aggressive move, it was the beginning of the end of Détente. The US banned grain and technology exports to signify this.

In 1982 Brezhnev died and Andropov took over, he attempted to improve the economy by raising management effectiveness without affecting any ideological principles. Andropov wanted to withdraw from the Afghanistan war but didn’t reach it. After he died in 1984 Chernenko took over. Chernenko did little to prevent the escalation of the Cold War with the US and ignored calls to renew Détente. Gorbachev then became leader of the USSR once Chernenko died. He was the first leader to have not fought in the war. This meant he took a different approach to foreign policy. He decided on a range of political, economic and social reforms based on the ideas of glasnost and perestroika. Glasnost means openness, Gorbachev used this to describe measure he wanted to introduce like combating corruption, freedom of speech and freedom to criticise the government. Perestroika meant restructuring, the restructuring of the economy. It became obvious to him after seeing a 40% government expenditure on the military that economic progress would be made if the Soviet Union wasn’t involved in an expensive arms race as part of the Cold War. As a result Gorbachev set out to improve relations with the United States and the West and turned his back on security motivating foreign policy, he hoped this would encourage foreign trade and travel.

In 1989 communism fell in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Albania and Bulgaria. In this year the Berlin Wall was also taken down. In 1991 communism then fell in the Soviet Union.

Throughout the twentieth century Soviet Foreign Policy can be seen as being motivated by three things, security, economy and ideology. Throughout the 1920s Lenin was focused on security, and there was some focus on ideology when it came to Trotsky. The 1930s was focused on mainly security with the rising threat of Nazi Germany. In the 1940s foreign policy began to focus on economy after the losses they faced in the Second World War. The 1950s saw a focus on both security and economy as they had the Warsaw Pact and tried to keep the countries within it. The 1960s was much the same and the 1970s saw the beginning of Détente which meant security took a back seat as the economy took priority. The 1980s saw a change in the way Russia operated foreign policy, it was focused on economy and it was the beginning of the end of communism.