

Pearson Edexcel
International Advanced Level

History

International Advanced
Paper 3: Thematic Study with Source Evaluation
Option 1C: Germany: United, Divided and Reunited, 1870–1990

Friday 9 June 2017 – Morning
Sources Booklet

Paper Reference
WHI03/1C

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Sources for use with SECTION A.

Source 1: From the *Speech on the Establishment of German Unity*, by Manfred Wörner, at a meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), 8 February 1990. Wörner was a former defence minister of West Germany and served as Secretary General of NATO from 1988–94.

German unity will come. We, who have worked for the triumph of democracy and for an end to the division of Europe and of Germany, must accept the crucial role of the peoples who are shaping the new order in the revolution in East Germany. The timetable for the achievement of German unity will not so much be determined by planners and governments as by the course of events in the GDR, as part of the tremendous restructuring of Europe, and by the free choice of the people there and in the Federal Republic. What politicians and diplomats can do is to recognise these facts. They can develop a framework so that the process is smooth and harmonious and avoids crises or dangerous developments with the attendant risks for all of Europe. 5

A drifting, neutral Germany cannot be a solution, given the country's geographically strategic position and its political, economic and military potential, and this is the view of all the Allies. It would not even be in the real interest of the Soviets. The history of the last two centuries demonstrates this. 10

Source 2: From *The German Question and Reunification*, a telegram sent from the American ambassador in Bonn, West Germany, 25 October 1989. It was sent to the US Secretary of State to explain the unfolding events in West Germany.

Large numbers of East Germans were beginning to stream to West German diplomatic missions in East Berlin, Budapest, Prague, and Warsaw in the mid-summer. Chancellor Kohl in an August 22 press conference announced that the rejection by these East Germans of the GDR state had clearly shown that 'the German question' was still on the agenda. Both within and outside the FRG, 'the German question' is often used as another term for German reunification. From the perspective of US national interests, 'the German question' is a broader issue, including the nature of inner-German relations, the German role in East-West security, and finally West Germany's relations with Eastern Europe, particularly with the Soviet Union. 15

Reunification is, however, a hotly debated issue in the FRG. It is also an emotional one. Although most West Germans still continue to consider reunification not to be the first order of business on the German-German agenda, several factors bearing on the question are changing rapidly. The pace of reform in Poland and Hungary shows no sign of slowing. Change in GDR leadership has, if anything, only increased the sense that that country is in crisis. 25

Recent comments by a high-ranking SED politician that the GDR's justification for existence would go if it were no longer communist, resounded through the FRG. Most West Germans believe that communism does not have a future in the GDR, raising the inevitable question of why have a GDR at all. The influx of large numbers of East Germans and ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe has represented a point of pride among West Germans that their democratic system and market-oriented economy are far and away superior to the East German model. It has also rekindled the emotional desire for a Germany that will eventually have no barbed wire and walls in the middle. 30

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