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Soviet rhetoric was officially anti-Western, but it couldn’t repress ordinary Russians’ passion for the Beatles or their enthusiasm for getting news from jammed Voice of America broadcasts. Those positive feelings spilled over after the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union. But the list of perceived slights from the United States has long been building, particularly after the United States and NATO bombed Serbia, a Russian ally, in 1999. Then came the war in Iraq, NATO expansion and the Russia-Georgia conflict. Even McDonald’s, long an embodiment of Russian dreams about the West, was targeted for supposed health violations in the fall. Some of its most prominent locations were forced to shut down temporarily. The East West Report serves as a clearinghouse for information relevant to the status of Christianity and Western ministry in the former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe. Its goal is to give a balanced and objective examination of all aspects of church life and mission outreach in the former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe. The new religious monopolies of the post-Soviet Union will not inspire spiritual vitality in their population, but this is not their main goal. Church-State Symbiosis. In the post-Communist world political actors seek to establish social and institutional ties that will solidify their hold on power. Religious groups offer something attractive to new political leaders’ legitimacy. The Soviet Union’s dismantlement in December 1991, as a result of its own internal developments and without any direct outside interference, was the most significant development in global politics of the second half of the 20th century. The USSR’s demise fundamentally altered the character of the international political system and equations of power among its major players. However, the expectation of a post-Soviet system based on the hegemonic dominance of the United States has not been realized, although the United States still retains the greatest influence internationally. What has become quite clear, however, is that post-Soviet systemic developments have been detrimental to less powerful countries, albeit to varying degrees.