

A black and white photograph of the Berlin Wall under construction. The wall, made of large concrete slabs, runs diagonally across the frame. Several workers in hard hats and work clothes are visible near the base of the wall. In the background, multi-story apartment buildings with many windows are visible under a cloudy sky.

HCC

Division of Germany

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WELCOME LETTER FROM SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear delegates,

I, the secretary general of the conference, would like to welcome you all to AZIZMUN'25. It is an honor for me to be able to present you this work that we have been preparing for months. My team has worked tirelessly to hopefully bring you one of the best MUN experiences you will ever attend.

In this committee you are the ones that decide the course of history. While writing this study guide with my USC, we tried our best to make sure that the guide will be a useful study guide for every country. Each country can find information about themselves on the last part of the guide. However, I strongly advise everyone to research outside of this study guide as well. To be successful in the HCC committee, you should prepare in the best way. HCC will be different from our other committees, you will be always battling crisis, while deciding on what happens to Germany and your debates (committee) will be set in 1965, before the reunification. Although it may be a bit more difficult, I believe everyone will do their best and succeed. For any questions, don't hesitate to reach to me or your USC.

We are eager to see you and can't wait for the debates we will have. As a team, we will do our best to make this conference unforgettable for everyone. I wish you all the best with your preparations!

Best regards,

Melis KARAALI
Secretary General of AZIZMUN'25

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WELCOME LETTER FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL

Dear Delegates,

I am Ecem Yaren Ekici, and I have the honor to serve as the Director General of AZIZMUN'25. It, therefore, brings immeasurable joy to me to have you here in this conference. Months of working hard in preparation for everything have passed, and now just seeing you in our committees is the only reward we could have asked for. I am particularly excited about hosting the delegates of HCC.

The Historical Crisis Committee is the past, the present, and the future. This year, you will experience the division of Germany and some of the consequences of the Cold War. You will speak on how the events in history were shaped and how they might have been different. Each crisis is a great chance for you to think outside the box and propose creative solutions.

I wish you all a enjoyable, productive,unforgettable and flawless conference. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me any time should you have questions or need assistance with anything. I am already proud of all of you, and I cannot wait to meet you in our committee!

Ecem Yaren EKİCİ
Director General of AZIZMUN'25

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WELCOME LETTER FROM UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear delegates,

As your Under-Secretary-General, I am committed to making your experience at AZIZMUN both impacting and enjoyable, creating passionate debate atmospheres of exceptional academic quality in an collaborative and welcoming environment.

During our sessions, you will be asked to discuss the events following the second world war which resulted in the parting of Germany.

This study guide has been carefully put together to assist you in guiding your research on this important subject. It provides the essential overview of the key issues, but it is important for you to conduct your own research regarding the topic in order to be able to grasp the material more thoroughly.

I believe that you will produce well organized and meaningful position papers also shaping the directions of the discussions with your knowledge in the subject. I advise you to trust yourself and join the discussions as much as you can. This is a safe zone for you to practice your self-confidence.

Throughout the process, we will be available to support you with any questions or concerns.

We are here to guarantee for you to have a exceptional time and be able to gain the valuable subject we are discussing during our sessions. I wish you all the best and look forward to meeting you in person at AZIZMUN.

Nermin Pinar ŞEPİR
Under Secretary General of HCC

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History of Crisis Committees

Despite the United Nations not having any formal special committees, the Model United Nations' special committees have been rising in popularity in the recent years; allowing delegates to make quick paced decisions, providing them the opportunity to develop their problem solving and creative thinking skills while also allowing them to engage in various topics that cannot be covered in the GA committees.

Introduction to HCC

The Historical Crisis Committee is a specialized committee within MUN conferences that allows the delegates to engage in conversations about events that shaped the past with the potential of reshaping them. Unlike the traditional GA committees -where solution ideas and resolutions are discussed- HCC provides a much faster paced environment with real life crisis happening as the debates happen, requiring quick decision making and critical thinking.

For this session, the committee will focus on the Division of Germany, a defining moment in the Cold War history that shaped the geopolitical landscape of whole Europe. Following the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945, the victorious Allied powers divided the country into four occupation zones. However, growing ideological tensions between the Western Allies and the Soviet Union led to the emergence of two separate German states in 1949: The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), commonly known as West Germany, aligned with Western democratic and capitalist ideals and The German Democratic Republic (GDR), or East Germany, under Soviet influence and communist rule.

This division not only split Germany physically but also deepened the ideological rift of the Cold War. The committee will explore the political, economic, and military challenges surrounding Germany's division and decide on what decisions could have been made differently.

HOW GERMANY GOT DIVIDED AFTER WWII ?

Despite the wartime alliance, tensions between the US, Soviet Union and Great Britain raised after the war ended and leaders began to discuss what would happen to Germany now and what will they do. 2 post-war conferences took place, one before the war officially ended and one after. These conferences set place for the Cold War in Europe.

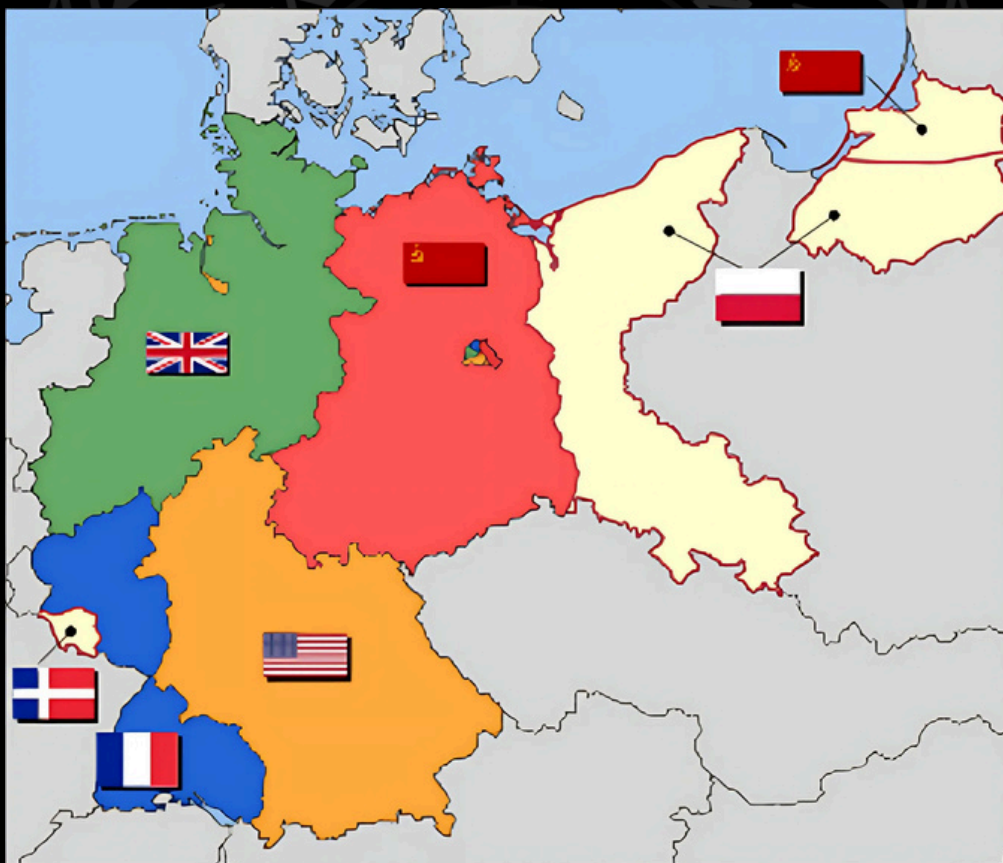
The Yalta Conference

In February 1945, US President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Soviet Leader Joseph Stalin and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill met near Yalta, Crimea to discuss post-war Europe. During the Yalta Conference, the Allied leaders agreed to divide Germany and Berlin into four occupation zones. While Roosevelt wanted Soviet participation in the newly established UN, Churchill fought for free and fair elections in leading democratic regimes in Europe while Stalin wanted Soviet influence on Europe in order to have a geopolitical buffer zone between it and the western capitalist world. The decision of a Liberated Europe was created by Winston Churchill, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Joseph Stalin during the Yalta Conference. It was a promise that allowed the people of Europe "to create democratic institutions of their own choice".

The Potsdam Conference

After the Yalta Conference, Stalin, Churchill and US President Harry Truman met in Potsdam, Germany in order to discuss and negotiate terms for the end of WWII. The major issue during the conference was how to handle Germany. At Yalta, the Soviets had pressed for heavy postwar reparations from Germany, half of which would go to the Soviet Union. While Roosevelt had agreed to such demands, Truman and his Secretary of State, James Byrnes, were determined to mitigate the treatment of Germany by allowing the occupying nations to exact reparations only from their own zone of occupation. Despite the numerous disagreements, the Allied leaders did manage to conclude some agreements at the Potsdam Conference. For example, the sides confirmed the status of a demilitarized and disarmed Germany under four zones of the Allied occupations.

According to the protocol of the Conference, there was to be “a complete disarmament and demilitarization of Germany”; all aspects of German industry that could be utilized for military purposes were to be dismantled; all German military and paramilitary forces were to be eliminated; and the production of all military hardware in Germany was forbidden. In addition to German matters, the conference also agreed to revise the Montreux Convention –which gave Türkiye full control over the Turkish seas-. In addition, the US, Great Britain and China released what's known as the “Potsdam Declaration” to threaten Japan with utter destruction if they do not surrender immediately (The Soviets did not sign the declaration because at the time they weren't in an official war with Japan). Despite all things, the conference is mostly known for President Truman's conversation with Stalin where he informed the Soviet leader that US had successfully detonated the first atomic bomb.



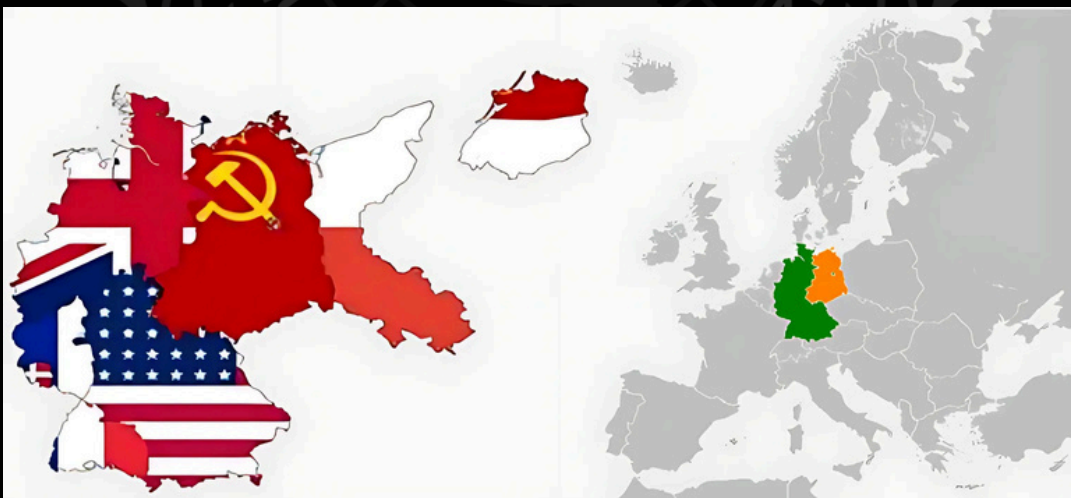
The Partition of Germany into Allied Occupation Zones

THE OFFICIAL DIVISION OF GERMANY

In 1945, the allies began organizing their zones in Germany. Americans occupied the South, the British the West and North and the Soviets occupied central Germany. In August 1945, the Inter-Allied Control Council was founded, and Berlin was divided into four zones and placed under the administrative control of the Allied Kommandatura. By 1947, the growing divide between the Soviet-controlled East and the Western Allies' sectors led to tensions. The Marshall Plan, introduced by the US to aid European economic recovery, was rejected by the Soviets and its satellite states. In response, the Soviets consolidated their control over East Germany, while the Western Allies moved towards unifying their zones. In 1949, these tensions resulted in the official formation of two separate German states:

The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), also known as West Germany, was established in May 1949, backed by the United States, the United Kingdom, and France. It had a democratic government and a capitalist economy.

The German Democratic Republic (GDR), or East Germany, was established in October 1949 under Soviet influence, following a socialist model.



THE BERLIN BLOCKADE AND AIRLIFT

What Caused the Berlin Blockade ?

One of the earliest crises of the Cold War, the Berlin Blockade, occurred when the Soviet Union attempted to force the Western Allies out of Berlin by blocking all land and rail access to the city. In response, the Western powers launched the Berlin Airlift, supplying the city with food and fuel through continuous air deliveries for nearly a year. Stalin wanted Germany to remain in its weak state and as a buffer zone between it and the Western world. they were helping Germans rebuild their economy by introducing a new stable currency and job opportunities for them. On the 24th of June 1948 Stalin cut all land access for the allies, and this became known as the Berlin Blockade.

The Aftermath of Berlin Blockade

Berlin could now only be accessed by air, resulting in a limitation of freedom, food shortage and lack of basic goods (like fuels and medical supplies). The Berlin Blockade was the first real test for the American policy. As forcing their way into the city by land could have led to another war, the Allies decided that their parts of Berlin would be supplied by air. This became known as the Berlin Airlift, and it lasted for eleven months until the Blockade was lifted in May 1949.



THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BERLIN WALL

As ideological and economic differences between East and West Germany formed, a mass emigration of East Germans to the West threatened the stability of the GDR. In 1961, the East German government, with Soviets support, constructed the Berlin Wall to prevent further migration.

The division of Germany shaped global politics for over four decades. It was a central battleground of the Cold War, influencing military alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The German division also led to significant economic disparities between East and West, with West Germany becoming a prosperous industrialized nation, while East Germany struggled under a centrally planned economy.

THE MARSHALL PLAN

The Marshall Plan, officially known as the European Recovery Program (ERP), was an economic initiative launched by the United States in 1948 to help rebuild war-torn Europe after WWII. The Marshall Plan had several key goals: 1-Rebuilding Infrastructure (The plan provided essential financial aid to repair and modernize infrastructure.) 2- Economic Stability 3- Countering Soviet Influence (The plan aimed to prevent the expansion of communism by strengthening Western European economies, offering an alternative for the Soviet controlled economy).

The Soviet Union rejected the Marshall Plan and pressured Eastern European countries, including East Germany (GDR), to do the same. Instead, the USSR established the Molotov Plan and later the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) to promote economic cooperation among the communist states. However, East Germany struggled economically under Soviet control, leading to widespread dissatisfaction and eventual uprisings.

REUNIFICATION OF GERMANY

The fall of the Berlin Wall set the stage for the reunification of Germany. In the wake of mass protests, economic struggles, and shifting Soviet policies, the East German government had collapsed. West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl presented a 10-point plan for reunification, advocating for democratic reforms in East Germany and a gradual political merge.

After months of negotiations involving the Four Allied Powers (US, UK, France, and the Soviet Union) and both German states, a future unification became clear. On October 3, 1990, Germany was officially reunified under the Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany (Two Plus Four Agreement). This treaty ended the postwar occupation status, allowed Germany full sovereignty, freedom and confirmed its existing borders. The former East German states were merged into the Federal Republic of Germany, and Berlin became the capital of the now united Germany. The reunification of Germany was a historic moment that marked the end of Cold War divisions in Europe. It paved the way for Germany's emergence as a leading economic and political power in the 21st century.

COUNTRIES POSITIONS ON THE DIVISION OF GERMANY

United States

Post-World War II diplomacy faced innumerable challenges as the Cold War strained diplomatic relations between the Western Allies and the Soviet Union. Germany's surrender in May of 1945 left the country without a government or clear borders between European nations. The "Big Three," U.S. President Harry Truman, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin, and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill (soon replaced by Clement Attlee) met in Potsdam, Germany to discuss Germany's future. Resulting negotiations from the Potsdam Conference, held between July 17 and August 2, divided Germany and Berlin among the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, and later France. Initially, these countries hoped relations with Joseph Stalin might improve, but instead, they deteriorated as an "Iron Curtain" descended across Eastern Europe.

East Germany's communist regime coveted the entire city of Berlin, since it lay embedded within its territory. In 1948, Stalin blockaded all land and water routes into West Berlin, depriving its dwellers of food and fuel. President Harry S Truman would not "abandon Berlin" and the United States and Britain mounted an intensive airlift. Under the command of General Lucius Clay, the Berlin Airlift provided needed supplies for more than 2 million Berliners over 15 months, transporting 2.3 million tons over 277,569 total flights. Despite the airlift's success, the Soviets continued efforts to curtail communication and travel.

In June 1961, Soviet Premier Khrushchev, met with the new and unseasoned President John F. Kennedy. Kennedy thought he could get the Soviets to make concessions on allowing West Berlin better access to the West, but Khrushchev instead threatened to support a full communist takeover of the entire city. He also declared the Soviets' intent to sign a separate peace treaty with the East German government.

By the end of the meeting, Khrushchev said to Kennedy, "We're moving forward. You press us, that's your problem." Kennedy said in response, "It's going to be a very cold winter." He left the summit very shaken and the situation in West Berlin was more perilous than before.

Hearing this, the number of refugees fleeing East Germany tripled. The Director of Radio in the American Sector, Robert Lochner, later observed, "It became increasingly apparent that the Soviets had to stop the depopulation of East Germany if they were not to lose total control.

Federal Republic of Germany

West Germany is the common English name for the Federal Republic of Germany from its formation on 23 May 1949 until its reunification with East Germany on 3 October 1990. It is sometimes known as the Bonn Republic after its capital city of Bonn. During the Cold War, the western portion of Germany and the associated territory of West Berlin were parts of the Western Bloc. West Germany was formed as a political entity during the Allied occupation of Germany after World War II, established from 12 states formed in the three Allied zones of occupation held by the United States, the United Kingdom, and France.

At the onset of the Cold War, Europe was divided between the Western and Eastern blocs. Germany was divided into the two countries. Initially, West Germany claimed an exclusive mandate for all of Germany, representing itself as the sole democratically reorganised continuation of the 1871 1945 German Reich.

Three southwestern states of West Germany merged to form Baden Württemberg in 1952, and the Saarland joined West Germany as a state in 1957 after it had been separated as the Saar Protectorate from Allied occupied Germany by France (the separation had been not legal as it had not been recognized by the Allied Control Council). In addition to the resulting ten states, West Berlin was considered an unofficial de facto eleventh state. While de jure not part of West Germany, for Berlin was under the control of the Allied Control Council(ACC), West Berlin politically aligned itself with West Germany and was directly or indirectly represented in its federal institutions.

The foundation for the influential position held by Germany today was laid during the economic miracle of the 1950s (Wirtschaftswunder), when West Germany rose from the enormous destruction wrought by World War II to become the world's second-largest economy. The first chancellor Konrad Adenauer, who remained in office until 1963, worked for a full alignment with the NATO rather than neutrality, and secured membership in the military alliance. Adenauer was also a proponent of agreements that developed into the present-day European Union. When the G6 was established in 1975, there was no serious debate as to whether West Germany would become a member.

Following the collapse of the Eastern Bloc, symbolized by the opening of the Berlin Wall, both states took action to achieve German reunification. East Germany voted to dissolve and accede to the Federal Republic of Germany in 1990. The five post-war states (Länder) were reconstituted, along with the reunited , which ended its special status and formed an additional Land. They formally joined the federal republic on 3 October 1990, raising the total number of states from ten to sixteen, and ending the division of Germany. The reunited Germany is the direct continuation of the state previously informally called West Germany and not a new state, as the process was essentially a voluntary act of accession: the Federal Republic of Germany was enlarged to include the additional six states of the German Democratic Republic. The expanded Federal Republic retained West Germany's political culture and continued its existing memberships in international organizations, as well as its Western foreign policy alignment and affiliation to Western alliances such as the United Nations, NATO, OECD, and the European Economic Community.

German Democratic Republic

East Germany was a country in Central Europe from its formation on 7 October 1949 until its reunification with West Germany (FRG) on 3 October 1990. Until 1989, it was generally viewed as a communist state and described itself as a socialist "workers' and peasants' state". The economy of the country was centrally planned and state-owned. Although the GDR had to pay substantial war reparations to the Soviets, its economy became the most successful in the Eastern Bloc.

Before its establishment, the country's territory was administered and occupied by Soviet forces following the Berlin Declaration abolishing German sovereignty in World War II. The Potsdam Agreement established the Soviet-occupied zone, bounded on the east by the Oder-Neiße line. The GDR was dominated by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), a communist party, before being democratized and liberalized in 1989 as a result of the pressure against communist governments brought by the revolutions of 1989. This paved the way for East Germany's reunification with West Germany. Unlike the government of West Germany, the SED did not see its state as the successor to the German Reich (1871–1945). In 1974, it abolished the goal of unification in the constitution. The SED-ruled GDR was often described as a Soviet satellite state; historians described it as an authoritarian regime.

Geographically the GDR bordered the Baltic Sea to the north, Poland to the east, Czechoslovakia to the southeast, and West Germany to the southwest and west. Internally, the GDR bordered East Berlin, the Soviet sector of Allied-occupied Berlin, which was also administered as the country's de facto capital. It also bordered the three sectors occupied by the United States, United Kingdom, and France, known collectively as West Berlin (de facto part of the FRG). Emigration to the West was a significant problem; as many emigrants were well-educated young people, this emigration economically weakened the state. In response, the GDR government fortified its inner German border and later built the Berlin Wall in 1961. Many people attempting to flee were killed by border guards or booby traps such as landmines.

In 1989 numerous social, economic, and political forces in the GDR and abroad – one of the most notable being peaceful protests starting in the city of Leipzig – led to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the establishment of a government committed to liberalization. The following year, a free and fair election was held in the country, and international negotiations between the four former Allied countries and the two German states commenced. The negotiations led to the signing of the Final Settlement treaty, which replaced the Potsdam Agreement on the status and borders of a future, reunited Germany. The GDR ceased to exist when its five states ("Länder") joined the Federal Republic of Germany under Article 23 of the Basic Law, and its capital East Berlin united with West Berlin on 3 October 1990. Several of the GDR's leaders, notably its last communist leader Egon Krenz, were later prosecuted for offenses committed during the GDR era.

France

France, a powerful occupant of Germany after 1945, distrusted German adults, considering them to be too marked by the Nazi ideology. They had more faith in the young, hoping to win them over to the cause of democracy and European co-operation. Franco-German youth encounters began from 1946; the first twinning was concluded in 1950.

The idea of a Franco-German federation was a proposed merger between France and Germany after the end of World War II. The idea was promoted by French politician Robert Schuman in his declaration on May 9, 1950, which is now celebrated as Europe Day. The aim of the proposal was to create a lasting peace between the two countries and to promote economic co-operation.

The Franco-German federation proposal envisioned a common government, currency, and military. It also sought to establish a European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), which would integrate the coal and steel industries of France and Germany. The ECSC was created in 1952 and was the first step toward the creation of the European Union. Earlier in 1948, there were significant key leaders in the French civil service who favored an agreement with the Germans as well as an integrated Europe that would include Germany. The French European Department was working on a coal and steel agreement for the Ruhr-Lorraine Luxembourg area, with equal rights for all. One French civil servant recommended 'laying down the bases of a Franco-German economic and political association that would slowly become integrated into the framework of the evolving Western organization'. Deighton strongly illustrated that the French leaders sought the cooperation with the Germans as key factor on the path of integrated Europe. On a more practical level the increased level of cooperation between West Germany and France were driven by de Gaulle's desire to build a power bloc independently of the US, while Adenauer sought a fast integration into the western structures to receive full rights for the still occupied West German state as well as protection against the Soviet threat. The issue of dependency on the USA remained a sore spot at least for as long as DeGaulle remained in office (e.g. the West German parliament included a pro-NATO preamble into the Élysée Treaty, which caused considerable consternation with the French government). However, their shared interest in increased cooperation still existed and was also driven by strong support in the respective civil society, as it was seen as the best solution to prevent further bloodshed between the two nations.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was formally established as a state in 1922. The Soviet Union—as it is often called—was a communist dictatorship based in Moscow. During World War II, the USSR was ruled by dictator Josef Stalin.

Soviet Union

The Soviet Union was the result of the collapse of the Russian Empire and of the Russian Civil War (1917–1922). In February 1917, a popular revolution ousted the Russian tsar. The imperial regime was replaced with a provisional government. This revolution was followed by a coup that fall in which Vladimir Lenin and the Bolshevik Party seized power. In 1918, the Bolshevik Party was renamed the Communist Party. The Bolshevik coup led to a civil war that resulted in Communist control over most of the former Russian Empire. Soviet territory included the countries of Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus (Belorussia), among others.

In preparation for the war of annihilation, officials of the Army High and the Reich Security Main Office negotiated arrangements for the deployment of SS Einsatzgruppen to conduct mass shootings of Jews, Communists, and other persons deemed to be dangerous to the establishment of long-term German rule on Soviet territory. Einsatzgruppen were special task forces of the Security Police and the Security Service . Often referred to as "mobile killing units," they operated immediately behind the front lines. Together with other units of the SS and police, and supported by the Wehrmacht and local auxiliaries, the Einsatzgruppen shot to death well over half a million civilians by the end of 1941. Jewish men, women, and children made up the vast majority of the victims. The systematic mass murder of Jews during the invasion of the Soviet Union marked the beginning of Nazi Germany's "Final Solution" policy of annihilating the Jews in Europe.

Germany's "Final Solution" policy of annihilating the Jews in Europe. Germany's annihilation policies included Soviet soldiers who had surrendered. The Wehrmacht enclosed millions of Soviet POWs in make shift camps with little or no shelter, food, or water. Starvation and epidemics quickly took their toll. The Wehrmacht also turned over hundreds of thousands of Soviet POWs to the SS. The SS executed the Soviet POWs or worked them to death in concentration camps. By February 1942, less than eight months after the start of the invasion, two million Soviet soldiers had died in German captivity.

In mid April 1945, the Soviet army gained their final victory against the Nazi's. On April 30, 1945 Hitler committed suicide and Berlin surrendered to Soviet forces.

Poland

After the Yalta Conference Poland was granted German-populated territories in Pomerania, Silesia, and Brandenburg east of the Oder–Neisse line, including the southern half of East Prussia. These were confirmed, pending a final peace conference with Germany, at the Tripartite Conference of Berlin, otherwise known as the Potsdam Conference in August 1945 after the end of the war in Europe. The Potsdam Agreement also sanctioned the transfer of the German population out of the acquired territories. Stalin was determined that Poland's new communist government would become his tool towards making Poland a satellite state like other countries in Central and Eastern Europe. He had severed relations with the Polish government-in-exile in London in 1943, but to appease Roosevelt and Churchill he agreed at Yalta that a coalition government would be formed. The Provisional Government of National Unity was established in June 1946 with the communists holding a majority of key posts, and with Soviet support they soon gained almost total control of the country.

Italy

During the Berlin crisis, and in particular in the period immediately before the construction of the Wall, Italian foreign policy displayed a strong penchant for mediation and a distinct willingness to compromise. This attitude was influenced by several factors, the first and foremost of which was probably the desire to play a role in what was seen as a crucial turn in Europe's post-war history, when the future of Germany and of the whole continent was to be decided and a rash decision might precipitate a dramatic confrontation between the blocs. Traditional national sensitivities to any exclusion from the 'ruling circles' of the international system also enhanced the Italian government's desire to be consulted by its allies about a possible settlement of the German question, which would otherwise be shaped without taking into account Italian interests.

The other crucial component of Italian foreign policy between 1958 and 1961 was a complex mixture of economic repercussions. Italy wanted to take advantage of the situation for its own industrial productions.

Netherlands

The Cold War caused quite some fear in the Netherlands. Maybe not right after the end of the Second World War when the Dutch population was preoccupied with rebuilding the country after five years of devastation. Poverty was the main enemy in these first years, and the fear of a reviving Germany. However, after the Berlin Blockade in 1948 and the overthrow of the Czechoslovakian government by the Soviets in the same year, the fear of the Communist enemy grew. The callous crush of the Budapest uprising revealed the seriousness of the eminent threats upon the Netherlands. Dutch foreign policy dangled between protecting its interests in their disengaging colonies and defending against new threats. The Dutch found the United States against them while it was finding a new relationship with its former colonies. At the same time they underestimated the indispensability of the United States as a leader of the Western bloc.

Japan

The alliance between Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan was both cause and effect of the worldwide political and economic crisis of the 1930s, as the far-right governments of the two nations felt increasingly emboldened to defy and destabilize the international system. The deepening of the Great Depression, heretofore the most severe downturn in the history of capitalism, facilitated Hitler's rise to power in Germany and the ascent of ultra-nationalists in Shōwa Japan.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia—the land of South (i.e. Yugo) Slavs—was created at the end of World War I when Croat, Slovenian, and Bosnian territories that had been part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire united with the Serbian Kingdom. The country broke up under Nazi occupation during World War II with the creation of a Nazi-allied independent Croat state, but was reunified at the end of the war when the communist-dominated partisan force of Josip Broz Tito liberated the country. Following the end of World War II, Yugoslavian unity was a top priority for the U.S. Government. While ostensibly a communist state, Yugoslavia broke away from the Soviet sphere of influence in 1948, became a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement in 1961, and adopted a more de-centralized and less repressive form of government as compared with other East European communist states during the Cold War.

Türkiye

After the Second World War, Turkey maintained a cautious and pragmatic stance in the partitioning of Germany, which was divided into East and West as part of the post-war settlement. At the time, Turkey was focused on its own security and territorial integrity, and it sought to strengthen its position in the international order. As a NATO member since 1952, Turkey aligned itself with the Western bloc, supporting the division of Germany as a necessary strategy to contain Soviet expansion in Europe. While Turkey did not have direct influence on the decisions regarding the partition of Germany, it closely followed the developments, understanding that the outcome of the division would have broader implications for the balance of power in Europe. Turkey's foreign policy was primarily concerned with maintaining good relations with the Western powers, especially the United States, while cautiously engaging with the Soviet Union to avoid provoking tensions on its borders. The partitioning of Germany also reinforced Turkey's position in the Cold War context, as it sought to strengthen its alliances and ensure its security amid the emerging East-West divide.

Austria

After the Second World War, Austria's standpoint on the partitioning of Germany was shaped by its own position as a neutral country and its historical ties to Germany. Following the war, Austria was initially treated as part of Germany in the eyes of the Allies due to its Nazi past, though Austria was restored to its status as an independent state by the Austrian State Treaty in 1955. The division of Germany into East and West had a significant impact on Austria, which found itself situated between the two superpowers: the Soviet-controlled Eastern bloc and the Western Allied forces. Austria, though not directly involved in the partitioning, was heavily influenced by the developments in Germany, as it sought to maintain its neutrality and avoid becoming a frontline state in the Cold War. Austrian leaders were generally supportive of the division of Germany, as it provided a buffer zone between the Western and Eastern blocs. However, Austria's main concern was its own sovereignty and the protection of its newly regained independence, as it had no desire to be caught in the middle of the Cold War conflict. Austria's focus was primarily on rebuilding its own nation and maintaining its neutral stance in the increasingly polarized European landscape.

Bulgaria

Bulgaria's standpoint on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was largely shaped by its alignment with the Soviet Union and its role within the Eastern Bloc. As a communist state under Soviet influence, Bulgaria supported the Soviet position on the division of Germany, which was seen as a key aspect of the broader struggle between the capitalist West and the socialist East during the early years of the Cold War. Bulgaria, as part of the Soviet-led Eastern Bloc, was aligned with the creation of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) in 1949, viewing it as a socialist ally in the fight against Western imperialism. The Bulgarian government, under the influence of Moscow, endorsed the division as a means of preventing a resurgent, united Germany that could threaten the Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe. Bulgaria's own experiences with German occupation during the war and the subsequent Soviet occupation positioned it to support the partition, believing that the division would help secure the stability of Eastern Europe and solidify Soviet dominance in the region. Bulgaria's role in the partition of Germany was largely passive, however, as it followed the directives of the Soviet Union without direct involvement in the negotiation process.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom's standpoint in the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was shaped by its broader geopolitical concerns and its desire to ensure both European stability and the prevention of future German militarism. In the immediate aftermath of the war, the UK, along with the United States and France, initially favored a unified, democratic Germany as a means to help restore balance in Europe and promote economic recovery. The British government, led by Winston Churchill and later Clement Attlee, believed that a strong and prosperous Germany, integrated into the Western European fold, could serve as a stabilizing force in Europe. However, as tensions with the Soviet Union escalated and the Cold War began to take shape, the UK's position evolved, and it became increasingly supportive of the division of Germany. This shift was partly due to the growing realization that the USSR, under Joseph Stalin, had very different plans for Germany, particularly East Germany, which was to be incorporated into the Soviet sphere of influence.

The UK, along with its Western allies, sought to secure the Western zone of Germany and ensure that it would not fall under communist control. The formation of the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) in 1949, supported by the Western powers, was viewed by the UK as crucial for maintaining a strong, democratic Germany that could act as a buffer against Soviet expansion in Europe. The UK's participation in the establishment of West Germany, however, was not without its concerns. British policymakers were wary of provoking the USSR, which controlled the Soviet zone of Germany, and thus sought to avoid direct military confrontation. The UK also had to balance its position within the broader context of the emerging Cold War, working closely with the United States and other Western nations to contain Soviet influence. The UK's role in the partition of Germany was, therefore, a delicate act of supporting the recovery of the Western zone, encouraging economic cooperation, and simultaneously navigating the complex geopolitical realities of the early Cold War.

Vatican City

Vatican City's perspective on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was influenced by its position as a religious and diplomatic authority, focused on promoting peace and upholding moral values. The Vatican, led by Pope Pius XII during the post-war period, was concerned with the aftermath of the war and its impact on Europe's stability, particularly in the context of the rise of communism and the division of Germany. The Vatican had a vested interest in the fate of Germany, given the significant Catholic population in both East and West Germany. While the Holy See did not directly intervene in the political decisions surrounding Germany's division, it emphasized the importance of reconciliation, peace, and the protection of human dignity. The Vatican was cautious about the growing ideological divide between the Western capitalist powers and the Eastern communist bloc, viewing the spread of communism in Eastern Europe with concern, particularly as it often led to the suppression of religious freedoms. At the same time, the Vatican supported the rebuilding of Germany, hoping that a peaceful settlement would lead to a united and democratic Europe. However, its primary focus remained on ensuring religious freedom and the preservation of the Church's influence in both the East and West, particularly in light of the rise of communism.

Belgium

Belgium's perspective on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was shaped by its position within Western Europe and its alignment with the United States and the other Western Allies. As a founding member of NATO and a country deeply affected by both World Wars, Belgium was primarily concerned with ensuring the stability and security of Europe in the post-war order. Belgium supported the division of Germany as a way to prevent future German militarism and to ensure that the country would not again pose a threat to its neighbors. Belgium was particularly interested in maintaining a strong Western bloc that could counter the growing influence of the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe. The Belgian government, while not directly involved in the negotiations surrounding the partition, was an advocate for the creation of a stable, democratic West Germany, which it saw as crucial for European integration and recovery. Belgium also expressed concerns about the future of its own security, as it was located between the Western and Soviet spheres of influence, and hoped that the division of Germany would help secure the Western European security architecture. Belgium's role in the post-war settlement was largely diplomatic, as it worked closely with its Western allies to ensure that the partition would contribute to a stable and peaceful Europe.

Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovakia's view on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was strongly influenced by its position as a Soviet-aligned state and its historical experiences with Germany. As a country that had suffered under Nazi occupation and had been a victim of German aggression, Czechoslovakia was deeply invested in ensuring that Germany would never again pose a military threat to its sovereignty. Following the war, Czechoslovakia supported the division of Germany as a means of both punishing Germany for its wartime actions and preventing its future resurgence as a military power. The Czechoslovak government, under communist influence after 1948, backed the creation of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) and supported the Soviet Union's approach to Germany's partition. Czechoslovakia also expressed concerns about the fate of the Sudeten Germans, many of whom had been expelled from Czechoslovakia after the war, and advocated for the protection of its borders and the removal of any German influence in the region. The partitioning of Germany aligned with Czechoslovakia's interests in securing Soviet-backed stability in Central Europe. However, Czechoslovakia's role in the partition process was largely passive, as it was more concerned with its own post-war recovery and its position within the Eastern Bloc.

Canada

Canada's stance on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was influenced by its position as a key member of the Western Allies and its commitment to ensuring European stability and promoting democratic values. As a member of the British Commonwealth and a key member of the Allied forces during the war, Canada played an important role in shaping the post-war order. Canada supported the division of Germany as a means of preventing the resurgence of German militarism, which had been a major threat to Europe in both World Wars. The Canadian government, under Prime Minister Mackenzie King and later Louis St. Laurent, favored the creation of a democratic West Germany, which they saw as vital for the security and recovery of Europe. Canada was particularly concerned about the spread of Soviet influence in Eastern Europe and viewed the partition as a way to ensure a stable and democratic Western Europe. Although Canada did not directly participate in the negotiations that led to the division of Germany, it was a strong supporter of the Western powers' approach to Germany's post-war reconstruction. Canada's involvement in NATO, which was established in 1949, further underscored its commitment to the division, as the alliance sought to protect Western Europe from Soviet expansion.

Albania

Albania's position on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was heavily influenced by its alignment with the Soviet Union and its Marxist-Leninist government. Under the leadership of Enver Hoxha, Albania became a staunch ally of the USSR, and its foreign policy closely mirrored Soviet interests during the early years of the Cold War. Albania supported the division of Germany as part of the broader Soviet strategy to weaken Western influence in Europe and expand communist control. The Albanian government viewed the division as a necessary step to ensure the spread of socialism in Eastern Europe, particularly through the establishment of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), which was aligned with Soviet communism. While Albania had no direct role in the negotiations regarding Germany's partition, it endorsed the creation of a socialist East Germany as a counterbalance to the capitalist West. Albania's concern with the partition of Germany was less about the specific details of the division and more about aligning with the Soviet bloc's efforts to reshape Europe along ideological lines. Albania's support for the division of Germany was part of its broader support for the Eastern bloc and its commitment to combating Western imperialism.

Norway

Norway's position on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was shaped by its role within the Western alliance and its focus on ensuring stability and security in Europe. As a founding member of NATO in 1949, Norway was committed to the defense of Western Europe against the spread of Soviet influence. While Norway was not directly involved in the negotiations concerning the partition of Germany, it strongly supported the division as a means to prevent the resurgence of German militarism and to secure the peace and security of the region. Norway, like other Western nations, viewed the creation of West Germany as an essential step toward rebuilding a democratic and stable Europe, which would be aligned with the capitalist West. At the same time, Norway was concerned about the growing Soviet influence in Eastern Europe and saw the division of Germany as a way to limit the expansion of communism. Norway's approach reflected a desire for a strong Western bloc that could balance the power of the Soviet Union and ensure the security of Northern Europe. While Norway was not a key player in the specific decisions regarding the partition, it supported the broader Western policy and its role in the emerging Cold War dynamics.

Denmark

Denmark's position was influenced by its strategic interests within the context of the emerging Cold War and its close ties with the Western Allies. As a neighboring country to Germany and a member of the Western bloc, Denmark was highly concerned with the security implications of a divided Germany. Denmark supported the division of Germany as a means to ensure that German militarism could not threaten Europe again, having experienced German occupation during the war. Like many other Western nations, Denmark backed the creation of a democratic and stable West Germany as a key element in rebuilding Europe and preventing the spread of Soviet influence. Denmark, a founding member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), believed that the partition was essential to safeguarding the region from Soviet expansion. While Denmark was not directly involved in the negotiations that led to the division, it viewed the partition as a necessary step to securing peace and stability in Europe. Furthermore, Denmark's proximity to Germany meant that it had a vested interest in ensuring that the post-war settlement prevented the possibility of future conflicts.

China

After the Second World War, the People's Republic of China (PRC), under Chairman Mao Zedong, was primarily concerned with consolidating power following the Chinese Civil War and establishing its communist government. While China's focus was predominantly on internal issues, the PRC was deeply aligned with the Soviet Union and its ideological stance, which influenced its views on the partitioning of Germany. Although China did not have a direct role in the negotiations surrounding the division of Germany, it supported the Soviet approach, as it was aligned with the broader geopolitical struggle of the Cold War. The PRC viewed the partition of Germany as part of the global struggle between socialism, led by the Soviet Union, and capitalist powers, especially the United States and its Western allies. China saw the creation of East Germany (German Democratic Republic) as a victory for socialism and an important step in the weakening of Western imperialism and capitalist influence in Europe.

The PRC's foreign policy during this period emphasized solidarity with other socialist states, particularly in the face of the increasing dominance of capitalist powers. China also recognized the division of Germany as a means of preventing the resurgence of German militarism, which had been a significant threat to China's own national security in the past. The PRC, still a relatively new power in the global arena, believed that the creation of a socialist East Germany under Soviet influence would help to strengthen the position of communist forces in Europe. Though China was focused more on its domestic affairs and the consolidation of its regime, its support for the division of Germany reflected its broader commitment to the socialist cause and its alignment with the Soviet Union. The PRC hoped that the partition would contribute to the weakening of the Western capitalist powers and foster the spread of socialism in Europe and beyond.

Norway

India's standpoint on the partitioning of Germany after the Second World War was primarily shaped by its own emerging status as an independent nation and its focus on anti-colonialism and non-alignment in the international arena. At the time, India had just gained independence from British rule in 1947 and was keen to assert its sovereignty and pursue a foreign policy that was independent of the major Western powers and the Soviet Union. India, under Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, was not directly involved in the post-war discussions concerning the division of Germany. However, India's stance reflected its broader ideological commitments to peace, democracy, and the principle of self-determination. India was sympathetic to the idea of a unified Germany, but it was more concerned with the broader implications of the Cold War and the consequences of dividing countries along ideological lines. India, which had experienced colonial oppression, was critical of any form of domination or imperialism and thus expressed concerns about the division of Germany potentially leading to new power struggles in Europe.

India, as part of the larger non-aligned movement, did not align itself strictly with either the Western powers or the Soviet Union in the context of the partition. Nehru's government advocated for a peaceful world order and hoped that the post-war settlement, including Germany's division, would lead to stability and cooperation rather than further conflict. India's main focus was on its own development and its role in promoting peace and cooperation among newly independent countries in Asia and Africa. While India did not have direct involvement in the partition process, its position was shaped by a desire to avoid being drawn into the Cold War rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union and to support the peaceful reconstruction of Europe without exacerbating tensions.

Denmark

The fall of the Berlin Wall had a major awakening in many communist countries in Europe. One of them is Romania. Which had the Romanian Revolution.

The Romanian revolution was a period of violent civil unrest in Romania during December 1989 as a part of the revolutions of 1989 that occurred in several countries around the world, primarily within the Eastern Bloc.

Greece

Greece, emerging from the devastation of World War II and embroiled in a brutal civil war (1946-1949) between communist and monarchist forces, viewed the division of Germany through the lens of its own ideological struggle. As a staunchly anti-communist state backed by the Western Allies, particularly the United States through the Truman Doctrine, Greece aligned itself with the Western bloc in the emerging Cold War. The Greek government feared that a strong, Soviet-influenced East Germany could bolster communist movements across Europe, including within Greece itself. Therefore, Athens supported the establishment of a democratic West Germany as a bulwark against Soviet expansionism. Furthermore, Greece's economic ties with Western Europe and its reliance on American aid reinforced its commitment to the Western-led reconstruction of Germany, favoring a divided Germany that ensured Soviet influence remained contained.



QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN THE DECLARATION PAPER

1. Will Germany remain divided or will reunification happen?

- If Germany remains divided, what are going to be the policies they follow? What is the relationship between East and West be like? What regime each state will follow?
- If reunification happens, what kind of a regime will the united state follow? What policies will be implemented to reunite the citizens? Is the new Germany going to be completely independent or still under US/Soviet influence?

2. How will the affects of US and Soviets be handled by East and West Germany? If they decide to fight against them for independence how are they going to ensure their safety?

3. What were the political, economic, and social reasons behind the division of Germany after World War II?

4. How did the ideologies of the United States and the Soviet Union contribute to the division?

5. How did the creation of the Berlin Blockade and Airlift escalate tensions between the East and West? Could it have been prevented?

6. How did German citizens perceive the occupation zones and eventual division and how would they react to a possible reunification? Should social policies be implemented to rejoin them?

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