

The Inca empire was already quite large and powerful by the time the Spanish arrived in South America, but it is possible that further expansion could have given them the resources and military strength to resist European colonization. Successful networks had already developed in the Inca empire, particularly in the areas of agriculture, trade, and administration (*Frameworks of World History: Networks, Hierarchies, Culture, Volume One: (349)*). The Inca had a well-developed system of roads and bridges that spanned their entire empire, which facilitated communication and trade between different regions (<https://www.history.com>) and (<https://www.worldhistory.org>). They also had a complex system of record-keeping using quipus, which helped them to efficiently manage their empire (<https://www.machutravelperu.com/>). To secure the empire from European takeover, several factors would have needed to be strengthened. One of the most important would have been military strength. The Inca had a powerful army, but they were not prepared for the advanced weapons and tactics of the Spanish. If they had been able to develop more advanced weapons and tactics of their own, they may have been better able to defend their empire. Another important factor would have been unity among the various groups that made up the Inca empire. The Inca were able to conquer and govern a large and diverse population, but there were still tensions between different ethnic groups and regions (<https://www.history.com>). If the Inca had been able to foster greater unity and cooperation among these groups, they may have been better able to resist European colonization. The Inca would have needed to develop a stronger navy, as the Spanish arrived by sea. The Inca did have some coastal cities and ports, but they were not as strong in this area as the Spanish. If they had been able to develop a more powerful navy, they may have been better able to defend their coastline from European invasion. I also think that the Inca could have better resisted the European colonization if they strengthened their military and developed a stronger navy “the

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*(Frameworks of World History: Networks, Hierarchies, Culture, Volume One 349).* If

they had been able to develop a more powerful navy, they may have been better able to defend their coastline from Spanish invasion. If they did this, they would have protected their Empire more efficiently from outside threats in my opinion.