

MODERN WORLD HISTORY FROM AD 1500:II
MODULE-3 POST WAR DEVELOPMENTS
TOPIC- WARSAW PACT

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● **WARSAW PACT- COMINFORM**

- A military alliance formed at the initiative of Soviet Union against NATO
- The aggressive attitude of the NATO powers created anxiety among the Russians.
- It was against this background that Soviet Union began to conceive the idea of forming a counter defensive alliance against NATO.
- Yet Soviet Russia could not establish a rival organization of NATO until 1955.
- However Russia was able to counter Western moves by organizing COMINFORM and launching Molotov Plan of Mutual Economic Assistance for the communist countries.
- The immediate reason for concluding Warsaw Pact by Soviet was the entry of West Germany to NATO.

- A conference of European countries on safe guarding peace and security in Europe was convened at Warsaw, the capital of Poland in May 1955.
- The meeting was attended by the representative of Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Albania, Romania and East Germany.
- Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.
- Terms : settle their dispute by peaceful means.
- Provide mutual assistance including the use of force in case of an armed attack against them.
- Mutual economic and cultural collaboration.
- The pact provided for setting up of a unified command of the armed forces of the member states.

- Main body – Consultative Political Committee- coordinated its activities – headquarters at Moscow.
- Members nations were not to enter into any kind of treaty with other nations , contrary to the terms.
- The Warsaw Pact served Soviet purposes – gave Russia the legal right to keep troops in eastern Europe.
- In April 1991 the Warsaw Pact was dissolved at a meeting held at Budapest, Hungary on the wake of the disintegration of the Soviet Union and end of Cold War.

● **COMINFORM**

- Communist Information Bureau- common name
- Official name : Information Bureau of the Communist and Worker's Party formed in 1947.
- Official forum of the international communist movement since the dissolution of Comintern.
- Soviet union dominated COMINFORM- formed in poland attended by the representative of the communist parties of USSR, Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia, France and Italy.
- Yugoslavian President Tito – advocate of the Cominform – formed at Belgrade – capital of Yugoslavia.
- Tension between Stalin and Tito – expulsion of Yugoslavia.
- Headquarters shifted to Bucharest, Romania, in 1948.
- It had its own news paper. For Lasting Peace , For People's Democracy.
- Dissolved in 1956 after reproachment with Yugoslavia and due to the process of De - Stalinization .