

CONTEMPORARY WITNESSES OF DIVIDED GERMANY

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL FOUNDATION FOR
THE STUDY OF THE COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP





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2016년 한국 - 독일 교원 교류 연수



2016 Fortbildung zum Austausch zwischen deutsch-koreanischen Lehrkräften

2016. 10. 22.(토) ~ 10. 30.(일)



KULTURMINISTER
KONFERENZ

DICTATORSHIP AND DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE CRITICAL REAPPRAISAL OF DICTATORSHIPS

In accordance with its Appointment Act, the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany also contributes to a critical reappraisal of Communist dictatorships internationally. In doing so, the foundation pursues two objectives: on the one hand, it harnesses, through cross-border exchange and cooperations, experiences and perspectives from international contexts of historical reappraisal for the foundation's work, as well as for the German discourse around

reappraisal more generally. On the other hand, the foundation supports, informs and advises partner institutions, civil society actors, as well as state institutions in their respective tasks and objectives, while contributing the German experience to similar processes in other countries.

In this endeavour, the foundation draws on diverse formats: international exchange concerning the study and critical reappraisal of dictatorships is organised through study

trips, exchange programmes, panel meetings and conferences. Furthermore, representatives of the foundation are frequently invited to other countries as experts to talk about the process of critical reappraisal in Germany. Additionally, the foundation issues publications and other material facilitating international exchange in assessing the past and encouraging perspectives looking beyond one's own national past.



DEMOCRACY AND DICTATORSHIP IN THE CLASSROOM – SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Curricular and extra-curricular educational work represents an important focus of the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany's work. The history of the SED dictatorship and German partition has been incorporated into most curriculum frameworks across the country in recent years, while contemporary German history since 1945 has become part of the Abitur [higher education entrance qualification] exams in more than half of German states. By and large, the overall situation regarding classroom education on the history of democracy and dictatorship after 1945 has improved significantly compared to just a few years ago. In this sense, the foundation's key objective in this area has been advanced considerably. Supporting and helping to perpetuate and develop this positive trend in the German

educational landscape remains both the task and objective of the classroom education department.

Adding to this are new challenges in the form of populism and extremism, which have made historical knowledge even more socially relevant. In order to meet these challenges, new education policy initiatives are being launched, networks forged, educational materials advertised and the development of didactic material supported. Close cooperation with the state-level education ministries, school and cultural authorities, institutions for advanced teacher training, associations of history and politics teachers at the state and national levels, history professors and faculties, and other institutions has been key to success. This is complemented by

an intensive cooperation with teachers at advanced trainings, professional events and educational fairs.

Further biographical information on contemporary witnesses can be found at www.zeitzeugenbuero.de. There we also present suitable teaching materials such as interviews, reports, handouts and worksheets, additional websites and educational portals, exhibitions, books, documentary films and historic places in Berlin and Brandenburg on the history of the SED dictatorship and the Berlin Wall. If you are interested in getting in contact with the witnesses, please write to

zeitzeugenbuero@bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de

LIVING HISTORY – CONTEMPORARY WITNESSES TO THE EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP IN THE CLASSROOM

The platform www.zeitzeugenbuero.de was set up 2009 by the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in Eastern Germany with the support of all German federal states and the Federal Ministry of the Interior. More than 350 men and women who witnessed the years of German partition and had an active part in overcoming it can be contacted through the platform and invited to speak with young students interested in the study of contemporary German history. In addition, the database provides links to numerous

English-language didactic materials, websites, online exhibitions, books and documentary films. The platform is geared toward journalists, schools and other institutions of historical and political education and is gradually expanded with new interviewees, teaching materials and historical focuses.

Many witnesses speak more than one language and can be requested for international oral history classes, interviews and projects. Here, they recount their

personal experiences ranging from the »People's Uprising' on 17 June 1953 to the Peaceful Revolution and German reunification and include episodes of escape, departure, political imprisonment and their eventual purchase of freedom. Some were active in the (Protestant) Evangelical Church, others in oppositional groups or the literary and arts scene.

UPRISING OF 1953 IN EAST GERMANY

Other Topics: Flight, Departure, Purchased Freedom



Siegfried Buchholz
English

Born 1939, Mainz. His childhood passed in constant awareness of German partition: after the end of World War II, the Buchholz family returned from the Harz to the Berlin district of Britz, which became part of the American sector. Due to a revision of the sector borders, Britz was assigned to Soviet territory, which did not stop Siegfried Buchholz from commuting to his school in West Berlin. He witnessed the Uprising of 1953 in East Berlin, especially because his father joined the protesters on the »Stalinallee« boulevard. His sister, brother and father fled to West Berlin in the following years. Buchholz' mother was arrested in 1959 for smuggling eggs which prompted him to exit the country in fear of his own arrest. His mother followed in April 1960.

OTHER TOPICS: FLIGHT, DEPARTURE, PURCHASED FREEDOM



Peter Bieber
English

Born 1945, Berlin. After hearing about the events of the Prague Spring in 1968, Peter Bieber decided to make his way to the West to live a free and self-determined life. From Leipzig he travelled to Bratislava to cross the border to Austria, which failed as he was discovered by border troops and arrested. After two more unsuccessful attempts via a ship in Gdansk and a West German car in Bulgaria, he hid in a wardrobe in the load space of a West German lorry and managed to cross the border that way. Grateful for the help he received while escaping, he assisted eleven people in their escape to West Germany. He was eventually betrayed to the Stasi and arrested in 1972 and remained incarcerated for five years until the German Federal Republic purchased his freedom from political imprisonment and he was released.

Other Topics: Border Stories; Experiences of Imprisonment / Stasi Detention



Dr. Günther Heinzel
English

Born 1948, Köln: Even at elementary school, he noticed the contradiction that gaped between reality and what the teacher told about GDR socialism. Shortly before his 17th birthday, he tried in vain to flee the GDR. The following prison sentence confirmed his verdict on that state. Four years after his release from prison, there was a chance to leave GDR by means of escape assistance. Arrived in West Berlin, he tried to build an escape aid for his girl friend. Meanwhile, the Stasi had already targeted them and a spy in West Berlin had provided information about his plans. We were faster and my friend was hiding in an Allied military vehicle, unnoticed by Checkpoint Charlie.



Eugenie Trützschler
English, Russian, Czech

Born 1950, Bad Berka: As her family was not permitted to work in their professions in Czechoslovakia, her mother applied for political asylum in West Germany for herself and Eugenie Trützschler in 1967. The daughter then worked as a nanny and became a trained nurse. She completed her Abitur and became a teacher. Still unsure about her own national identity, she started to conduct research on international relations and graduated with a PhD. After learning that the East German Stasi as well as the Czechoslovakian secret service had kept a file on her, she decided to focus her research on the communist period and write novels.



Manfred Görlach
English

Born 1937, Heidelberg: Manfred Görlach was enrolled for English and Latin American studies at the Free University in West Berlin and was among the students allowed to cross over to the East of the city. He helped smuggle a family to West Berlin with his car and provided a fellow student with a fake Swedish passport. A letter addressed to a student in Potsdam who was hoping to flee was intercepted by the Stasi. A trap was set up for Görlach, he was caught and subsequently sentenced to four years in a prison in Brandenburg-Görden. He regained freedom in 1964 through a brokered (or rather purchased) release of East German political prisoners to the West. After returning to West Berlin he finished his studies and graduated with a PhD in Heidelberg.



Peter Hampe
English

Born 1944, Berlin: For an attempted »Republikflucht« (»Escape from the Republic«) to the West and a letter to the editor of the West Berlin-based radio station RIAS, Peter Hampe was sentenced to one-and-a-half years in prison and was banned from studying in the GDR for the rest of his life. Following the purchase of his release by the West German government, he was set free in the GDR. He later learned that West Germany thought that they shortened his time in prison but he had simply served his full term of imprisonment. Hampe then continued to educate himself through evening courses until he eventually earned his PhD in chemistry. He was allowed to exit the country with his family in 1985 with the help of the Austrian chancellor at the time, Fred Sinowatz.

Other Topics: Experiences of Imprisonment / Stasi Detention



Ralph Kabisch
English

Born 1942, Berlin: Only two months after the Berlin Wall was constructed, Ralph Kabisch came to West Berlin to study. In this period of ubiquitous political activity, he joined a group of students who wanted to help friends and relatives escape from East Berlin. Together with Wolfgang Fuchs and others, they dug for six months and in the end helped 57 people flee to the West, which is why this tunnel is called »Tunnel 57«. His work as an escape agent did not stop there, as he smuggled many East Germans to the west via Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, hidden in a car. During one trip in Czechoslovakia he was arrested by police forces and received a very mild sentence. This was owed to the Prague Spring in 1968, which even led to his pardoning by the new Czechoslovakian prime minister and his return to Berlin.

Other Topics: Experiences of Imprisonment / Stasi Detention



Hartmut Ernst Henke
English, French

Born 1944, Leinfeld-Echterdingen: After Hartmut Ernst Henke witnessed the Uprising of 1953 in his home town of Ludwigsdorf, he was convinced that the massive arrests among his friend's parents were unjust. He did not undergo the »Jugendweihe, the socialist coming-of-age ceremony, but received the Christian confirmation, which led to his debarment from Abitur. It was only after his parents joined the collectivised agricultural producers' cooperative that he was permitted to do his Abitur after all. This enabled him to study in Dresden, even without prior military service. After a failed attempt to escape the country he was detained in Cottbus prison in 1968. The German Federal Republic then purchased his freedom from political imprisonment and arranged his transfer to West Germany.

Other Topics: Uprising of 1953 in East Germany; Construction of the Wall on 13 August 1961



Joachim Rudolph
English

Born 1938, Berlin: Joachim Rudolph witnessed two of the most important events in GDR-history: He was present during the Uprising of 1953 in East Berlin as a 14-year-old boy and during the construction of the Berlin Wall on 13th August 1961. Together with a friend, he escaped to West Berlin by wading through the »Tegeler Fließ« waterway north of Berlin and continued his studies in the western part of the city. Joachim Rudolph then joined a group of students who were planning to dig a tunnel underneath the Wall at Bernauer Straße and ultimately helped 29 people to fly to West Berlin. After this successful operation, he participated in the construction of two more tunnels which, however, were discovered by the Stasi.



ART, CULTURE, LITERATURE

Other Topics: Arts, Culture and Literature



Martina Schmidt
English

Born 1960, Stockelsdorf: Martina Schmidt was raised in Rostock. In the 1980s, she was active in the Evangelical Church of Mecklenburg's youth work. Her active peace work and her critical attitude towards the GDR's deeply ideological school system earned her the attention of the Ministry of State Security. She was allowed to leave the GDR and travel to West Germany in 1986.

Other Topics: Civil rights movement; Experiences of Imprisonment / Stasi Detention



Karl-Heinz Bomberg
English

Born 1955, Berlin: Karl-Heinz Bomberg graduated with a PhD in Medicine and performed as a singer-songwriter with critical texts directed against the communist regime. For this reason, he was banned from performing his songs in 1982 and monitored by the Stasi. He started performing his songs in churches that provided a protected space from the influence of the government. When he wanted to send a recording of his music to West Germany in 1984, his contact person turned out to be an »informal collaborator« of the Stasi. The psychoanalyst was arrested at work and, after three months in prison, released on parole. The focus of his work lies on the therapy of traumatised political prisoners and he uses his own experiences for developing improved forms of treatment.

Other Topics: German Unity; Media



Barbara Bollwahn
Spanish

Born 1964, Berlin: She studied Spanish in Leipzig but was always aware that she would never be able to visit a Spanish speaking country without being a member of the Socialist Unity Party (SED) of East Germany. She snuck into the Leipzig Trade Fair and found work at a Spanish speaking booth. From this point on, Barbara Bollwahn applied several times for a license to work as a freelancing interpreter and translator which she eventually received. After German reunification, she started to work as a journalist and book author.

Other Topics: Civil rights movement



Martin Jankowski
English

Born 1965, Berlin: Over the course of his life, the Stasi always took a special interest in Martin Jankowski. Still in school, he was monitored in the »operational procedure« (Operativer Vorgang, OV) »Jesaja« starting 1982, followed by the OV »Maja« in 1985. His activities as an oppositional artist in the 1980s were the reason for this intense surveillance and led to him being banned from stage which did not stop him performing illegally in the GDR, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland. Later on, he was forbidden to travel and his private apartment was spied on. Since 1987, Martin Jankowski took part in the civil rights movements based in the Church of St. Nicholas in Leipzig (Nikolai-kirche) where he helped to organise peace prayers.

Other Topics: Flight, Departure, Purchased Freedom



Clara Welten
English

Born 1967, Berlin: When the wall came down, she had just begun her longed-for study of philosophy, psychoanalysis and literature in Frankfurt. During this time she took note of the fall of the Berlin Wall, but since leaving in 1983 she had never been allowed to set foot again on East German soil because of an entry ban imposed on her entire family by my State Security Act. It took another ten years before she actually wanted to go to the place of her birth. Because she is the child of a christian family. The attitude of the opposition to political totalitarianism was a natural pillar of her education.

EXPERIENCES OF IMPRISONMENT / STASI DETENTION

Other Topics: Flight, Departure, Purchased Freedom



Dagmar Meier-Barkhausen
English

Born 1944, Bad Zwischenahn: Dagmar Meier-Barkhausen was sentenced to 16 months in prison for »preparing to escape the republic«, having planned to exit the GDR via the Baltic Sea with her husband. After one year in a prison in Dessau-Wolfen, where she had to work double shifts, she was released to West Germany as part of a deal between the East and West German governments. Soon afterwards she started her occupation as an author under the pseudonym »Tina Österreich« and published several books based on her own experiences in East German prison, life in the GDR and the transition to a western system.



Other Topics: Flight, Departure, Purchased Freedom



Birgit Schlicke
English

Born 1969, Wiesbaden: After her family filed an application to exit the country, Birgit Schlicke was prevented from completing her Abitur and expelled from school. She temporarily worked as a postwoman and wrote several letters to the East German government and to the International Society for Human Rights. These letters and the organisation of a silent protest march led to her arrest. She was convicted and brought to the women's prison in Hoheneck, where she suffered drill and harassment. Although the Berlin Wall fell on 9th November 1989, Birgit Schlicke was not released from prison until 17th November, after two years imprisonment.

Other Topics: Flight, Departure, Purchased Freedom



Gabriel Berger
Polish, Russian, English

In 1968, Gabriel Berger was a fervent supporter of the Czechoslovakian reform movement. After the sealing of the final act of the CSCE Accord of Helsinki he applied for relocation to West Germany in 1975, only to have his request be denied. After that, he displayed his rejection of the SED's dictatorship publicly, leading to his arrest in 1976. After a year in prison Berger was allowed to leave the GDR.

CHURCH

Other Topics: German Unity, Civil rights movement



Andreas Kosmalla
English

Born 1962, Berlin: As a preacher's child he was not allowed to complete his Abitur, despite his membership in the socialist youth movement Freie Deutsche Jugend. Since the time of his apprenticeship he was an active part in the »church underground« movement where he played music. Andreas Kosmalla became involved in ecclesiastical peace movements and refused to perform military service, leading to his deployment to Prora as a »construction soldier« (Bau-soldat) – with a shovel instead of a gun. Later, he was active in various civil rights movements and political parties during the Peaceful Revolution.

Other Topics: Civil rights movement; Art, Culture, Literature



Hannelore Schneider
English

Born 1950, Mainz: As a teacher in Cottbus, Hannelore Schneider tried to support her students in a free exchange of opinions, influenced by her own Christian faith. She became part of an environmental group in Cottbus from 1987 to 1987 which arranged human rights seminars and was monitored by the Stasi. This group revealed local voting fraud in the regional elections and reported it to the authorities. The leaders of the organisation were immediately expelled from the GDR and migrated to West Germany.



CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

**Other Topics: Flight, Departure,
Purchased Freedom; Experiences of
Imprisonment / Stasi Detention;
Fall of the Wall 9 November 1989**



Tim Eisenlohr
English

Born 1973, Nebel: His political commitment started at an early age with his participation for the East Berlin-based Umweltbibliothek (UB – »environmentalist library«), where he helped with book circulation and the production of the library group's own magazine »Umweltblätter«. The 14-year old boy was arrested along with other members of the UB staff by Stasi officials during a raid of their quarters in the basement of the Zionskirche church in Berlin on 24th November 1987. After an intense interrogation he was released and resumed his oppositional work. He left for West Berlin with his family in the summer of 1989 after their application to exit the country was

approved. Tim Eisenlohr again committed himself politically to the cause of nuclear disarmament, among other topics, until he served his civil service (as alternative to military service), after which he focused on horse breeding.

**Other Topics: Art, Culture, Literature;
Fall of the Wall 9 November 1989**



Steffen Gresch
English

Born 1965, Karlsruhe: He filed an application to be relieved of his GDR-citizenship in 1986 and played an active role in a number of oppositional organisations. Gresch hosted a private reading session in his living room with Peter Grimm, presenting the paper »Grenzfall« that was critical of the regime and printed illegally. Together with others he founded the working group »human rights« on 12th May 1987 in which he was involved until the Stasi pushed for his exit from the country soon after. The reason was that he had declined the Stasi's

attempts to recruit him as an »informal collaborator«. After making his way to West Berlin, he organised a protest demanding the release of several civil rights activists in the GDR.

**Other Topics:
Church; Parties**



Gisela Kallenbach
English

Born 1944, Leipzig: As she wasn't allowed to complete her Abitur in school because of her refusal to attend the Jugendweihe (socialist coming-of-age ceremony), Gisela Kallenbach became a lab technician and continued her education via evening courses. She became involved in environmental organisations, the civil rights movement and ecclesiastical groups. During the final years of the East German regime she helped to organise peace prayers in Leipzig. After the Peaceful Revolution, she started a political career and went on to work on UN missions.

FALL OF THE WALL 9 NOVEMBER 1989

Other Topics: Experiences of Imprisonment / Stasi Detention; Experiences in children's home or other institutions; Art, Culture, Literature



Anke Domscheit-Berg
English

Born 1968, Fürstenberg / Havel: Domscheit-Berg was politicised and began typing political leaflets during her studies of textile arts in Schneeberg, when her best friend underwent harsh treatment while in prison in Halle. She became the target of governmental harassment herself due to her leaflets and opinions: letters she received had always already been opened and read, and the Stasi moreover attempted to coerce her into becoming an »informal collaborator« who could provide information about friends and family. After she declined, Anke Domscheit-Berg was not allowed to accept a scholarship for a study trip to Paris. With these experiences in mind, she has committed herself to a fight against government mass surveillance.

GERMAN UNITY



Claus-Jürgen Duisberg
English, French

Born 1934, Bonn: The West German lawyer started his political career as a diplomat in 1964 in several embassies all over the world. He was transferred to the West German Permanent Representation in East Berlin in 1978, where he stayed for four years and witnessed the physical separation of West Germany and Berlin first hand. From 1986 to 1990, Claus-Jürgen Duisberg worked for the West German Chancellery and took an active part in the negotiations surrounding German reunification. In reunited Germany, he was responsible for the dismantling of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the GDR and the observation of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from German territory.





Gerd-Heinrich Kemper
English, French

Born 1938, Berlin: Gerd-Heinrich Kemper experienced German separation in his everyday life as a secretary of a senator in West Berlin. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, he witnessed the transformation of the GDR from a communist regime to a constitutional democracy first hand, as he became president of the Higher Administrative Court of the German state Saxony-Anhalt in 1996 and president of the State Constitutional Court of Saxony-Anhalt in 2000.



Dorit Linke
English

Born 1971, Berlin: Dorit Linke grew up in Rostock. Like many of her peers, she came to know that there were many secret and forbidden things in the GDR – things she should not talk about with anyone. Towards the end of the 1980s she was very much aware of the sense of political awakening and no longer willing to obey rules and prohibitions, but wanted to decide for herself. Dorit Linke participated in the »Thursday Demonstrations« and the citizens' movement vigils in Rostock in the autumn of 1989.



EXHIBITIONS, DOCUMENTARY FILMS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM THE FEDERAL FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP IN EAST GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME »MEMORY WORK«

In the context of its international cooperation efforts to support the study of dictatorships and violent state regimes, the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany provides funding for an international exchange programme in the area of »Memory Work« each year.

The aim of the programme is to help stimulate international exchange in the reappraisal of dictatorships and state violence, to deepen the mutual knowledge of the other's history and processing thereof, thus leading to a better understanding of the corresponding debates and their respective historical, political and social backgrounds in each context.

In the context of this programme all employees and staff members of NGOs, memorial sites and related initiatives, independent archives, museums and similar establishments dealing with reappraisal and remembrance may complete a stay at a corresponding institution in a foreign country for up to three months to research experiences of dictatorship and / or state violence.





EAST-WEST-EUROPEAN MEMORIAL SEMINAR IN KRZYŻOWA / KREISAU

The East-West European Memorial Seminar in Krzyżowa / Kreisau addresses professionals from different European institutions such as places of remembrance, museums, memorials, educational centres, human rights organisations, scientific and educational institutions. The main aim of the seminar is to get to know each other's institutions and professional activities, to exchange knowledge about different ways of presenting history in national and local narratives and to discuss bilateral and multilateral questions that continue to influence the memory of the 20th century. The organisers hope for this free exchange between partici-

pants from many countries to contribute to an improved process of understanding and reconciliation between different nations in Europe. As hosts of this meeting (which can almost claim the status of tradition by now) we are glad to invite our participants to discuss their perspectives, cultures of remembrance and ways of presenting history in both Eastern and Western European countries.

Each year we invite professionals from places of remembrance, museums, NGOs, memorials, educational centres, human rights organisations, scientific and educational institutions etc. as well as academic scholars and students. The invitation is open to all interested in the

history of national socialism, the Shoah, the period of Stalinism and communist dictatorships. We would like to offer you the opportunity for an inter-European exchange.



DOCUMENTARY FILMS

■ The King Code. Martin Luther King in Berlin

The DVD contains both a German and English version of the film as well as German subtitles and comprehensive didactic material related to the film.

Berlin, 1964: an attempted escape across the Berlin Wall in the early morning of 13 September leads to an exchange of fire. Only fourteen hours later, American civil rights leader and Baptist preacher Dr. Martin Luther King travels across the »Iron Curtain« to East Berlin. He delivers a sermon at the Marienkirche near Alexanderplatz and another at the nearby Sophienkirche, inspiring his audience each time: »Here are God's children on both sides of the wall, and no man-made barrier can destroy this fact.«

Berlin, 2013: the project »The King Code« involves school pupils from the Ernst Reuter Oberschule in Berlin's Wedding district and the Rosa Luxemburg Gymnasium in the

district of Pankow, which began jointly researching and retrieving facts, documents and contemporary witnesses regarding the civil rights leader's visit to Berlin in 1964. They seek to assess the unjust nature of the GDR and the impact of King's message on the opposition movement and the Peaceful Revolution. Ultimately, they are searching for traces of the peaceful struggle against injustice and exclusion.

The documentary by Andreas Kuno Richter records the pupils' fascinating journey through time. Including hitherto unpublished photographs of King's visit to Berlin, he also pursues the question of the resonance of Martin Luther King's anti-racist and non-violent message today. One of the students in the documentary states: »I hope I can also somehow contribute to making the world a better place. That's my dream. I have a dream!'

The film is an EIKON Nord GmbH production commissioned by RTL in cooperation with

the Evangelical Church in Germany, supported by the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany.



To publication shop



■ The short Life of Chris Gueffroy

Chris Geoffrey died nine months before the Berlin Wall came down, shot dead at the border while trying to escape. He marks the very last victim to die at the hands of the SED dictatorship's inhuman border regime, and his name has become emblematic of the many deaths which occurred along the Berlin Wall.

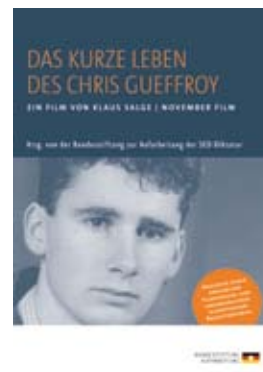
Who was Chris Gueffroy? Why did he not want to live in the GDR any longer? What drove him and his friend Christian Gaudian to risk their lives at the Berlin Wall?

Filmmaker Klaus Salge speaks with Chris's mother Karin Gueffroy and his friends about him. The documentary cautiously uncovers (the different) layers of the past, assembling a sensitive portrait of Chris Gueffroy, his life in the GDR, his dreams and small escapes from everyday life.

Salge also raises the question of the emotional consequences of Chris's violent death for his mother and friends, how they coped – and continue to cope – with the loss of their son and friend.

Karin Gueffroy's life was radically disrupted: a more or less satisfied GDR citizen suddenly became a victim of the regime. When her son died, »her state« died as well – she could no longer live in this GDR. »It is only when something like this happens to you that you wake up!«, she said. In September of 1989, she moved to West Berlin where she still lives today. While the GDR has disappeared, her grief has not.

A documentary by Klaus Salge, November Film, co-produced by the Rundfunk Berlin Brandenburg broadcasting station and supported by the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany.



To publication shop



EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition – such as, for instance, in the lobbies of town halls or at adult education centres, libraries, schools or churches – represents the ideal medium for publicly addressing questions surrounding the global systems rivalry that characterised the second half of the 20th century. An exhibition provides an adequate space for introducing films, hosting contemporary witness interviews, book presentations and other events.

■ »Communism in its Time«

The year 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the October Revolution. Commemorating this occasion, the exhibition »Communism in its Time« depicts the rise and fall of the Communist movement, which embarked on an attempt to fundamentally change not only the entire world, but humanity itself throughout the 20th century. This totalitarian aspiration mobilised millions around the globe, while becoming a nightmare for countless millions more who became

victims of violent Communist regimes. The exhibition comprises 25 DIN A1 exhibition panels available in German, English, French, Russian and Spanish. An accompanying twelve-page booklet, as well as a poster and leaflet advertising the exhibition, can be downloaded as PDF files.

Published by the German Historical Museum and the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany.

To publication shop



■ »The Cold War: Causes – History – Impact«

Featuring texts and over 160 historical photographs and documents as well as accompanying QR codes providing corresponding hyperlinks, the exhibition conveys a panoramic overview of the Cold War and

its seminal impact on the 20th century in the form of the global systems rivalry. Published by the Berlin Center for Cold War Studies and the Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany.

The exhibition comprises 22 DIN A1 exhibition panels available in German, English, French, Russian and Spanish. An accompanying twelve-page booklet, as well as a poster and leaflet advertising the exhibition, can also be downloaded as PDF files.

To publication shop





PUBLICATIONS

■ Coming to Terms: Dealing with the Communist Past in United Germany

Coming to Terms provides an overview of salient features and important institutions pertaining to processes of coming to terms with the communist past in Germany since 1990. It is available in Chinese, English, Korean and Spanish.

Written in collaboration with the Foundation by Bernd Schaefer, Senior Research Scholar with the Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington D.C., Berlin 2011.

To publication shop



■ Where in the World is the Berlin Wall?

A Symbol of Freedom, of the human Strength of Will and a Relic of the cold War.

Countless pieces of the Berlin Wall were scattered around the world after it came down in 1989. These pieces of Wall embody the fight for freedom of the people of Berlin. More than 240 of these sections – each weighing several tonnes – were sought out for this book. They stand on every continent in more than 140 locations. Amongst those who now own sections of the Wall are Japanese businessmen, famous art collectors and all US Presidents of the last century. There are some exciting and strange, but also some tragic stories behind these pieces of the Wall. The stories in this book highlight

the many ways in which the pieces of the Berlin Wall have been used to commemorate the wall and the Cold War more generally.

Published by Anna Kaminsky on behalf of The Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in Eastern Germany. 1st edition – Berlin: Berlin Story Verlag 2014, 19,95 Euro, ISBN 978-3-95723-017-1, available in bookshops.





■ Vademecums

The International Vademecums series has thus far produced twelve country-specific issues: Republic of Moldova, Spain, Bulgaria, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Scandinavia, and Great Britain. They provide an overview of the archives, research institutes, libraries, political education institutions, associations, museums and memorials found in each country.

Some can be downloaded, while the rest can be retrieved in print form via mail order.

To publication shop



■ Biographical Encyclopaedia of Resistance and Opposition under Communism, 1945–91

Countless men and women courageously confronted the shameless impositions of their rulers in all phases of communist rule and all countries of the communist world system.

The structure, scope and success of opposition and resistance against communist dictatorships depended on the specific conditions in each country, the extent of repression and the degree of solidarity among the oppressed.

The dissident biographies on this website represent a small selection, but one which we hope nevertheless provides an impression of the multi-faceted oppositional activities conducted in Eastern Europe between 1945 and 1989–91.

www.dissidenten.eu is a joint project by the Federal Foundation, the »Karta« Foundation in Warsaw, and the Robert-Havemann-Gesellschaft e. V., Berlin.



LEARNING AT HISTORY'S FEET – MEMORIAL SITES IN BERLIN AND BRANDENBURG

The involvement of contemporary witnesses is essential for the work of memorials. These people's experiences bring the history of a place to life and thereby render a specific historical episode palpable. The places themselves are referred to as »witnesses in stone«, the actual exhibits which teach us about their history, function and impact. Their aura and authenticity contain both opportunities and challenges for the work of conveying this history. Contemporary witnesses were involved in the creation of the memorials in many instances, initiating exhibitions or preventing alternative uses of the venue. This represents another reason why contemporary witnesses are crucial to the historical representation and

corresponding educational work while, at the same time, the memorial sites live up to their task of conveying and commemorating history.

The experience of repression suffered by inmates take centre stage at the memorial sites in former prisons of the GDR's Ministry of State Security (Stasi), while experiences of everyday life under dictatorship are addressed largely at places of import to German-German history. Regional border episodes are presented at the Grenzland (»Borderland«) museums. Many memorial sites offer guided discussions with contemporary witnesses for school classes and adult groups following a guided tour.

At some sites, guides and contemporary witnesses can also lead groups through the exhibition together if requested. Both methods pursue the goal of rendering palpable historical knowledge of the location's past through subjective memories, thereby »bringing history to life«. The moderated debates foster a space in which contemporary witnesses confine their deliberations exclusively to their personal experience and appear as experts on this experience. The audience is presented with a first-hand and exemplary account of living history at an historical site.

BERLIN

■ The Berlin Wall Memorial, Mitte / Wedding

The Berlin Wall Memorial is the central memorial site of German division, located in the middle of the capital. Situated at the historic site on Bernauer Strasse, it extends along 1.4 kilometres of the former border strip. The memorial contains the last piece of Berlin Wall with the preserved grounds behind it and is thus able to convey an impression of how the border fortifications developed until the end of the 1980s. The events that took place here together with the preserved historical remnants and traces of border obstacles on display help convey the history of Germany's division to visitors.

On the border strip that had been located in East Berlin, an open-air exhibition uses the example of Bernauer Strasse to explain the history of division more generally. The memorial consists of the Monument in

Memory of the Divided City and the Victims of Communist Tyranny as well as the Window of Remembrance. The grounds also include the Chapel of Reconciliation and the excavated foundations of a former apartment building whose façade functioned as the border wall until the early 1980s. English-language guided tours and workshops, in which schoolchildren explore the former border strip on Bernauer Strasse using cameras, are also available.

Berlin Wall Memorial
Bernauer Straße 111
13355 Berlin
phone: 030 467 986 666
email: info@stiftung-berliner-mauer.de
www.berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de

■ Marienfelde Refugee Center Museum, Tempelhof-Schöneberg

Between 1949 and 1990, about four million people left East Germany (the GDR) for West Germany (the FRG), with 1.35 million

of them passing through the Marienfelde Refugee Center in Berlin. The Marienfelde Refugee Center, which was opened in 1953, supplied refugees with housing and provisions, and was also where refugees completed the official procedure to receive residency permits for West Germany and West Berlin. Located on the historic site of the Refugee Center, the museum preserves and memorialises the causes, process, and consequences of inner-German flight, exploring not only flight from the GDR itself, but the formal process of emigration and subsequent integration of refugees into West German society as well.

Marienfelde invites you to discover more about this history through its permanent and temporary exhibitions, diverse educational programmes, special events, and research projects. English-language guided tours are available, as well as tours for children ages 9–13 and small-group workshops (including tours) for high school students.



Hartmann
1955 - 14.3.1966

Eberhard Schulz
11.8.1946 - 30.9.1966

Eduard Kriebitzsch
20.10.22 - 25.7.1966



Karl Schleusener
14.1.1953 - 14.3.1966

Michael Boden
10.1.1956 - 15.1.1966



Marienfelde Refugee Center Museum
Marienfelder Allee 66 / 80
12277 Berlin
phone: 030 75 00 84 00
Fax: 030 75 44 66 34
email: info-enm@stiftung-berliner-mauer.de
www.notaufnahmelaeger-berlin.de

- **Stasi Museum Berlin,
Lichtenberg**

The imposing building at Normannenstraße 22 began housing the Ministry of State Security in 1961. The centrepiece of this memorial site's exhibition are the office and private study of Erich Mielke, the last Minister of State Security, preserved in their original state. Other parts of the exhibition focus on specific aspects of the political system in the GDR, testify to the Stasi's activities and present an overview of resistance and opposition in the GDR.

Guided tours of the exhibition are available upon prior request. In addition, presentations, discussions with contemporary witnesses

and workshops are hosted as well. Guided tours in English are available on weekends and Mondays.

Stasimuseum Berlin
Ruschestraße 103, Haus 1
10365 Berlin
phone: 030 5 53 68 54
fax: 030 5 53 68 53
email: info@stasimuseum.de
www.stasimuseum.de

- **DDR Museum, Mitte**

The DDR Museum is Berlin's interactive museum and one of the most-visited attractions in the German capital. History becomes palpable as the visitor is given a first-hand introduction to life in the first socialist state on German soil. See, touch, feel and experience the actual conditions of a long-defunct system. Unique artefacts, futuristic technology and a prize-winning design transform a museum visit into a great journey back in time.

Guided tours, workshops, talks with contemporary witnesses and historical tours of the city are all available in English as well.

DDR Museum
Karl-Liebknecht-Straße 1
10178 Berlin
phone: 030 847 123 73-0
fax: 030 847 123 73-9
email: post@ddr-museum.de
www.ddr-museum.de

- **Tränenpalast at the Berlin
Friedrichstraße station, Mitte**

The foundation Haus der Geschichte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland presents the permanent exhibition »GrenzErfahrungen. Alltag der deutschen Teilung« at the historic site of the Tränenpalast (»Palace of Tears«). Featuring biographical narratives, original objects and interviews with contemporary witnesses, it illustrates what life was like in the face of partition and the new border. Moreover, it includes the most important

milestones throughout the process of German reunification. English-language guided tours are available.

Ausstellung im Tränenpalast
Reichstagsufer 17
10117 Berlin
phone: 030 46 77 77 9-11
email: besucherdienst-berlin@hdg.de
www.hdg.de/berlin/traenenpalast

■ **Museum in the Kulturbrauerei,
Prenzlauer Berg**

The museum's permanent exhibition located in the former Schultheiss brewery and operated by the foundation Haus der Geschichte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland highlights the deep and manifold tensions between political aspirations and lived reality in the GDR. Interactive elements and media stations allow visitors to immerse themselves into countless original objects

and documents, biographical accounts, video and sound files. Guided tours are also available in English.

Museum in der Kulturbrauerei
Knaackstraße 97
Gebäude 6.2
10435 Berlin
phone: 030 46 77 77 9-11
email: besucherdienst-berlin@hdg.de
www.hdg.de/berlin/museum-in-der-kulturbrauerei/

■ **Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Memorial,
Lichtenberg**

Many people who resisted the Communist dictatorship were incarcerated at the Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Stasi prison between the 1950s and October 1990. The memorial offers guided tours of the former prison presented in English by former inmates, as well as guided tours with a thematic focus.

Gedenkstätte Berlin-Hohenschönhausen
Genslerstraße 66
13055 Berlin
phone: 030 98 60 82 30
fax: 030 98 60 82 34
email: info@stiftung-hsh.de
www.stiftung-hsh.de

■ **Wall Museum – Checkpoint Charlie,
Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg**

At the Checkpoint Charlie museum, visitors can view original objects used for escaping under and through the Berlin Wall, and read about the refugees who risked their lives for freedom. Those who died while escaping are also commemorated in an attempt to keep their memory alive. In addition to the history of the Wall, visitors can trace the trajectory of the civil rights movements and learn more about countries in today's world where the struggle for human rights continues.

Other exhibitions cover the history of NATO and its interventions in various international conflicts since its founding, or introduce Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat and philanthropist who rescued 100,000 Jews from certain death during World War II. Guided tours are available in English.

Wall Museum – Checkpoint Charlie
Friedrichstraße 43–45
10969 Berlin
phone: 030 2 53 72 50
fax: 030 2 51 20 75
email: info@mauermuseum.de
www.mauer-museum.com

- **BlackBox Cold War – Exhibition at Checkpoint Charlie, Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg**

The exhibition »BlackBox Cold War«, located on the historic site where Russian and American tanks faced off in 1961, situates the partition of Germany in the wider context of the international systems rivalry between East and West. A large number of media

stations, a small cinema, historical materials and original documents link the Berlin Wall to other world-historical events such as the Korean War and the Cuban Missile Crisis, expanding perspectives on the global dimension of the confrontation between East and West. Guided tours are available in English.

BlackBox Kalter Krieg
Friedrichstraße 47 / Corner of Zimmerstraße
10117 Berlin
Contact:
Berliner Forum für Geschichte und Gegenwart e. V.
Wartburgstraße 42
10823 Berlin
phone: 030 21 63 571
email: info@bfgg.de
www.bfgg.de

- **German Spy Museum Berlin**

The German Spy Museum Berlin provides a unique insight into the gloom of espionage right where the Wall once divided the city. Visitors are welcome to use the most recent

multimedia-based technology to detect the variety of bizarre and sneaky methods applied by agents and secret services. An exciting time travel from spying in ancient biblical history to the present and future in the heart of the capital of spies. Workshops for school classes and guided tours are also available in English.

German Spy Museum
Leipziger Platz 9
10117 Berlin
phone: 030 39 8200 450
fax: 030 39 8200 459
email: info@deutsches-spionagemuseum.de
www.deutsches-spionagemuseum.de

- **Traces of the Border at the Flutgraben canal, Treptow**

The only building right next to the Wall to survive its construction and expansion can be found on the Flutgraben canal in the Treptow district of Berlin. Today an artist studio space, the building belonged to a state-owned enterprise in the GDR era.

From 13 August 1961 it was barricaded and cautiously guarded. Nevertheless, many people managed to escape to the nearby West Berlin district of Kreuzberg from here. The guided tour explores this most unusual part of the Berlin Wall. Visitors are shown barricaded windows, border soldiers' inscriptions and the remains of signal installations, and are taken up to the 20-meter high roof overlooking the Spree and Osthafen which served as a sentry point for GDR border troops until 1989. The guided tour in English offers a site-specific perspective on the history of the Berlin Wall.

Grenzspuren am Flutgraben, Treptow
Glogauer Straße 21
10999 Berlin
phone: 030 69 53 10 88
email: info@grenzlaefte.de
www.grenzlaefte.de



Brandenburg

■ Sachsenhausen Memorial and Museum

In 1936, the SS built the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp next to Oranienburg. Until 1945, more than 200,000 people from all over Europe were imprisoned here. Tens of thousands died of hunger and diseases and of the effects of forced labour and mistreatment, or were victims of systematic extermination. From 1945–1950, the Soviet Special Camp No. 7 / No. 1 was located on the site. In 1961, the GDR founded the Sachsenhausen National Memorial. The present Memorial and the Sachsenhausen Museum have been part of the Brandenburg Memorials Foundation since 1993. Guided tours are available in English.

Sachsenhausen Memorial and Museum
Straße der Nationen 22
16515 Oranienburg
phone: 03301 200-0
email: info@gedenkstaette-sachsenhausen.de
www.stiftung-bg.de

■ Center of Human Rights Cottbus – Memorial Prison of Cottbus

The Center of Human Rights at its historic location in Cottbus portrays personalities who courageously and with democratic conviction were ground up by the political legal systems of the Nazi regime and the SED dictatorship. The politically-motivated injustice visited upon inmates takes centre stage. In a display of volunteer civic engagement, the 150 members of the society and other supporters restored »Prison Building 1« in the former East German detention centre.

Center of Human Rights Cottbus –
Memorial Prison of Cottbus
Bautzener Straße 140, 03050 Cottbus
phone: 0355 290 13 30
fax: 0355 290 13 333
email: info@menschenrechtszentrum-cottbus.de
www.menschenrechtszentrum-cottbus.de

■ Memorial Leistikowstraße, Potsdam

Launched in April 2012, the permanent exhibition »Soviet Remand Prison Leistikowstraße Potsdam« informs visitors about the history of the detention centre and the fate of its inmates.

Gedenk- und Begegnungsstätte
Leistikowstraße Potsdam in der Stiftung
Brandenburgische Gedenkstätten
Leistikowstraße 1
14469 Potsdam
phone: 0331 2011540
email: mail@gedenkstaette-leistikowstrasse.de
www.gedenkstaette-leistikowstrasse.de

■ Documentation Centre of Everyday Culture of the GDR, Eisenhüttenstadt

The documentation centre's permanent exhibition »Alltag: DDR« (»Everyday life in the GDR«) introduces visitors to all kinds of

facets of everyday life in the GDR, including family and work life, and depicts the areas of consumption, education and possibilities of communication in a round tour through ten different rooms. Additional rooms illustrate the system of political power in the GDR, explain what it meant to lead a socialist way of life, and depict the oppositional milieus of the 1980s.

The exhibition contains a large number of objects, photographs and documents, videos and interviews, all of which are viewable at media stations. Background information is available for each of the exhibition's themes via integrated computer databases. Audio guides featuring background stories of some select objects round off the exhibition.

For school students, a »chronology in objects« captures the GDR's temporal dimension and embeds it in historical context between 1945 and 1990. training.

**Documentation Centre of Everyday
Culture of the GDR**
Erich-Weinert-Allee 3
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt
phone: 03364 4173 55
email: info@alltagskultur-ddr.de
www.alltagskultur-ddr.de

■ Villa Schöningen

The Villa Schöningen houses a permanent exhibition on the history of the house itself and of Glienicke Bridge. The exhibition focuses on the period between 1961–89 when the inner-German border ran just outside its front door and Glienicke Bridge was frequently used for prisoner swaps between East and West. Two items have been added to the exhibition since 2013: »Life in the Death Strip« (»Das Leben im Todesstreifen«) and »The Lindenberg File / Udo in the GDR« (»Die Akte

Lindenberg / Udo und die DDR«). The exhibition is open from Thursday through Sunday, and guided tours may be booked for any of these days. A special feature is the guided tour presented by former CIA agent Eberhard Fätkenheuer.

Villa Schöningen
Kunst & Geschichte an der Glienicker Brücke
Berliner Straße 86
14467 Potsdam
phone: 0331 2001741
email: office@villa-schoeningen.de
www.villa-schoeningen.de

■ Memorial Foundation Lindenstraße

Located in the heart of Potsdam's city centre, the Lindenstraße Memorial symbolises both political persecution and violence under Germany's various 20th century dictatorships, as well as democracy's ultimate triumph during the Peaceful Revolution of 1989 / 90.

A multimedia exhibition in the former court and prison building complex leads visitors through the different historical periods. At the heart of the exhibition are the people incarcerated and convicted of political crimes under the Nazi regime, the period of Soviet occupation and the SED dictatorship – and those who helped bring down the SED dictatorship in 1989 / 90. The memorial

welcomes visitors as an open space for learning about history, both individually or in the context of guided tours, contemporary witness interviews, workshops or public events. Guided tours are available in English and other languages. The memorial also offers an exhibition guide in English, Spanish, French, Polish and Russian for individual visitors, which is free of charge.

Stiftung Gedenkstätte Lindenstraße
Lindenstraße 54
14467 Potsdam
phone: 0331 289 6136
fax: 0331 289 6137
email: info@gedenkstaette-lindenstrasse.de
www.gedenkstaette-lindenstrasse.de



CONTACT

Dr. Jens Hüttmann
Head of School Education
phone: 030 319895-209
email: j.huettmann@bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de

Anna v. Arnim-Rosenthal
Contemporary Witnesses and
Remembrance Culture
phone: 030 319895-233
fax: 030 319895-421
email: zeitzeugenbuero@bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de

IMPRINT

Published by the Federal Foundation for
the Study of Communist Dictatorship in
East Germany

Editorial Board:
Anna v. Arnim-Rosenthal
Dr. Jens Hüttmann
Kronenstraße 5
10117 Berlin

www.bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de
[www.facebook.com / BundesstiftungAuf-](https://www.facebook.com/BundesstiftungAufarbeitung)
[arbeitung](https://www.facebook.com/BundesstiftungAufarbeitung)

Translation: Jan-Peter Herrmann
Design: ultramarinrot
Print: vierC print+mediafabrik
Front cover: Federal Government /
Klaus Lehnartz
Berlin 2017

Photo credits : The photos show everyday
scenes from the GDR and are from the
stock of the Federal Foundation for the
Study of the Communist Dictatorship: page
2, 12, 15, 16, 18 / 19, 22 (middle), 26 Bundes-
stiftung Aufarbeitung / Harald Hauswald /
OSTKREUZ; page 20 Bundesstiftung
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89_1110_POL_DDR-Wende_06 (left),
Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung / Harald
Schmitt, Bild Schmitt_159 (right). The
photos on page 28 show scenes of the
opposition in Prague (November 1989) and
Gdansk (August 1980): Bundesstiftung
Aufarbeitung / Harald Schmitt/Bild H.
Schmitt 02, Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung/
Harald Schmitt / Bild Schmitt_208,
Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung / Harald
Schmitt / Bild Schmitt_213. Page 38
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photographer Günter Schneider.



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