

Ukraine

April 1, 2014

Name: _____

annex

transitive verb

to add (territory) to an existing nation or city.

The United States annexed Texas in 1845.

synonyms: acquire, obtain

related words: add, attach

derived forms: annexable (adj.), annexation (n.)

Baltic States

plural noun

the independent countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, formerly parts of the Soviet Union.

civil war

noun

1. a war within a nation between opposing political factions or regions.
2. (capitalized)The U.S. war (1861-1866) between the Northern states (Union) and the Southern states (Confederacy), which had seceded from the Union because of conflict over states' rights and the practice of slavery.

European Union

noun

an economic and political union of twenty-seven democratic countries formed from the European Economic Community in 1993. The union currently consists of the member states Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

KGB

abbreviation

abbreviation of "Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopastnosti" (Russian); Committee of State Security; formerly, the security and intelligence organization of the Soviet Union. Similar to the CIA, Central Intelligence Agency in the United States.

NATO

noun & abbreviation

abbreviation of "North Atlantic Treaty Organization." An association of European and North American countries, formed in 1949 for the defense of Europe and the North Atlantic against the perceived threat of Soviet aggression. By 2005, the alliance consisted of 26 countries, including several eastern European nations. NATO's purpose is to safeguard member countries by political and military means.

referendum

noun

a question or piece of legislation put to a vote by the general public, or the vote thus taken.

In a state referendum, the voters opposed lowering the drinking age to 18.

The matter was decided by referendum.

related words: ballot

sanction

noun

an action taken by one or more nations and designed to force another nation to comply with a legal, ethical, or moral code.

The Council will impose sanctions on the small country if it continues to violate international laws.

Trade has resumed now that economic sanctions have been lifted.

related words: acceptance, advocacy, allowance, approbation, approval, ban, carte blanche, charter, concession, consent, countenance, favor, leave, liberty, mandate, permit

derived forms: sanctionable (adj.), sanctioned (adj.), sanctioner (n.)

secede

intransitive verb

to quit an organization, a political or religious unit or alliance, or the like.

The Southern states seceded from the Union.

synonyms: withdraw

related words: separate

derived forms: seceder (n.)