CHAPTER 25
Growing global interdependence offers both opportunities and challenges for the people of the world.

Global Interdependence

Why do nations depend upon one another?

Would you like a banana for lunch tomorrow? If you live in the small part of the nation that is warm enough to grow bananas, you might pick one off a banana plant. More likely, though, you have to go to a store to buy a banana grown in another country. Importing bananas is one example of global interdependence. Global interdependence means that people and nations rely on one another for goods and services. If Americans want bananas, or other tropical fruit, they must trade with other nations to get them.

People around the world exchange what they have or make for things they do not have. This exchange involves both developed and developing nations. Developed nations usually buy raw materials and local products, such as bananas, from developing nations. Developing nations buy things like technology and medicine from developed countries.

Global Trade

Global trade occurs because nations have different needs, comparative advantages, and resources. These factors make trade among nations worthwhile—and perhaps even necessary.

The United States is both a large exporter and a large importer. Many countries need things from the United States. The United States sells wheat, corn, computer software, aircraft, medical equipment, and machinery to nations that cannot produce these goods on their own. Poorer nations look to the United States for food, medicine, and defense weapons. People around the world are also eager to buy American entertainment products, such as movies, music, and video games.

The United States also depends on other nations for certain resources and products. For example, Americans use oil and natural gas to heat homes, to run factories, and to power cars. The United States uses almost 20 million barrels of oil per day. About 40 percent of that oil is imported. Canada, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Mexico supply most of that oil.

Not all trade is based on need though. Comparative advantage also contributes to global trade. Low manufacturing costs in China, for instance, make the cost of Chinese goods attractive to other nations. As a result, China sells the electronics, textiles, plastics, furniture, and toys it makes around the world.

Finally, differing sets of natural resources play a role in global trade. The United States needs industrial diamonds to make certain goods. Since our nation does not have that resource, we must import them from South Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Botswana.

Global Economic Cooperation

Sometimes nations cooperate on trade issues. The 28 nations that belong to the European Union have few meaningful trade barriers with one another. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was written to end trade barriers among the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Other free trade agreements exist among nations in other parts of the world as well.

Of course, these agreements do not solve all trade-related problems. They do support global interdependence, however.

Summarizing What is global interdependence?

Global Issues

What are some consequences of global interdependence?

Global interdependence has made people aware of issues that affect the world as a whole. Therefore, nations must cooperate, or work together, to find solutions to the challenges brought by increasing global contacts. However, a variety of political and cultural forces are also at work around the globe. Those forces do not always encourage nations to work together.

Costs of Competition and Trade

Global interdependence has increased trade and led to prosperity in many parts of the world. More and freer trade usually results in lower prices and more choices for consumers. However, trade can cause problems too. Companies may decide to move factories to other countries with lower labor costs. The cost of doing business or decreasing sales could cause some companies to close. In both cases, people lose their jobs. Many workers may not be able to find new jobs that pay as well as their former ones. They might have a difficult time learning new job skills. They might even have to sell their homes and move to other parts of the country to get jobs.

Nations sometimes act to protect their industries from imports produced in countries that have cheaper labor. Countries may put up barriers to trade. These barriers have a cost, though. Tariffs may help home industries, but they hurt consumers by raising prices.
Another problem with trade barriers is that one set of barriers can lead to additional ones. In response to tariffs placed on the goods it produces, for example, a nation may put up its own trade barriers. A trade war could develop. In a trade war, one or more nations put up trade barriers to punish another nation for its trade barriers against them. The result is higher prices for everyone and fewer choices for consumers.

Rich and Poor Nations

A major challenge in the world today is the growing economic inequality among nations. Unequal levels of economic growth have led to a large gap between rich and poor nations. This gap is getting wider as well. Developing nations are making some economic progress, but many of them are not growing fast enough to catch up to the developed nations.

Nations that have grown wealthy because their economies are doing well are called developed nations. They generally have a high per capita GDP. They usually have political systems that are stable, or not subject to major changes. The United States, Germany, and Australia are examples of developed countries.

Other nations, called developing countries, have low per capita GDPs and low rates of growth. Several factors contribute to these problems. Some of these countries lack natural resources or have unskilled workers. Some struggle with political unrest. Some have poor schools. Many face serious health problems, such as a lack of clean water or high rates of infectious diseases.

One example of a developing nation is Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. Haiti exports clothing, but these exports are not enough to sustain a strong, growing economy. Most of Haiti’s people are poor and unskilled. Its political system has been unstable. Some elected leaders have been illegally removed from office by military leaders. Few outside businesses want to invest in Haiti because of its history of political unrest. A devastating earthquake in 2010 caused more problems. As a result, Haiti depends on aid from other nations.

Global Politics

As the global economy has spread, many political changes have taken place. East Asian countries now play a growing role in world affairs, and the nations of Europe are moving toward unity. The United States is concerned about its role in the world and the importance of working with other nations.

Nations have different forms of government and views of what is good for the world. These differences can lead to disagreements. For example, Venezuela criticizes the U.S. market economy and the influence American businesses have around the world. At the same time, the United States condemns the economic policies of Venezuela. Yet, Venezuela needs money and the United States needs Venezuela’s oil. In spite of their differences, then, the two nations trade with each other. Economic interdependence can sometimes, but does not always, force nations to cooperate.

Environmental Issues

In recent years, people have become aware of dangers to the world’s environment. Modern life offers many comforts, but they can come at a cost to the environment. Chemicals released by factories and cars pollute the air and water. Burning coal for energy also puts harmful chemicals into the air. These chemicals harm trees and fish when carried to the earth by rain. Most experts believe that burning coal and oil is causing dangerous changes in Earth’s climate. Deforestation, the mass removal of trees, causes flooding, leads to mudslides, and lessens the amount of carbon dioxide that trees absorb.

Solving these problems is not easy. Protecting forests may deprive poor farmers of land they need to grow crops. Cleaner sources of energy cost more. The process of switching to these other sources can be costly, as well. Many poor nations fear that taking steps to curb pollution will slow their economic growth—growth they need in order to better the lives of their people.

Some people have turned to conservation to reduce environmental damage. Conservation means carefully using resources and limiting the harmful effects of human activity. For example, if people use less gasoline, then they cause less air pollution. If people recycle paper, then fewer forests need to be cleared.

Points of view about conservation differ. Some people think that conserving natural resources is less important than economic growth. They argue that limiting the ways that businesses operate drives up costs. Others claim that not conserving resources today will lead to greater future costs. They suggest that addressing the harmful effects of air, ground, and water pollution tomorrow will cost more.

Other Global Challenges

An interdependent world also faces other challenges. One serious problem is immigration. Immigrants move to a new country in search of better jobs and living conditions. Sometimes people already living in a country are unhappy about these newly arrived people who increase demands on land, services, and jobs. Differences among religious and ethnic groups can intensify these bad feelings. Ethnic Groups are those with a common national, cultural, or racial background.

Many countries suffer from war or conflict. There is also a growing threat of international terrorism. Terrorism is the use of violence or the threat of violence to make people afraid and to force people—or governments—to behave in a certain way.

In addition, millions of refugees have been driven from their homes by famine, conflicts, or natural disasters. They now live in temporary camps. These people require a great deal of help. Many more people throughout the world suffer from lack of food, clean water, and basic health care. Meeting all of these challenges requires cooperation among nations.

Explaining Why do nations sometimes disagree?
21st Century SKILLS

Compare and Contrast

Develop and complete a two column chart about conservation. Label the first column "Advantages" and the second column "Disadvantages".
List the information from your reading in the appropriate column.

Florida CONNECTION

Refugees in Florida

The Department of Children and Families’ Refugee Services Program is a federal program that funds services for refugees. Through this program, refugees are resettled throughout the United States. Some 25,000 refugees are resettled in Florida each year. The majority come from Cuba, but others come from a wide variety of countries, such as Haiti, Afghanistan, Ukraine, and Burma. Florida’s refugee program is the largest of its kind in the United States.

LESSON 1 REVIEW

Review Vocabulary

1. Explain what effect trade barriers have on global interdependence.

LAFS.68.RH.2.4

2. Use the terms terrorism, ethnic groups, and refugees to explain global issues today.

LAFS.68.RH.2.4

Answer the Guiding Questions

3. Analyzing How do Americans benefit from a foreign policy that promotes trade?

SS.7.C.4.1

4. Analyzing Why does the United States trade with Venezuela, even though they have disagreements?

SS.7.C.4.3

5. ARGUMENT Governments, businesses, and people have different ideas on conservation. Think about the views of each of these groups. Write a letter to the editor in which you take a position on the issue. Explain what conservation efforts you think are important or are unnecessary, and why. Explain why you recommend those steps.

SS.7.C.2.13
*International organizations help nations communicate and work together to solve global problems.*

The Purpose of International Organizations

*What is the purpose of international organizations?*

Nations often face difficult problems. Sometimes a crisis affects only one country. For example, in 2010 a severe earthquake struck Haiti. The destruction caused by the quake was too great for the country to handle by itself, so other nations sent food, water, medical supplies, and people to help.

Other concerns affect many nations. Such issues include climate change, pollution, and trade. Nations often hold talks with one another to discuss these matters. **Diplomats**, or officials who represent their country’s government, meet and try to work out ways to address common concerns.

Governmental Organizations

Countries also form organizations to address international issues. These are called governmental organizations. **Diplomats** from member nations meet regularly, discuss problems, and try to find solutions. Sometimes they agree on a course of action. Sometimes they do not.

The government of each member nation must agree to follow the rules of the organization and to support its decisions. For example, a certain number of the member nations must approve the admission of a nation that wishes to become a member of the organization. Each member must also provide part of the money that is needed to run the group.

Some governmental organizations are formed for a single purpose. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was first created for the defense of its member nations. The goal of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is to address issues of trade and finance among nations.

The objectives of other governmental organizations are broad. The largest governmental organization is the United Nations (UN). It has many goals, including promoting peace, fighting disease, building schools, and improving health care. The UN also provides its member countries with a place where they can present their own point of view. Members do not always agree on what actions to take, however.

Governmental organizations can create major changes in the world. For example, the European Union (EU) set up a common unit of money for most of its members. The euro is now a standard currency, which makes it easier for nations to trade. At times, group efforts are less effective. Terrorism persists, although all international organizations condemn and work to prevent it.

Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs)

There are also international organizations that are not linked to any government. Rather, they are formed by private citizens to meet a need or to work for a cause. Such groups are called **nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)**. NGOs often work with governmental organizations to provide relief in the event of a natural disaster, such as the earthquake in Haiti. These organizations usually depend on volunteers and private donations.

NGOs can do some things that governmental organizations cannot do. For example, some countries may accept aid for their people from NGOs that they would not accept from an organization connected with governments. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is one such NGO. The Red Cross serves people in need on both sides in a war.

**Explaining** What is one success and one failure of governmental organizations in recent times?

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**Why It MATTERS**

**Organizations in Your Life**

The organizations that are formed among nations for the common purpose of helping others in need, or of providing protection, have a list of rules to govern their actions. What organized clubs or organizations do you belong to or are you familiar with? Find out if they have any rules that ensure that they will run smoothly.

**International Organizations**

*How do international organizations help people?*

Many international organizations work to improve the lives of people around the world. Some are particularly important.

The United Nations
The United Nations (UN) was founded in 1945, just after World War II. Its main goal is to keep peace among nations. The UN also seeks to support social progress, fight poverty, and protect human rights.

The General Assembly is the main forum for the UN’s 193 member nations. Every member has a voice there. A smaller body called the Security Council deals with immediate threats to world peace. The Security Council has five permanent members. They are the United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France, and China. Ten other members are elected to two-year terms by the General Assembly. Any one of the five permanent members can veto a decision made by or block any action of the Security Council.

The UN has a number of units that handle other issues. The UN’s International Court of Justice, also called the World Court, settles legal disputes between nations. The UN also tries to help developing countries make their economies more productive. The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) works to improve the lives of children around the world. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) promotes science, education, and culture.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a group of 28 nations in North America and Europe. Its main goals are to keep peace and defend all members in times of war. Sometimes, NATO member countries send armed forces to an area where there is a crisis. For instance, NATO sent forces to Afghanistan in 2001 and to Iraq in 2003. NATO also works with nonmember nations to help prevent conflict.

World Trade Organization

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has some 160 member nations from around the world. The WTO’s goal is to promote free trade. To do so, it encourages member nations to remove any trade barriers. The WTO also tries to resolve disputes between countries if they arise.

The WTO is not without critics. Some developing nations say that the WTO favors developed nations and the large businesses based in them. Some people charge that its focus on trade and profit ignores concerns about the environment.

World Health Organization

The World Health Organization (WHO) is part of the United Nations. It works in a variety of ways to improve health for all people. It directs the UN’s efforts to fight and prevent disease in nations around the world. The WHO has formed standards for countries to meet to promote their people’s health. It helps countries meet these standards. The WHO also conducts research on public health issues.

Among the WHO’s successes are the ending of smallpox and teaching people about the HIV virus. The WHO has also helped achieve a 99 percent decrease in cases of polio around the world. In Africa, the WHO has helped reduce a disease called river blindness. River blindness is caused by the bite of a particular insect. Lessening the threat of this disease has allowed land that was not used because of the risk of infection to be farmed again.

Peace Corps

The Peace Corps is a volunteer group run by the U.S. government. The Peace Corps began in the 1960s when President John F. Kennedy challenged students to make a difference for peace in the world. The original goal of the Peace Corps was to help Americans and the people of other nations understand each other. Today, the Peace Corps has about 7,200 volunteers working in 65 countries. These volunteers work on several kinds of projects. Some work on public health issues, such as providing people with clean water. Some teach people ways to use modern technology and help them with local business development.

International Committee of the Red Cross

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an NGO. Based in Switzerland, the ICRC unites the efforts of aid societies in countries around the world. Those aid groups are called the Red Cross or the Red Crescent. The ICRC gives aid to people who are victims of war or natural disasters. During a war, the group tries to protect civilians and to make sure that prisoners of war are well treated. Prisoners of war are soldiers captured by enemy forces during a conflict. The ICRC tries to find missing persons. It also brings food, clothing, and medicines to people in need in war-torn areas.

The ICRC maintains a neutral position. That is, it does not take sides in a war. Most nations respect the efforts of the ICRC and allow it to do its work.

Other NGOs

Many NGOs are active around the world. Those that focus on public health, feeding the hungry, fighting disease, or promoting economic development typically work in developing nations. Those that focus on environmental problems may be active anywhere in the world. Some try to protect human rights. They tend to focus on nations with harsh governments.

**Summarizing** What are some main goals of international organizations?

**LESSON 2 REVIEW**

**Review Vocabulary**
1. Write a sentence about international organizations that includes the term diplomat.

LAFS.68.RH.2.4

2. Write a sentence that explains the difference between a nongovernmental organization and a governmental organization.

LAFS.68.RH.2.4

Answer the Guiding Questions

3. Explaining Why do nations and individuals form international organizations?

SS.7.C.4.2

4. Analyzing What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of governmental organizations?

SS.7.C.4.2

5. INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY Write an essay about the international efforts in which units of the United Nations are involved today.

SS.7.C.4.2
Recognizing potential causes of conflict helps us to understand and address challenges facing the world.

Human Rights

What are human rights?

Governments differ around the world. Cultures—the ideas, customs, art, behaviors, and beliefs of a people or group of people—differ too. Yet people around the world also have many common characteristics. These shared characteristics are universal. That is, they apply to all people. We all want to be safe and feel secure. We all want enough food to eat and a decent place to live. We all want to raise our children in a way that seems right to us.

These shared desires form the basis for the concept of human rights. A human right is a basic freedom that all people should have simply because they are human. Human rights include the right to adequate food, safety, and shelter. They also include the right to be protected under the law and to exercise freedom of thought. These ideas have inspired people the world over. They have often shaped important political events, such as the American Revolution. They continue to have an impact in the world today.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Soon after the United Nations was formed, its members agreed on a list of people’s basic rights. In December 1948, the UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The declaration was made up of 30 separate articles, or statements, that define specific human rights that all people should have.

Article 1 states, “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.” They have “reason and conscience.” Conscience means an awareness of the right or wrong nature of one’s actions. Article 2 says that all people should have human rights “without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.” These two articles form the foundation for the rest of the rights in the declaration.

The remaining articles detail other rights and protections. For instance, they say that people should be free from slavery and not be tortured. People should be free from arrest without cause and should have equal protection under the law. They should be free to marry whom they choose. They should have the right to own property, to move freely, and to take part in government as they choose.

Articles 22 through 27 focus on economic and social rights. These include equal pay for equal work and the right to a decent standard of living. Part of that standard of living includes medical care and security for children and the elderly.

Of course, there have been times when different nations have not given all their people all these rights. There have also been many times when nations have not upheld the standards in this declaration. Protecting human rights around the world is an ongoing effort.

Violations of Human Rights

Unfortunately, some governments do not protect the rights of their own people. Some rulers use repression to stay in power. Repression means to prevent people from expressing themselves or from freely engaging in normal life. Some governments do not allow their people freedom of speech or the press. Many nations, such as China, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, limit their people’s ability to get information. North Korea does not allow its people to leave the country or to criticize its leader.

Sometimes, tension among ethnic groups turns into violence. That violence can turn into genocide, the attempt to kill all members of a particular ethnic group. During the 1990s, for example, ethnic fighting broke out in Rwanda and Burundi, in Africa. More than a million people were killed. Since 2003, conflict has rocked the Darfur region of Sudan, in Africa. Ethnic Arabs from the northern part of the country have attacked ethnic Africans from the southern part of the country.

Protecting Human Rights

The U.S. government tries to promote human rights. It protests governments that take away people’s freedoms. Sometimes it refuses to trade with such countries.

The UN Human Rights Council observes and reports on human rights. It hopes to pressure governments to respect people’s rights. When governments are accused of violating the human rights of their citizens, the Security Council can refer cases to the International Criminal Court for trial.

Many nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) also work for human rights. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch are two examples. Both publish reports identifying countries that violate rights. They, too, try to pressure countries into changing the way they act.

Defining What are human rights?

21st Century SKILLS

Democracy, Liberty, and Conflict

Why does conflict among nations occur?

Democratic nations, on the whole, do a better job of respecting human rights than nations that are not democratic. As more nations have become democratic, more people around the world have become free.

The Growth of Democracy

As the twentieth century began, only a few of the world's peoples lived in countries where they had the right to choose their own leaders. Today, the situation is much different. About 60 percent of the world's nations are democracies.

The spread of democracy and freedom has long been a major goal of the United States. President Woodrow Wilson hoped that World War I would "make the world safe for democracy." During World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said:

"Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights or keep them."

During that war, the United States joined with Great Britain and the Soviet Union as allies to defeat Germany, Japan, and Italy. After the war, these allies split into two camps. The two sides had very different political and economic systems. The United States and most of Western Europe had democratic governments and market-based economies. The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe practiced communism. There, one-party governments owned all resources and directed all economic activities. People in these countries had few freedoms, unlike the people in the United States and Western Europe.

The Cold War

The conflict between these two sides was called the Cold War. It lasted from the late 1940s to 1991. The chief nations—the United States and the Soviet Union—never fought each other. The United States and its allies tried to stop the Soviet Union from expanding its control. In doing so, the United States sometimes supported rulers who abused the rights of their people. This was the case in Chile and Iran, for instance. American actions that favored rulers in those countries were criticized by some people.

In the late 1980s, unrest spread in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The people revolted against their communist governments. New leaders pushed these countries toward democracy and market economies. In 1991 the Soviet Union broke apart into 15 separate nations, one of which was Russia. The Cold War was over.

Free and Not Free

The end of the Cold War brought a rush of new democracies into the world. Since then, the move toward democratic governments has slowed. In large parts of South America and Africa, many people are only partly free. They live under governments that restrict human rights. Communist governments in North Korea, China, and Cuba continue to deny their peoples basic human rights such as freedom of speech and freedom of the press. These nations are considered not free.

At the same time, new threats to peace and freedom have emerged. Some extreme people and groups have decided to use terrorist attacks to try to influence countries. Groups such as al-Qaeda and the Taliban have killed thousands of people around the world in order to impose their beliefs on others.

Concluding Did the policies of the United States during the Cold War advance or hold back human rights?

Recent Conflicts

Why has the United States engaged in conflict in recent years?


Homeland Security
One response by the government was to create the Department of Homeland Security in 2001. It has three main goals: to prevent terrorist attacks in the United States, to reduce the threat of such attacks, and to help in the recovery from attacks or natural disasters. The department was given many powers. For instance, security workers now check all people and inspect all luggage moving through airports. It is also taking action to increase the security of information stored on computers.

Patriot Act

Another response to the September 11 attacks was the Patriot Act of 2001. The law increased the government’s power to seek information that could be related to terrorism. It allowed the government to search telephone and financial records. The act allowed federal agents to secretly search the homes of those suspected of terrorism. They did not have to obtain a search warrant from a court before making these searches.

Many people felt that this law went too far. They believed that rights people had under the U.S. Constitution were no longer protected. Congress made some changes to the law as a result. Some Americans still object to it, though.

Afghanistan

The U.S. government also responded to the September 11 attacks with military force. Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq followed.

Afghanistan was ruled by the Taliban, a political group that did little to recognize the rights of the country’s people. The Taliban also helped al Qaeda, the group behind the attacks on September 11. They allowed al-Qaeda to train terrorists in Afghanistan. President George W. Bush demanded that the Taliban hand over the leader of al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden, so that he could be punished for the September 11 attacks. The Taliban leaders refused, however.

When that happened, the United States responded. In October 2001, U.S. planes and troops attacked Afghanistan. The Taliban were quickly ousted, but bin Laden avoided capture.

Fighting continued for many years. Attempts to form an effective new government in Afghanistan met with little success. Taliban and other fighters returned to attack again and again. More troops were sent, but clear progress was difficult. President Barack Obama sent more American forces to Afghanistan to try to end the conflict there. The government also put pressure on Afghan government to solve its own problems. In May 2011, U.S. forces located bin Laden hiding out in Pakistan. They raided his compound and he was killed in the fighting.

Iraq

While fighting continued in Afghanistan, the United States also moved against Iraq. After September 11, President Bush feared terrorist groups might acquire nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. A weapon of mass destruction (WMD) is a weapon that can kill or harm large numbers of people as well as destroy or damage a large physical area. Leaders feared Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein might provide such weapons to terrorist groups. President Bush and other world leaders felt that Iraq presented a threat to the world community.

In early 2003, the United States and other countries attacked Iraq. Iraq’s army was quickly defeated, and Saddam Hussein was overthrown. Later, he was captured, tried by a new government, and executed for crimes against his people.

Although the United States succeeded in these efforts, it still faced problems. No WMDs were found. Thus, the government was criticized for the invasion. It also proved more difficult than expected for the United States to build democracy in Iraq. In addition, rebel groups battled U.S. forces with roadside bombs and surprise attacks. Fighting among Iraq’s different ethnic and religious groups made the situation worse.

In 2008 though, the addition of more U.S. troops helped reduce the level of violence. As a result, President Barack Obama later withdrew all American combat troops. Some U.S. troops remained in Iraq to train the country’s new army and police.

Foreign Policy Challenges Continue

The United States continued to face a number of global challenges. While relations with Iran improved, concerns about that country’s development of nuclear weapons remained. Terrorist groups based in Pakistan still posed a threat. Despite efforts to help Israel reach a peace agreement with the Palestinians, their conflict was not settled. In 2014, the United States once again carried out military operations in Iraq to battle a militant group called the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). That group hoped to create an Islamic state in the region and captured a number of Iraqi cities. Other nations around the world were torn by internal conflict. The U.S. government takes an active role in ending such conflicts while promoting democracy and human rights.

**Explaining** What have been the biggest foreign policy challenges for the United States since 2000?

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**Florida CONNECTION**

MacDill Air Force Base

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are overseen by U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), based at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida. Its area of operations covers most of the Middle East and Central Asia. In addition to military operations, CENTCOM has conducted disaster relief operations to help areas struck by natural disasters or famine. For example, in 2010 it provided emergency food and medical supplies to people devastated by floods in Pakistan.

LESSON 3 REVIEW

Review Vocabulary
1. Write two or three sentences defining human rights. Include the term universal.

LAFS.68.RH.2.4

2. Write two or three sentences explaining the relationship between communism and repression.

LAFS.68.RH.2.4

Answer the Guiding Questions
3. Identifying What are some examples of human rights?

SS.7.C.4.1

4. Identifying What was the Cold War?

SS.7.C.4.3

5. Analyzing Why do some countries allow little freedom?

SS.7.C.4.1

6. ARGUMENT Write a paragraph that expresses your opinion about the Patriot Act. Do you think it was right to give the government more power to prevent terrorist attacks? Be sure to explain your reasoning.

SS.7.C.2.13