The Sixteenth Century: Spain Emerges as a World Power:

Consider: Why was the emergence of Spain as a dominant power in the sixteenth century somewhat surprising? What were two key factors that contributed to Spain’s emergence as a world power?

In your answer, include reference to the following:

* Ferdinand and Isabella
* Columbus
* Charles V
* Philip II

According to Niall Ferguson, “in all the years from 1500 to 1799, Spain was at war with foreign enemies 81 per cent of the time, England 53 per cent and France 52 per cent (Ferguson 2011).” Ferguson goes on to note “this constant fighting had three unintended benefits (Ferguson 2011)”. As a last piece to this project, infer what these benefits might be. Ferguson notes two such unintended benefits.

Citation:

1. Niall Ferguson, *Civilization: The West and The Rest.* (London: Allen Lane, 2011), 37.