

# Glossary

## A

**absolutism:** a system where the absolute monarch is given the power to rule the land and the people by the *divine right of kings*. In his actions, the monarch is answerable only to God.

**Acadian:** Francophone descendant of the early French settlers of the Maritime provinces or southeastern Québec

**African Union (AU):** a supranational organization consisting (as of 2008) of 53 African nations. The AU works toward improving and securing democracy, human rights, and a stable economy in Africa, in particular through resolving African conflicts and creating a common market among African countries.

**appeasement:** the policy of avoiding further arguments or war by accepting the conditions or demands of an aggressor

## B

**bias:** a particular assumption that is evident

**bilateralism:** an agreement whereby two nations or nation-states co-operate to pursue each nation's interests

**bourgeoisie:** the middle class

## C

**Canadianism:** Canadian character or spirit

**circumpolar:** around or near one of the earth's poles

**civic identity:** a sense of individual responsibility to the community or collective; it emphasizes the idea that every citizen should do his or her part in making the community a better place to live, a sentiment that also extends toward responsibility for the nation

**civil society:** a society based on voluntary civic and social organizations and institutions, as opposed to commercial institutions or state structures that are enforced in some way

**collective consciousness:** may be shared by a group or nation when its members collectively share similar values, beliefs, and internalized feelings based on their shared experiences. A collective consciousness can develop when the people of a nation focus on their identity as a group rather than on their identities as individuals.

**continentalism:** the belief that Canada should seek closer ties with the United States, for example, in the form of closer trade links, energy sharing, or common water-use policies

**coup d'état:** a sudden, forcible seizure of power

**Crown:** the federal government

## E

**expansionism:** a policy advocating territorial or economic expansion

## F

**foreign policy:** a course of action that a sovereign nation takes in its conduct with other nation-states or international organizations

## G

**genocide:** an act committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group

**Greenpeace:** a global campaigning organization that is devoted to environmental and related issues through initiatives such as promoting a reduction in greenhouse gases, protecting oceans and forests, promoting disarmament and peace, and promoting sustainable agriculture

## H

**harmonization:** the establishment of uniform standards, rules, and regulations

**hegemonic internationalism:** the theory that the world is being integrated based on unequal terms, with the dominance of one nation or nation-state over others

## I

**imperialism:** the domination by a country over another country's economic, political, or cultural institutions, without the dominating country actually seizing governmental control

**international strait:** a narrow channel of water connecting two large bodies of water and used by many nations

**internationalist:** someone who advocates a community of interests among nations

**inviolable:** incapable of being tampered with

## L

**liberal internationalism:** an approach based on the belief that, through greater interaction and co-operation, nations and nation-states can achieve common goals, especially peace and prosperity

## M

**Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) (MSF):** the world's leading independent international medical relief organization, established in 1971. Its health-care workers provide medical assistance to people around the world during many kinds of catastrophes, including armed conflicts; natural disasters, such as floods and earthquakes; disease epidemics; and famines.

**melting pot:** a term that refers to the assimilation of new immigrants into the dominant culture of their new country

**multilateralism:** an agreement whereby various nations or nation-states co-operate to pursue their interests and goals beyond their national borders, not alone, but in co-operation and coalitions with other states

**multinational:** having operations, subsidiaries, or investments in more than two countries

## N

**nationalism:** the collective, shared sense of belonging of people who identify themselves as a nation

**nationalist:** someone with patriotic feelings or principles

**nation-state:** a territory with internationally recognized boundaries and a politically organized body of people under a sovereign government

**Nazi:** a member of the National Socialist German Worker's Party, led by Adolf Hitler

## O

**Oxfam International:** an organization that works in over 100 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice; it strives to promote the awareness and motivation that come with global citizenship while seeking to shift public opinion to making equality a world priority

## P

**partitioning:** creating two independent states

**patriation:** bringing legislation under the authority of the country it applies to

**pertinent:** directly related to the matter at hand

**philosophes:** French philosophers of the 18th century—such as Voltaire, Montesquieu, and Rousseau—who advocated the supremacy of human reason and dedicated themselves to the advancement of science and secular thought

## R

**refugee:** a person who flees his or her home by escaping to another country

**responsible government:** a government that is accountable to its citizens for its actions

**revolutionary internationalism:** a belief that conflicts within societies are determined by international factors and alliances

**Rhineland:** a region on both sides of the Rhine River in western Germany, including sections of vineyards and industry

## S

**self-determination:** a principle whereby a nation is free to decide its own political allegiance or form of government

**sovereign:** recognized as having the right to govern oneself independently

**sovereignty:** a nation's right to self-government and control over its own jurisdiction that is recognized by other nations

## T

**talking circle:** a communication tool that may be used by a group; it allows participants to find out information about each other's views while sharing their thoughts in a safe but structured manner

## U

**unilateralism:** an agreement whereby one state or nation-state acts independently to pursue its interests; the opposite of multilateralism

**United Nations (UN):** an international organization of nations, founded in 1945 and currently consisting of 192 member countries, that seeks to promote international peace, security, and co-operation

## V

**voyageur:** historically, a canoeman (usually French-speaking or Métis) employed by merchants in Montréal to transport goods to and from trading posts in the interior

## W

**whiff of grapeshot:** *grapeshot* refers to a cluster of metal balls (shaped like a cluster of grapes) shot through a cannon; Napoleon is cited as responding to the coup by saying he would welcome the rebels with this "whiff"

**World Trade Organization (WTO):** a group of nation-states that work together to resolve trade issues

**World Wildlife Fund (WWF):** the world's largest multinational organization dedicated to the conservation of nature; it works to preserve the world's biological diversity, ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, and promote a reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature