



The U.S. and the World:
 SS.7.CG.4.2
International Organizations
READING #2

Name: _____

Date: _____



SS.7.CG.4.2 Benchmark Clarification 2: Students will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of U.S. membership in international organizations.

International organizations are usually established to encourage the cooperation of nations. This ensures the preservation of peace and commerce (trade). Some international organizations protect human rights (the rights that people have simply because they exist). Others focus on economic and trade issues. While these organizations have members from countries around the world, the United States is a leading member of many of them.

Advantages of U.S. Membership in International Organizations	Disadvantages of U.S. Membership in International Organizations
1. Global cooperation to tackle global issues (i.e., environment) that can result in improvements of the U.S. economy and the protection of American security.	1. Implementation of rules/regulations that can reduce the power of the President to act/respond on the international stage.
2. Allows the U.S. to have increased influence on international policy and protect American interests abroad.	2. Potential loss of American sovereignty.
3. Strengthens alliances and relationships between countries.	3. May involve the U.S. in conflicts that don't affect its interest (Vietnam War).
4. Helps spread democracy around the world	4. Costs the U.S. and American citizens billions of dollars to support.

Vietnam War - a military conflict (1954-1975) between the Communist forces of North Vietnam (supported by China and the Soviet Union) and the non-Communist forces of South Vietnam (supported by the U.S.)