militarism: Case Studies**

Militarism isn't a recent phenomenon; its roots stretch back through millennia. Understanding its historical manifestations helps us grasp its complex nature.

**Ancient Sparta: The Ultimate Militaristic Society** 

Ancient Sparta provides a stark example of a society wholly organized around military might. From

childhood, Spartan boys underwent rigorous military training, their lives entirely dedicated to the state's military machine. Their social structure, political system, and even their artistic expression were all subservient to their military ambitions. This extreme form of militarism, while effective in securing Spartan dominance for a time, ultimately contributed to its rigid inflexibility and eventual decline.

### Prussian Militarism and the Rise of Germany

Prussian militarism in the 19th century provides another compelling case study. The Prussian army became a model of efficiency and discipline, profoundly influencing German society and politics. This military strength fueled German unification and expansionist ambitions, ultimately leading to two devastating World Wars. The cult of the military, glorified in propaganda and education, played a crucial role in creating a nationalistic fervor that propelled Germany toward aggressive foreign policy.

#### The Cold War Arms Race: A Global Militaristic Contest

The Cold War witnessed a different kind of militarism—a global arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union. While not characterized by the same level of societal militarization as in Prussia, the immense investment in military technology and the constant threat of nuclear annihilation shaped international relations for decades. This period underscores the destructive potential of militarism even in the absence of direct large-scale warfare.

# The Consequences of Militarism: A Bitter Harvest

The consequences of militarism are far-reaching and often catastrophic. These include:

### **Economic Drain: Prioritizing Guns Over Butter**

Massive military spending diverts resources from vital social programs like healthcare, education, and infrastructure. This "guns over butter" approach can hinder economic development and exacerbate social inequalities.

### **Erosion of Civil Liberties: The Suppression of Dissent**

In highly militarized societies, civil liberties are often suppressed in the name of national security. Freedom of speech, assembly, and the press can be curtailed, leading to an authoritarian environment.

### **Increased Risk of War: A Self-Fulfilling Prophecy**

Militarism can create a climate of fear and mistrust, increasing the likelihood of conflict. The very existence of powerful militaries can embolden aggressive foreign policy and escalate tensions.

### **Humanitarian Crises: The Collateral Damage of War**

War, the ultimate consequence of unchecked militarism, inevitably leads to immense human suffering, loss of life, and widespread destruction. The humanitarian crises resulting from military conflicts often linger for generations.

# **Conclusion: Understanding Militarism's Enduring Legacy**

Militarism, far from being a relic of the past, remains a potent force in international relations. Understanding its historical roots, its diverse manifestations, and its devastating consequences is crucial for building a more peaceful and prosperous future. By critically examining the seductive allure of military power and its often disastrous outcomes, we can work towards fostering a world where diplomacy, cooperation, and peaceful conflict resolution are prioritized over the destructive path of militarism.

# **FAQs**

- 1. Is there a difference between a strong military and militarism? Yes, a strong military is a means of national defense; militarism is an ideology that prioritizes military power above all else, permeating society and shaping policy.
- 2. How can we combat the rise of militarism today? Promoting peace education, strengthening international institutions, advocating for arms control, and fostering critical thinking about military propaganda are all essential steps.
- 3. Can a country be both democratic and militaristic? Historically, democracies have displayed varying degrees of militarism. The crucial factor is the balance between military power and democratic values and institutions.
- 4. What role does nationalism play in fostering militarism? Nationalism often fuels militaristic tendencies by creating a sense of national superiority and justifying aggressive foreign policies in the name of national interest.
- 5. What are some examples of contemporary manifestations of militarism? The ongoing global arms

race, the increasing use of military drones, and the militarization of domestic policing are all contemporary examples.

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militarism world history definition: Resisting Militarism Rossdale Chris Rossdale, 2019-05-15 In the past 15 years, UK anti-militarist activists have auctioned off a tank outside an arms fair, superglued themselves to Lockheed Martin's central London offices and stopped a battleship with a canoe. They have also challenged militarism in many other everyday ways. This book explores why anti-militarists resist, considers the politics of different tactics and examines the tensions and debates within the movement. As it explores the multifaceted, imaginative and highly subversive world of anti-militarism, the book also makes two overarching arguments. First, that anti-militarists can help us to understand militarism in new and useful ways. And secondly, that the methods and ideas used by anti-militarists can be a potent force for radical political change.

militarism world history definition: Maneuvers Cynthia Enloe, 2000-02-01 Maneuvers takes readers on a global tour of the sprawling process called militarization. With her incisive verve and moxie, eminent feminist Cynthia Enloe shows that the people who become militarized are not just the obvious ones—executives and factory floor workers who make fighter planes, land mines, and intercontinental missiles. They are also the employees of food companies, toy companies, clothing companies, film studios, stock brokerages, and advertising agencies. Militarization is never gender-neutral, Enloe claims: It is a personal and political transformation that relies on ideas about femininity and masculinity. Films that equate action with war, condoms that are designed with a camouflage pattern, fashions that celebrate brass buttons and epaulettes, tomato soup that contains pasta shaped like Star Wars weapons—all of these contribute to militaristic values that mold our culture in both war and peace. Presenting new and groundbreaking material that builds on Enloe's acclaimed work in Does Khaki Become You? and Bananas, Beaches, and Bases, Maneuvers takes an international look at the politics of masculinity, nationalism, and globalization. Enloe ranges widely from Japan to Korea, Serbia, Kosovo, Rwanda, Britain, Israel, the United States, and many points in between. She covers a broad variety of subjects: gays in the military, the history of camp followers, the politics of women who have sexually serviced male soldiers, married life in the military, military nurses, and the recruitment of women into the military. One chapter titled When Soldiers Rape explores the many facets of the issue in countries such as Chile, the Philippines, Okinawa, Rwanda, and the United States. Enloe outlines the dilemmas feminists around the globe face in trying to craft theories and strategies that support militarized women, locally and internationally, without unwittingly being militarized themselves. She explores the complicated militarized experiences of women as prostitutes, as rape victims, as mothers, as wives, as nurses, and as feminist activists, and she uncovers the maneuvers that military officials and their civilian supporters have made in order to ensure that each of these groups of women feel special and separate.

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**militarism world history definition:** *Militarization and War* J. Schofield, 2016-09-23 This book looks at the influence of military regimes in seven cases: Pakistan in 1965, India in 1971, Israel in 1956 and 1967, Egypt in 1973, Iran in 1969 and Iraq in 1980. The author contends that countries with military governments are warlike not because they glorify war, but rather because they are poorly equipped to manage diplomacy.

militarism world history definition: Demilitarization in the Contemporary World Peter N. Stearns, 2013-11-16 Contemporary world history has highlighted militarization in many ways, from the global Cold War and numerous regional conflicts to the general assumption that nationhood implies a significant and growing military. Yet the twentieth century also offers notable examples of large-scale demilitarization, both imposed and voluntary. Demilitarization in the Contemporary World fills a key gap in current historical understanding by examining demilitarization programs in Germany, Japan, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica. In nine insightful chapters, this volume's contributors outline each nation's demilitarization choices and how they were made. They investigate factors such as military defeat, border security risks, economic pressures, and the development of strong peace cultures among citizenry. Also at center stage is the influence of the United States, which fills a paradoxical role as both an enabler of demilitarization and a leader in steadily accelerating militarization. Bookended by Peter N. Stearns' thought-provoking historical introduction and forward-looking conclusion, the chapters in this volume explore what true demilitarization means and how it impacts a society at all levels, military and civilian, political and private. The examples chosen reveal that successful demilitarization must go beyond mere troop demobilization or arms reduction to generate significant political and even psychological shifts in

the culture at large. Exemplifying the political difficulties of demilitarization in both its failures and successes, Demilitarization in the Contemporary World provides a possible roadmap for future policies and practices.

militarism world history definition: The New American Militarism Andrew J. Bacevich, 2005-04-01 In this provocative book, Andrew Bacevich warns of a dangerous dual obsession that has taken hold of Americans, conservatives, and liberals alike. It is a marriage of militarism and utopian ideology--of unprecedented military might wed to a blind faith in the universality of American values. This mindset, the author warns, invites endless war and the ever-deepening militarization of U.S. policy. It promises not to perfect but to pervert American ideals and to accelerate the hollowing out of American democracy. As it alienates others, it will leave the United States increasingly isolated. It will end in bankruptcy, moral as well as economic, and in abject failure. With The New American Militarism, which has been updated with a new Afterword, Bacevich examines the origins and implications of this misguided enterprise. He shows how American militarism emerged as a reaction to the Vietnam War. Various groups in American society--soldiers, politicians on the make, intellectuals, strategists, Christian evangelicals, even purveyors of pop culture--came to see the revival of military power and the celebration of military values as the antidote to all the ills besetting the country as a consequence of Vietnam and the 1960s. The upshot, acutely evident in the aftermath of 9/11, has been a revival of vast ambitions and certainty, this time married to a pronounced affinity for the sword. Bacevich urges us to restore a sense of realism and a sense of proportion to U.S. policy. He proposes, in short, to bring American purposes and American methods--especially with regard to the role of the military--back into harmony with the nation's founding ideals.

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militarism world history definition: The Meaning of the Second World War Ernest Mandel, 2020-05-05 The very scale of the 1939-45 war has often tempted historians to study particular campaigns at the expense of the wider panorama. In this readable and richly detailed history of the conflict, the Belgian scholar Ernest Mandel (author of the acclaimed Late Capitalism) outlines his view that the war was in fact a combination of several distinct struggles and a battle between rival imperialisms for world hegemony. In concise chapters, Mandel examines the role played by technology, science, logistics, weapons and propaganda. Throughout, he weaves a consideration of the military strategy of the opposing states into his analytical narrative of the war and its results.

**militarism world history definition:** *Mission Creep* Gordon Adams, Shoon Kathleen Murray, 2013-11-04 Mission Creep: The Militarization of US Foreign Policy? examines the question of whether the US Department of Defense (DOD) has assumed too large a role in influencing and implementing US foreign policy while confronting the challenges arising from terrorism, Islamic radicalism, insurgencies, ethnic conflicts and failed states.

militarism world history definition: Love and War Tom Digby, 2014-10-28 Ideas of masculinity and femininity become sharply defined in war-reliant societies, resulting in a presumed enmity between men and women. This so-called battle of the sexes is intensified by the use of misogyny to encourage men and boys to conform to the demands of masculinity. These are among Tom Digby's fascinating insights shared in Love and War, which describes the making and manipulation of gender in militaristic societies and the sweeping consequences for men and women in their personal, romantic, sexual, and professional lives. Drawing on cross-cultural comparisons

and examples from popular media, including sports culture, the rise of gonzo and bangbus pornography, and internet trolls, Digby describes how the hatred of women and the suppression of empathy are used to define masculinity, thereby undermining relations between women and men—sometimes even to the extent of violence. Employing diverse philosophical methodologies, he identifies the cultural elements that contribute to heterosexual antagonism, such as an enduring faith in male force to solve problems, the glorification of violent men who suppress caring emotions, the devaluation of men's physical and emotional lives, an imaginary gender binary, male privilege premised on the subordination of women, and the use of misogyny to encourage masculine behavior. Digby tracks the collateral damage of this disabling misogyny in the lives of both men and women, but ends on a hopeful note. He ultimately finds the link between war and gender to be dissolving in many societies: war is becoming slowly de-gendered, and gender is becoming slowly de-militarized.

militarism world history definition: Anarchism, 1914-18 Ruth Kinna, Matthew S. Adams, 2017-06-08 Anarchism 1914-18 is the first systematic analysis of anarchist responses to the First World War. It examines the interventionist debate between Peter Kropotkin and Errico Malatesta which split the anarchist movement in 1914 and provides a historical and conceptual analysis of debates conducted in European and American movements about class, nationalism, internationalism, militarism, pacifism and cultural resistance. Contributions discuss the justness of war, non-violence and pacifism, anti-colonialism, pro-feminist perspectives on war and the potency of myths about the war and revolution for the reframing of radical politics in the 1920s and beyond. Divisions about the war and the experience of being caught on the wrong side of the Bolshevik Revolution encouraged anarchists to reaffirm their deeply-held rejection of vanguard socialism and develop new strategies that drew on a plethora of anti-war activities.

militarism world history definition: The Soldier and the State Samuel P. Huntington, 1957 militarism world history definition: Fascists Michael Mann, 2004-05-24 Fascists presents a new theory of fascism based on intensive analysis of the men and women who became fascists. It covers the six European countries in which fascism became most dominant - Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Romania and Spain. It is the most comprehensive analysis of who fascists actually were, what beliefs they held and what actions they committed. The book suggests that fascism was essentially a product of post World War I conditions in Europe and is unlikely to re-appear in its classic garb in the future. Nonetheless, elements of its ideology remain relevant to modern conditions and are now re-appearing, though mainly in different parts of the world.

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militarism world history definition: The History of Militarism Alfred Vagts, 2011-10 The author traces militarism from the time of the breakdown of feudalism in the Middle Ages to the recent days of the Cold War.

militarism world history definition: An Improbable War? Holger Afflerbach, David Stevenson, 2012 The First World War has been described as the primordial catastrophe of the twentieth century. Arguably, Italian Fascism, German National Socialism and Soviet Leninism and Stalinism would not have emerged without the cultural and political shock of World War I. The question why this catastrophe happened therefore preoccupies historians to this day. The focus of this volume is not on the consequences, but rather on the connection between the Great War and the long 19th century, the short- and long-term causes of World War I. This approach results in the questioning of many received ideas about the war's causes, especially the notion of inevitability.

militarism world history definition: The Second World War Antony Beevor, 2012-06-05 A

masterful and comprehensive chronicle of World War II, by internationally bestselling historian Antony Beevor. Over the past two decades, Antony Beevor has established himself as one of the world's premier historians of WWII. His multi-award winning books have included Stalingrad and The Fall of Berlin 1945. Now, in his newest and most ambitious book, he turns his focus to one of the bloodiest and most tragic events of the twentieth century, the Second World War. In this searing narrative that takes us from Hitler's invasion of Poland on September 1st, 1939 to V-J day on August 14, 1945 and the war's aftermath, Beevor describes the conflict and its global reach -- one that included every major power. The result is a dramatic and breathtaking single-volume history that provides a remarkably intimate account of the war that, more than any other, still commands attention and an audience. Thrillingly written and brilliantly researched, Beevor's grand and provocative account is destined to become the definitive work on this complex, tragic, and endlessly fascinating period in world history, and confirms once more that he is a military historian of the first rank.

militarism world history definition: Japan's Aging Peace Tom Phuong Le, 2021-06-22 Since the end of World War II, Japan has not sought to remilitarize, and its postwar constitution commits to renouncing aggressive warfare. Yet many inside and outside Japan have asked whether the country should or will return to commanding armed forces amid an increasingly challenging regional and global context and as domestic politics have shifted in favor of demonstrations of national strength. Tom Phuong Le offers a novel explanation of Japan's reluctance to remilitarize that foregrounds the relationship between demographics and security. Japan's Aging Peace demonstrates how changing perceptions of security across generations have culminated in a culture of antimilitarism that constrains the government's efforts to pursue a more martial foreign policy. Le challenges a simple opposition between militarism and pacifism, arguing that Japanese security discourse should be understood in terms of "multiple militarisms," which can legitimate choices such as the mobilization of the Japan Self-Defense Forces for peacekeeping operations and humanitarian relief missions. Le highlights how factors that are not typically linked to security policy, such as aging and declining populations and gender inequality, have played crucial roles. He contends that the case of Japan challenges the presumption in international relations scholarship that states must pursue the use of force or be punished, showing how widespread normative beliefs have restrained Japanese policy makers. Drawing on interviews with policy makers, military personnel, atomic bomb survivors, museum coordinators, grassroots activists, and other stakeholders, as well as analysis of peace museums and social movements, Japan's Aging Peace provides new insights for scholars of Asian politics, international relations, and Japanese foreign policy.

militarism world history definition: Peace Oliver P. Richmond, 2023-01-24 Very Short Introductions: Brilliant, Sharp, Inspiring The concept of peace has always attracted radical thought, action, and practices. It has been taken to mean merely an absence of overt violence or war, but in the contemporary era it is often used interchangeably with 'peacemaking', 'peacebuilding', 'conflict resolution', and 'statebuilding'. The modern concept of peace has therefore broadened from the mere absence of violence to something much more complicated. In this Very Short Introduction, Oliver Richmond explores the evolution of peace in practice and in theory, exploring our modern assumptions about peace and the various different interpretations of its applications. This second edition has been theoretically and empirically updated and introduces a new framework to understand the overall evolution of the international peace architecture. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

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political debate. This is a good thing. Nationalism is usually assumed to be a dirty word, but it is a foundation of democratic self-government and of international peace. National Review editor Rich Lowry refutes critics on left and the right, reclaiming the term "nationalism" from those who equate it with racism, militarism and fascism. He explains how nationalism is an American tradition, a thread that runs through such diverse leaders as Alexander Hamilton, Teddy Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Ronald Reagan. In The Case for Nationalism, Lowry explains how nationalism was central to the American Project. It fueled the American Revolution and the ratification of the Constitution. It preserved the country during the Civil War. It led to the expansion of the American nation's territory and power, and eventually to our invaluable contribution to creating an international system of self-governing nations. It's time to recover a healthy American nationalism, and especially a cultural nationalism that insists on the assimilation of immigrants and that protects our history, civic rituals and traditions, which are under constant threat. At a time in which our nation is plagued by self-doubt and self-criticism, The Case for Nationalism offers a path for America to regain its national self-confidence and achieve continued greatness.

militarism world history definition: The Origins of World War I Richard F. Hamilton, Holger H. Herwig, 2003-02-24 Discusses and examines the possible causes of World War I.

**militarism world history definition: Affective Methodologies** Britta Timm Knudsen, 2016-02-10 The collection proposes inventive research strategies for the study of the affective and fluctuating dimensions of cultural life. It presents studies of nightclubs, YouTube memes, political provocations, heritage sites, blogging, education development, and haunting memories.

**militarism world history definition:** Socialism Or Barbarism István Mészáros, 2001-05 This bold new study analyzes the historical choices facing us at the outset of the new millennium. The author gives new meaning and urgency to the alternatives posed by Rosa Luxemburg at the beginning of the century. His detailed analysis of the roots and development of US global power shows how its supremacy has come at the cost of exhausting the universalising pretensions of capitalism. The destructive tendencies of capitalism are a greater threat today than every before. -- BACK COVER.

militarism world history definition: Germany and the Next War Friedrich von Bernhardi, 2019-11-20 The content of this book is both unpleasant and fascinating at the same time. The views put forward by the author in the period just before the outbreak of WW1 are abhorrent to most people now but Bernhardi had not lived through a world war. Nonetheless, he sees war as 'A biological necessity' for a country's advancement.

militarism world history definition: A Kingdom United Catriona Pennell, 2012-03 In this, the first fully documented study of British and Irish popular reactions to the outbreak of the First World War, Catriona Pennell explores UK public opinion of the time and successfully challenges the myth of British 'war enthusiasm'. A Kingdom United explores what people felt, and how they acted, in response to an unanticipated and unprecedented crisis. It is a history of both ordinary people and elite figures in extraordinary times. Dr Pennell demonstrates that describing the reactions of over 40 million British and Irish people to the outbreak of war as either enthusiastic in the British case, or disengaged in the Irish, is over-simplified and inadequate. Emotional reactions to the war were ambiguous and complex, and changed over time. By the end of 1914 the populations of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland had largely embraced the war, but the war had also embraced them and showed no signs of relinquishing its grip. The five months from August to December 1914 set the shape of much that was to follow. A Kingdom United describes and explains that twenty-week formative process. Pennell draws from a vast array of diaries, letters, journals, and newspaper accounts by the very people who experienced the war in its first dramatic five months. She outlines the variety of responses felt amongst both the ordinary people and elite figures from across the country.

militarism world history definition: Germany and the Causes of the First World War Mark Hewitson, 2014-03-04 How can we understand what caused World War I? What role did Germany play? This book encourages us to re-think the events that led to global conflict in

1914. Historians in recent years have argued that German leaders acted defensively or pre-emptively in 1914, conscious of the Reich's deteriorating military and diplomatic position. Germany and the Causes of the First World War challenges such interpretations, placing new emphasis on the idea that the Reich Chancellor, the German Foreign Office and the Great General Staff were confident that they could win a continental war. This belief in Germany's superiority derived primarily from an assumption of French decline and Russian weakness throughout the period between the turn of the century and the eve of the First World War. Accordingly, Wilhelmine policy-makers pursued offensive policies - at the risk of war at important junctures during the 1900s and 1910s. The author analyses the stereotyping of enemy states, representations of war in peacetime, and conceptualizations of international relations. He uncovers the complex role of ruling elites, political parties, big business and the press, and contends that the decade before the First World War witnessed some critical changes in German foreign policy. By the time of the July crisis of 1914, for example, the perception of enemies had altered, with Russia - the traditional bugbear of the German centre and left - becoming the principal opponent of the Reich. Under these changed conditions, German leaders could now pursue their strategy of brinkmanship, using war as an instrument of policy, to its logical conclusion.

militarism world history definition: Ethics as a Weapon of War James Eastwood, 2020-03-26 What role does ethics play in modern-day warfare? Is it possible for ethics and militarism to exist hand-in-hand? James Eastwood examines the Israeli military and its claim to be 'the most moral army in the world'. This claim has been strongly contested by human rights bodies and international institutions in their analysis of recent military engagements in the West Bank, Gaza and Lebanon. Yet at the same time, many in Israel believe this claim, including the general public, military personnel and politicians. Compiled from extensive research including interviews with soldiers, Eastwood unpacks the ethical pedagogy of the Israeli military, as well as soldier-led activism which voices a moral critique, and argues that the belief in moral warfare doesn't exist separately from the growing violence of Israel's occupation. This book is ideal for those interested in military ethics and Israeli politics, and provides crucial in-depth analysis for students and researchers alike.

militarism world history definition: The Sources of Social Power: Volume 2, The Rise of Classes and Nation-States, 1760-1914 Michael Mann, 2012-09-24 This second volume deals with power relations between the Industrial Revolution and the First World War.

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militarism world history definition: The Origins of the First World War James Joll, Gordon Martel, 2013-11-05 James Joll's study is not simply another narrative, retracing the powder trail that was finally ignited at Sarajevo. It is an ambitious and wide-ranging analysis of the historical forces at work in the Europe of 1914, and the very different ways in which historians have subsequently attempted to understand them. The importance of the theme, the breadth and sympathy of James Joll's scholarship, and the clarity of his exposition, have all contributed to the spectacular success of the book since its first appearance in 1984. Revised by Gordon Martel, this new 3rd edition accommodates recent research and an expanded further reading section.

militarism world history definition: Liberal Fascism Jonah Goldberg, 2008-01-08 "Fascists," "Brownshirts," "jackbooted stormtroopers"—such are the insults typically hurled at conservatives by their liberal opponents. Calling someone a fascist is the fastest way to shut them up, defining their views as beyond the political pale. But who are the real fascists in our midst? Liberal Fascism offers a startling new perspective on the theories and practices that define fascist politics. Replacing conveniently manufactured myths with surprising and enlightening research, Jonah Goldberg reminds us that the original fascists were really on the left, and that liberals from Woodrow Wilson to FDR to Hillary Clinton have advocated policies and principles remarkably similar to those of Hitler's National Socialism and Mussolini's Fascism. Contrary to what most people think, the Nazis were ardent socialists (hence the term "National socialism"). They believed in free health care and guaranteed jobs. They confiscated inherited wealth and spent vast sums on public education. They purged the church from public policy, promoted a new form of pagan spirituality, and inserted the authority of the state into every nook and cranny of daily life. The Nazis declared war on smoking, supported abortion, euthanasia, and gun control. They loathed the free market, provided generous pensions for the elderly, and maintained a strict racial quota system in their universities—where campus speech codes were all the rage. The Nazis led the world in organic farming and alternative medicine. Hitler was a strict vegetarian, and Himmler was an animal rights activist. Do these striking parallels mean that today's liberals are genocidal maniacs, intent on conquering the world and imposing a new racial order? Not at all. Yet it is hard to deny that modern progressivism and classical fascism shared the same intellectual roots. We often forget, for example, that Mussolini and Hitler had many admirers in the United States. W.E.B. Du Bois was inspired by Hitler's Germany, and Irving Berlin praised Mussolini in song. Many fascist tenets were espoused by American progressives like John Dewey and Woodrow Wilson, and FDR incorporated fascist policies in the New Deal. Fascism was an international movement that appeared in different forms in different countries, depending on the vagaries of national culture and temperament. In Germany, fascism appeared as genocidal racist nationalism. In America, it took a "friendlier," more liberal form. The modern heirs of this "friendly fascist" tradition include the New York Times, the Democratic Party, the Ivy League professoriate, and the liberals of Hollywood. The quintessential Liberal Fascist isn't an SS storm trooper; it is a female grade school teacher with an education degree from Brown or Swarthmore. These assertions may sound strange to modern ears, but that is because we have forgotten what fascism is. In this angry, funny, smart, contentious book, Jonah Goldberg turns our preconceptions inside out and shows us the true meaning of Liberal Fascism.

militarism world history definition: THE POWER ELITE C.WRIGHT MILLS, 1956 militarism world history definition: The Origins of the First World War James Joll, 1984 militarism world history definition: Making the Forever War Mark Philip Bradley, Mary L. Dudziak, 2021-06-25 The late historian Marilyn B. Young, a preeminent voice on the history of U.S. military conflict, spent her career reassessing the nature of American global power, its influence on domestic culture and politics, and the consequences felt by those on the receiving end of U.S. military force. At the center of her inquiries was a seeming paradox: How can the United States stay continually at war, yet Americans pay so little attention to this militarism? Making the Forever War brings Young's articles and essays on American war together for the first time, including never before published works. Moving from the first years of the Cold War to Korea, Vietnam, and more recent forever wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Young reveals the ways in which war became ever-present, yet more covert and abstract, particularly as aerial bombings and faceless drone strikes have attained greater strategic value. For Young, U.S. empire persisted because of, not despite, the inattention of most Americans. The collection concludes with an afterword by prominent military historian Andrew Bacevich.

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