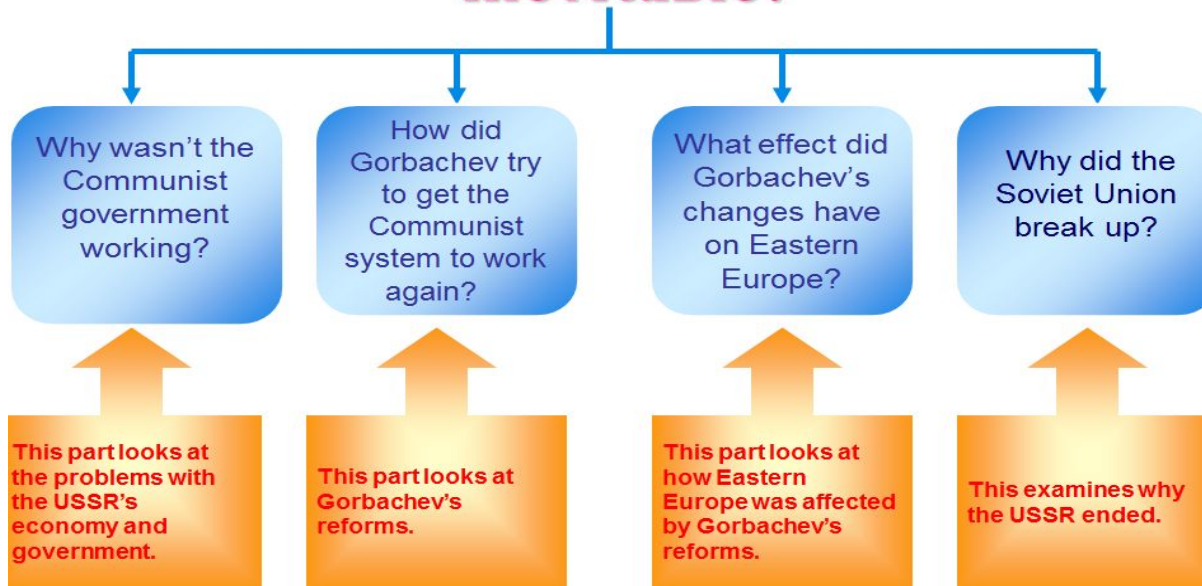


# The End of the Cold War

## Was the end of the Cold War inevitable?



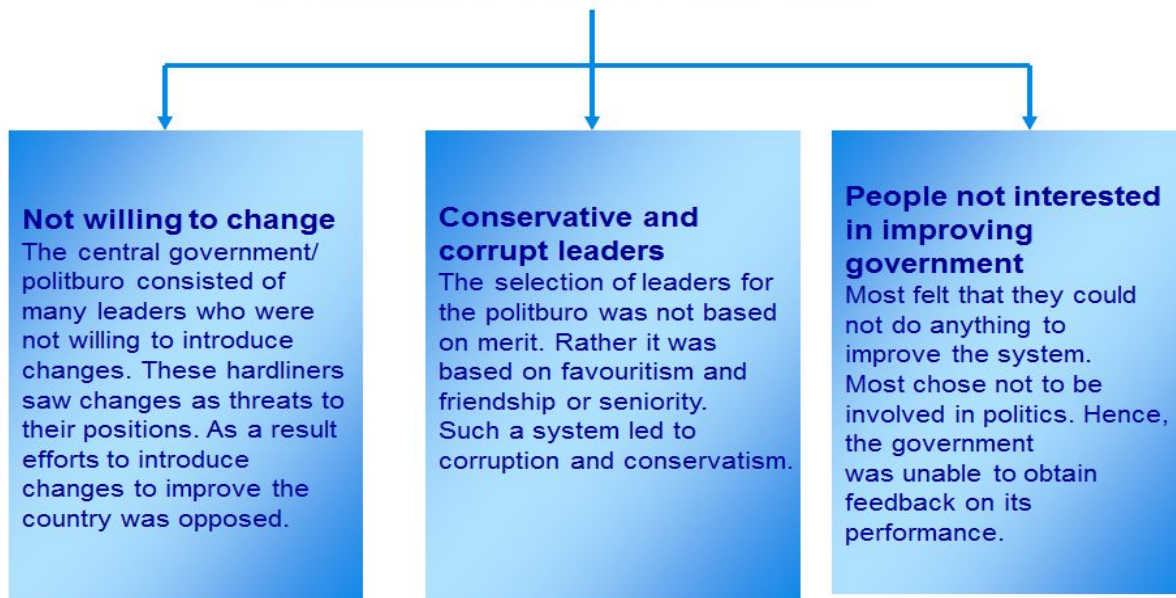
### In a Nutshell

- In 1991, the Cold War came to an end.
- There were many causes to this.
- In Eastern Europe, many people did not want the USSR to control their countries.
- By the late 1980s, the USSR was facing many economic problems.
- People in the Soviet Union were unhappy with the government for its failure to meet the people's needs.
- The reforms introduced by Gorbachev caused new problems.
- All these resulted in the breakdown of Communism in the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War.

***Why wasn't the communist system working?***

Inefficient economy	Poor decisions by the central government	Slow decisions by the central government
No quality control	No incentive to work hard	Most of the money was spent on the military
Fewer consumer goods were made	Alcoholism made workers less efficient	Farms and factories were not improved
Inefficient transport and distribution system	Basic needs of the people were not met	

# Ineffective government



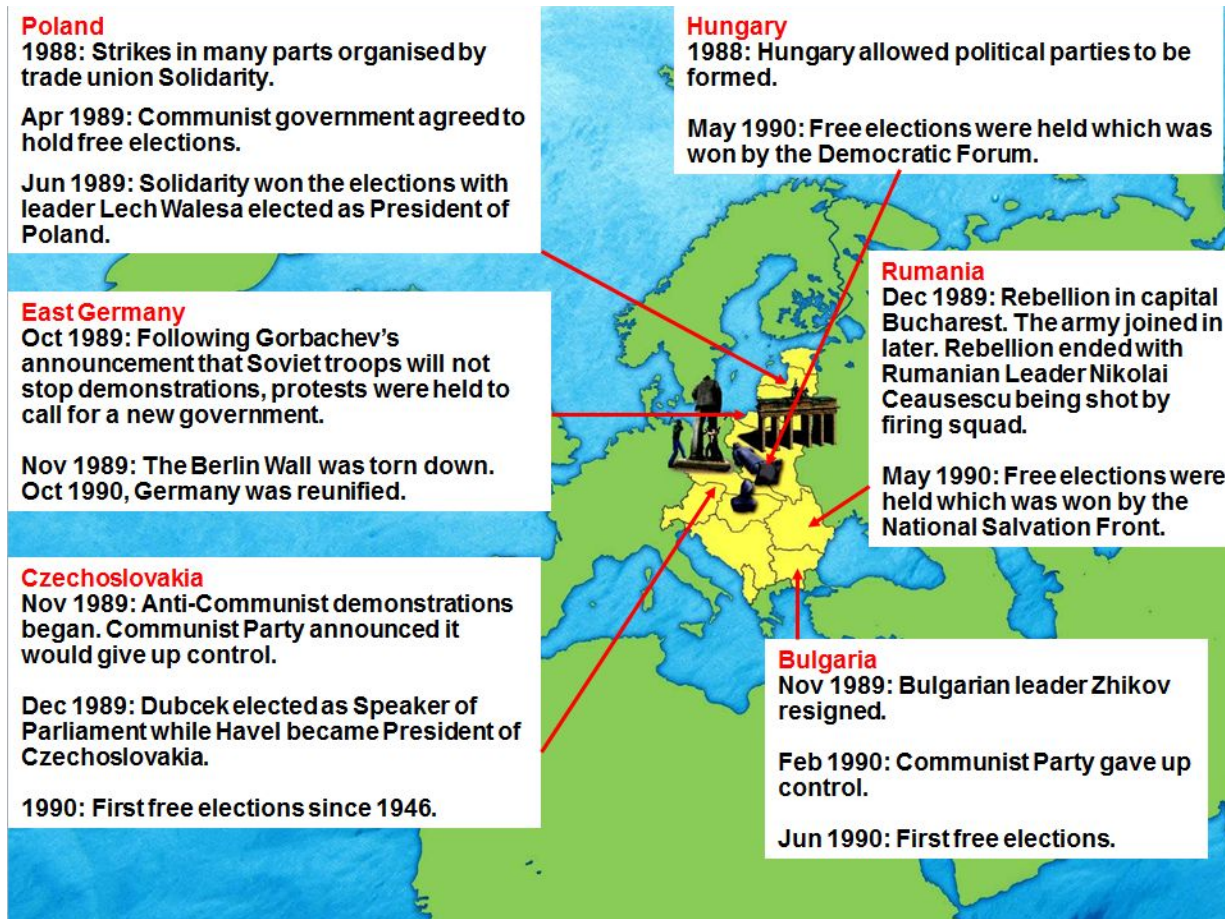
Ronald Reagan's Star Wars Programme	Anti-Soviet feelings in the republics	Increased spending
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# How did Gorbachev try to get the Communist system to work again?

Gorbachev aimed to change the situation with the introduction the following programmes.



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### ***Why did the Soviet Union break up?***

Gorbachev's changes failed to solve the problem	Loss of the Communist Party's authority	Years of Cold War competition bankrupted the Soviet Union
Rise of nationalism	August 1991 Coup	