

# Summary: Working Together

## Nations Work Together

The United States works with other countries for common goals. After World War II, the United States helped create the United Nations, or UN, to build peace and friendship around the world.

More than 190 countries belong to the UN. Members work together to solve problems. Members wrote the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to protect everyone's basic rights. The World Bank, part of the UN, helps countries build their economies. The World Health Organization works to improve health worldwide. The United States and many other countries have agreed to some basic rules. They are called international law. For example, many countries have agreed on what can and cannot be done in war. Treaties are another example of international law. The UN helps organize trials if crimes were committed in a war.

## People Work Together

Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), such as the International Red Cross or Doctors Without Borders, cross borders between countries to help people. There are thousands of NGOs in the world. They are not part of any country's government. Many work with the UN. They help the poor and sick, give medical care, teach about farming or business, support democracy, and protect human rights. NGOs help when disasters like earthquakes or wars happen.

It is easier for people around the world to communicate now using wireless phones and the Internet. The Internet lets people share information all over the world. People use email and websites to learn new information. Some countries try to control the information their citizens get. New technologies can connect people. This might help bring freedom and change to many.



### Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

**international law** *noun*, a set of basic rules to which the United States and many other countries have agreed

**nongovernmental organization** *noun*, a group that is not part of a national government



### After You Read

**REVIEW** When was the United Nations formed, and for what purposes?

Underline the sentence that tells when and why the United Nations was formed.

**REVIEW** What are some goals of NGOs? Underline words that tell what NGOs do.