

# Imperialism

Imperialism is a policy in which one country seeks to extend its authority by conquering other countries or by establishing economic and political dominance over other countries. The first chart below discusses the four forms of imperialist authority. The second chart shows the two management methods that can be used to control an area.

## Forms of Imperialism

Form	Definition	Example
Colony	A country or a territory governed internally by a foreign power	Somaliland in East Africa was a French colony.
Protectorate	A country or a territory with its own internal government but under the control of an outside power	Britain established a protectorate over the Niger River delta.
Sphere of Influence	An area in which an outside power claims exclusive investment or trading privileges	Liberia was under the sphere of influence of the United States.
Economic Imperialism	An independent but less-developed country controlled by private business interests rather than other governments	The Dole Fruit company controlled pineapple trade in Hawaii.

## Imperial Management Methods

Indirect Control	Direct Control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government officials used</li> <li>Limited self-rule</li> <li>Goal: to develop future leaders</li> <li>Government institutions are based on European styles but may have local rules.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foreign officials brought in to rule</li> <li>No self-rule</li> <li>Goal: assimilation</li> <li>Government institutions are based only on European styles.</li> </ul>
<b>Examples:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>British colonies such as Nigeria, India, Burma</li> <li>U.S. colonies on Pacific Islands</li> </ul>	<b>Examples:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French colonies such as Somaliland, Vietnam</li> <li>German colonies such as German East Africa</li> <li>Portuguese colonies such as Angola</li> </ul>

### INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY

**RESEARCH LINKS** For more on imperialism, go to [classzone.com](http://classzone.com)

## > DATA FILE

### In 1905, the British Empire

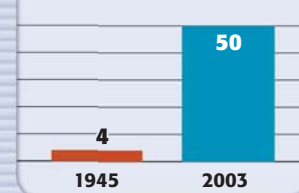
- was the largest and most powerful in the world's history.
- covered about 11 million square miles.
- had about 400 million inhabitants.

Today, the United Kingdom has 13 small dependent territories and is the head of a voluntary association of 54 independent states.

### African Colonization and Independence

- In 1884, Western leaders met to divide Africa into colonial holdings.
- By 1914, nearly all of Africa had been distributed among European powers.
- European imperial powers set national borders in Africa without regard for local ethnic or political divisions. This continues to be a problem for African nations today.

**Independent African Countries**



## Connect to Today

### 1. Forming and Supporting Opinions

Which form of managing imperial interests do you think would be most effective and why?

See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R20.

- 2. Recognizing Effects** Use the Internet or library resources to research the problems many African nations are facing today as a result of imperialism. Report your findings to the class.