

### Chronology – The U.S. & Latin America before 1933

- 1763 The *Paris Treaty* puts an end to the *Seven Years' War*. France yields Canada and its territories east of the Mississippi River to England, and cedes New Orleans and Louisiana to **Spain**. In America, France retains only the islands of Martinique, Saint-Lucia, and Saint-Pierre and Miquelon.
- 1795 **Pinckney's Treaty**, also called Treaty of San Lorenzo: Thomas Pinckney, a special envoy of the United States, signs a treaty with **Spain**. It establishes borders with Spanish Florida, grants the U.S. free use of the Mississippi and the right to deposit goods in New Orleans.
- 1800 Napoleon concludes the **Treaty of San Ildefonso** with **Spain** providing for the return to France of Louisiana. The treaty is kept secret and Spain continues to administer the territory.
- 1802 Notwithstanding the guarantees of Pinckney's Treaty of 1795, the Spanish Intendant at **New Orleans** closes the Mississippi River to American commerce.
- 1803 The **Louisiana Purchase** opens new vast western lands to US expansion and opens likelihood of conflict with Russia, Spain (later Mexico) and Great Britain.
- 1806 Captain **Zebulon Pike** conducts an expedition into northern Spanish territory near the headwaters of the Rio Grande.
- 1819 The **Adams-Onís Treaty** provides for the cession of both the Floridas to the United States by Spain. The treaty also defines the boundary between the U.S. and Mexico. It is to run from the Sabine River in east Texas to the forty-second parallel, the present northern boundary of California. Spain gives up its claim to Oregon and, in return, the U.S. relinquishes all claims to Texas.
- 1823 **The Monroe Doctrine** : Following Spain's decision, backed up by the powers of the Holy Alliance (Russia, Prussia and Austria), to reconquer its American colonies, President James Monroe issues a warning to European nations not to intervene in the New World and a promise by the United States not to meddle in their internal affairs. The principles of noncolonization, nonintervention and isolation are defined by Monroe's Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams.
- 1835-36 U.S. forces land in **Peru** during a "revolution" to safeguard U.S. interests.
- 1836 The **Texans** declare their independence, establish a republic and request admission into the American Union. The Mexican president, General Santa Anna, leads an army into **Texas** to put down the revolt. They take over the **Alamo** mission at San Antonio and kill every member of the garrison. General Sam Houston defeats the Mexicans at the battle of San Jacinto. The new republic seeks annexation to the U.S. but Andrew Jackson refuses it.
- 1845 Congress votes the annexation of **Texas**. Mexico breaks its diplomatic relations with the U.S.  
The catch-phrase "**Manifest Destiny**" is coined by John O'Sullivan editor of *The Democratic Review*. The phrase reflects the assumption that Providence has intended the U.S. to control the entire North American continent.
- 1846 Beginning of the **Mexican War**.  
The Americans settlers in **California** stage the Bear Flag Revolt and proclaim their independence from Mexico.
- 1848 End of the Mexican War. The **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** is signed on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Mexico** accepts the annexation of Texas and cedes New Mexico and California to the United States in exchange for £15 million. This land acquisition amounts to a 33%-growth of the U.S. territory.
- 1852-53 U.S. Marines land in Buenos Aires, **Argentina**, to protect U.S. interests during political unrest.
- 1853 U.S. forces land in **Nicaragua** for a few days during political unrest.
- 1853 **Gadsden Purchase**: the United States acquires from **Mexico** one final strip of territory in the southwest in order to build a transcontinental railroad.
- 1855-70s U.S. forces land, in some cases repeatedly over the years, in Uruguay, Panama, Nicaragua, and Mexico.

1862	The French, led by Napoleon III, take advantage of the political chaos in <b>Mexico</b> and the ongoing Civil War in the U.S. and launch a military expedition against Mexico and establish a puppet regime led by Maximilian of Austria. Secretary of State <b>William H. Seward</b> warns the Europeans not to install a monarchy in Mexico against the will of the Mexican people and the U.S. The French empire in Mexico collapses in 1867.
1869	Treaty with <b>Colombia</b> giving the United States the right to build a canal through Panama.
1870	President Ulysses S. Grant decides to annex the <b>Dominican Republic</b> but the Senate rejects the treaty of annexation.
1885	John Fiske, the leading American popularizer of Darwinian ideas, publishes an article in <i>Harper's New Monthly Magazine</i> in which he extols the genius of the Anglo-Saxon race and reformulates the ' <b>Manifest Destiny</b> ' concept.
1889	The first <b>Pan-American Conference</b> is held in Washington, DC.
1890s-1920s:	Repeated short-term military interventions throughout <b>Central America</b> and the <b>Caribbean Basin</b> .
1895	The <b>Cuban insurrection</b> begins: the Cleveland administration issues a neutrality proclamation.
1895	First formal invocation of the Monroe Doctrine when Secretary of State Richard Olney intervenes in the boundary dispute between British Guiana and <b>Venezuela</b> . Siding with Venezuela, the U.S. government accuses the British of seeking to extend the Guiana boundary into Venezuela, violating the Monroe Doctrine.
1895	In one of its first acts of "gunboat diplomacy," the U.S. sends the <i>USS Wachusett</i> to <b>Guatemala</b> to defend North American lives and property.
1898	Beginning of the Spanish-American War: Congressional joint resolution recognizing <b>Cuban independence</b> and authorizing the President to use force to expel the Spaniards from the island. <b>Treaty of Paris:</b> it recognizes Cuban independence and provides for the cession to the U.S. of the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and the Pacific Island of Guam for \$20 million. Congress passes the <b>Teller Amendment</b> , which disavows any U.S. attempt to annex Cuba.
1901	Cuba adopts the <b>Platt amendment</b> , giving the U.S. the unilateral right to intervene in the island's political affairs. It also grants the U.S. a naval base at Guantánamo Bay.
1903	Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty: the building of the <b>Panama Canal</b> is entrusted to the United States army engineers, who begin work in 1907.
1904	The <b>Roosevelt Corollary</b> to the Monroe Doctrine is expressed in Annual message: the U.S. retains the right to intervene in the affairs of Latin American nations in order to ensure order and security.
1905	U.S. Marines land in <b>Honduras</b> .
1909-12	President William Howard Taft promotes his " <b>dollar diplomacy</b> ," arguing that increased U.S. investment will bring stability and economic prosperity to Latin America.
1912	<b>United Fruit Company</b> begins operating in Honduras.
1912	U.S. Marines intervene in <b>Nicaragua</b> .
1914	U.S. forces shell and then occupy Vera Cruz, <b>Mexico</b> .
1915-34	U.S. Marines are stationed in <b>Haiti</b> .
1916-17	General John J. Pershing unsuccessfully pursues Pancho Villa in northern <b>Mexico</b> .
1916-24	U.S. Marines occupy the <b>Dominican Republic</b> .
1917	The Zimmerman Telegram reveals that Germany has offered to help <b>Mexico</b> recover territory lost to the U.S. in exchange for support in the First World War.
1917-22	U.S. troops in <b>Cuba</b> .
1918	U.S. army lands in <b>Panama</b> to protect United Fruit plantations.
1920	U.S. troops support a coup in <b>Guatemala</b> .
1923	Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes renounces the Roosevelt Corollary.
1927	"To insure the protection of all American interests," President Calvin Coolidge decides to intervene in <b>Nicaragua</b> against the nationalist forces led by Augusto Cesar Sandino.