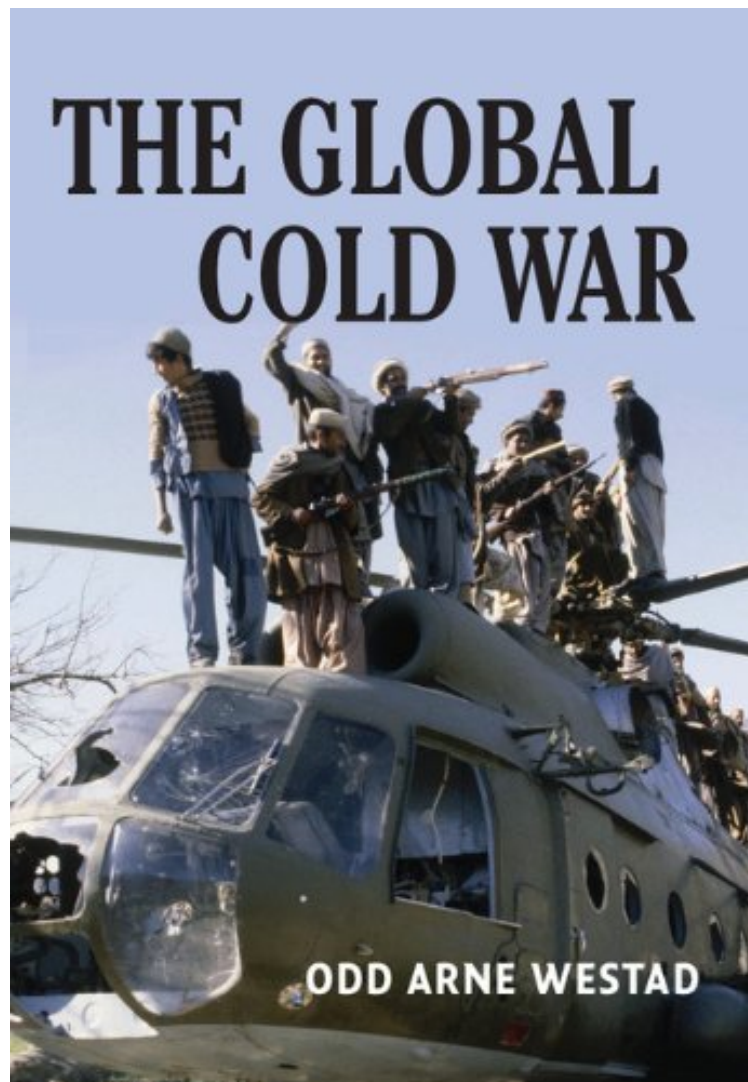


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The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times

Odd Arne Westad

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Odd Arne Westad : The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Companion Piece to Twilight Struggle By The Eclectic Reader I recently played a board game called Twilight Struggle that allows two players to play as the Soviet Union and the United States through the 50 years of the Cold War era. I was really struck how this book made a perfect companion

piece to the game. I very much enjoyed the readability of the author's style, especially in the beginning and ending chapters that started and ended the book. He described well in layman's terms the foundational ideologies of the adversaries and how their interactions impacted and also shaped the Third World. So much of our current events are still driven by what occurred between these two superpowers where both thought that they were on the right side of history. The author helped me to understand that in many ways the rivalry was caused by very human fears of the other. Which begs the question is the United States and China reacting also to their own fear of the other so that another round of Cold War chicken is happening again? 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great for Anyone Interested in How the Cold War Altered Global Politics By Carl Robinson The Global Cold War is an interesting study of the Cold War which focuses on the conflict outside of Berlin and the rest of Europe. This book really clarifies just how Cold War strategies impacted Algeria, Vietnam, Indonesia, and other places. It is written more like a college level text book rather than a popular history and it is great for anyone interested in how the Cold War altered Global Politics. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Balanced Analysis of U.S. and Soviet policy toward the Third World By Carl Schulkin Westad offers a detailed analysis of both U.S. and Soviet policy toward the Third World from the end of the Second World War through the collapse of the Soviet Union, which, in Westad's opinion, led to the phasing out of the conception of a "Third World." His detailed analysis of Soviet policy, based on extensive research in Soviet sources, clearly distinguishes Westad's account from any other with which I am familiar. Although wordy at times, Westad's analysis is both plausible and, for the most part, well substantiated. I would highly recommend it for anyone interested in the nature of the Cold War in the Third World.

The Cold War between the former Soviet Union and the United States indelibly shaped the world we live in today--especially international politics, economics, and military affairs. This volume shows how the globalization of the Cold War during the 20th century created the foundations for most of today's key international conflicts, including the "war on terror." Odd Arne Westad examines the origins and course of Third World revolutions and the ideologies that drove the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. towards interventionism. He focuses on how these interventions gave rise to resentments and resistance that, in the end, helped to topple one and to seriously challenge the other superpower. In addition, he demonstrates how these worldwide interventions determined the international and domestic framework within which political, social and cultural changes took place in such countries as China, Indonesia, Iran, Ethiopia, Angola, Cuba, and Nicaragua. According to Westad, these changes, plus the ideologies, movements and states that interventionism stirred up, constitute the real legacy of the Cold War. Odd Arne Westad is Professor of International History at the London School of Economics and Political Science. In 2004 he was named head of department and co-director of the new LSE Cold War Studies Centre. Professor Westad is the author, or editor, of ten books on contemporary international history including *Decisive Encounters: The Chinese Civil War, 1946-1950* (2003) and, with Jussi Hanhimaki, *The Cold War: A History in Documents and Eyewitness Accounts* (2003). In addition, he is a founding editor of the journal *Cold War History*.

"Based on prodigious research, this ambitious and wide-ranging book presents the most important account to date of the Cold War in the Third World. Westad's study represents broad-based, international history at its best. He deftly weaves together the tale of world politics writ large with stories about variegated processes of revolution and social change across the Third World. This should prove an indispensable work for anyone interested in the history of the twentieth-century." -Robert J. McMahon, University of Florida "The Global Cold War is a powerful account of the way in which the third world moved to the center of international politics in the closing decades of the 20th century. Drawing on a stunning multiplicity of archival material, Odd Arne Westad integrates perspectives and disciplines which have, until now, remained separate: U.S. and Soviet ideologies, their politics and the interventions that flowed from both; insurrection, rebellion, revolution and the power of competing models of development, systems of support or subversion (sometimes synonymous) that in part determined their outcome. Westad writes with the combination of clarity, wit and passion that have always characterized his work. This time the canvas is large enough to do full justice to his scholarship and his humanity." -Marilyn B. Young, New York University "Odd Arne Westad's new book is an extremely important contribution to the historiography of the Cold War. With broad erudition, amazing geographical range, and inventive research in archives around the globe, Westad tells the tragic story of the United States and Soviet Union's involvement in what became called the 'Third World.' The newly emerging nations of the 'South' - of Africa, Asia, and Latin America - barely emerged from their humiliating subservience to European colonialism before being dragged by Cold War rivalries into ideologically-inspired upheavals that ended up bankrupting their countries and devastating their peoples. Westad's study enables his readers to integrate the Third World into the history of the Cold War and confronts them with the meaning of intervention in the past for the international system today." -Norman M. Naimark, Stanford University "In a reinterpretation of the Cold War that is as thorough as it is important, Westad places Soviet and American interventions in the Third World at the center of their struggle. Driven by ideology and the need to affirm the rightness of their principles, both superpowers felt compelled to contest with the other in areas of little intrinsic importance. The results were almost uniformly failures, and in the process brought much sorrow and

destruction to the Third World. The picture is not a pretty one, but Westad shows that studying it reveals much about the Cold War, and about the current world scene." -Robert Jervis, Columbia University"Westad's account is sharply observed and deeply researched...this book is superb: few scholars could match Westad's mastery of the sources." - Foreign Affairs, May/June 2006"The Global Cold War is remarkable for its geographical and historical breath" - Robert A. Goldberg, University of Utah, Journal of Interdisciplinary History"This study is a comprehensive, well-documented, and well-written history of the Cold War in the Third World. Westad has done a superb job of explaining how the world of today, both at home and abroad, is largely a product of the Cold War era. His book belongs on the shelf of every serious student of recent world history." -Ronald Powaski, The Historian"This particularly impressive and clearly written account of the Cold War is especially valuable because of its global perspective, and its focus on the worldwide impact of superpower confrontation...an impressive work that deserves attention." -Jeremy Black, University of Exeter, The Journal of Military History

About the Author
Odd Arne Westad is Director of the Cold War Studies Centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His recent publications include *Decisive Encounters: The Chinese Civil War, 1946-1950* (2003) and *The Cold War: A History in Documents and Eyewitness Accounts* (2003).