West German Economy, 1945-1955 - Alan Kramer 1991-01-09 This concise overview of the German ‘Economic Miracle’ of the post-World War Two reconstruction years argues that the German economy was in a far healthier position at the end of the war than previously thought, and that the preconditions for growth - a skilled and abundant labour supply and a favourable international political climate - facilitated the phenomenal ‘recovery’ and economic growth that was to follow.

Rebuilding Germany - James C. Van Hook 2004-05-10 The social market economy has served as a fundamental pillar of post-war Germany. Today, it is associated with the European welfare state. Initially, it meant the opposite. Rebuilding Germany examines the 1948 West German economic reforms that dismantled the Nazi command economy and ushered in the fabled ‘European Miracle’ of the 1950s. Van Hook evaluates the role in German reconstruction, the problematic relationship of Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and his economics minister, Ludwig Erhard, the West German ‘economic miracle’, and the extent to which the social market economy represented a departure from the German past. In a nuanced and fresh account, Van Hook evaluates the American role in West German recovery and the debates about economic policy within West Germany, to show that Germans themselves had surprising room to shape their economic and industrial system.

The Economic Consequences of the War - Tamás Vonyó 2018-02-22 The ‘German Question’ dominated much of modern European history. In 1945, Germany was defeated and conquered. Yet, the Second World War did not destroy the foundations of her economic power. Dr Tamás Vonyó revisits Germany’s remarkable post-war revival, tracing its roots not to liberal economic reforms and the Marshall Plan, but to the legacies of the war that endowed Germany with an enhanced industrial base and an enlarged labour force. He also shows that Germany’s liberal market economy was in reality an economy of regulated markets, controlled prices and extensive state intervention. Using quantitative analysis and drawing on a rich historiography that has remained, in large part, unknown outside of Germany, this book reassesses the role of economic policy and the importance of wartime legacies to explain the German growth miracle after 1945 and the sharply contrasting experiences of East and West Germany.

The West German Economy - Klaus H. Hennings 1981

The Economic Consequences of the War

Direct Controls of West German Economy from Surrender (1945) to Currency Reform (1948), with Special Reference to American Policies - Nicholas Balakbins 1956

American Policy and the Reconstruction of West Germany, 1945-1953 - Jeffry M. Diefendorf 1993 This volume of essays by German and American historians discusses key issues of US policy toward Germany in the decade following World War II.

German Industry and German Industrialisation - Robert Lee 2017-04-17 Originally published in 1991 this book brings together 9 essays which address a number of central issues relating to the nature of German industrialisation, including the role of foreign competition in fostering technological change, the importance of market integration for economic development and the response of German banks to industrialisation. The book also provides an important corrective to the traditional interpretation of German industrialisation and reassesses the economic impact of the customs union (Zollverein). The reappraisal of some dominant themes in German economic and business history is distinctive in its explicit use of economic theory in historical analysis of long-term growth processes. It also emphasises the importance of sectoral analysis and illustrates the usefulness of a differential regional approach for understanding the process of German industrialisation.

German Industry and the Challenge of the Nazi Past, 1945-1955 - Jonathan Wiesen (historicus.) 2001 Wiesen explores how West German business leaders remade and marketed their public image in the decade after World War II and the Holocaust. He shows how firms such as Siemens and Krupp continually attempted to absolve themselves of responsibility for Nazi crimes and to rehabilitate and reshape the reputation of capitalism.

Digest of West German Economic Recovery Through Social Free Economy - 1962

German Industry and the Challenge of the Nazi Past, 1945-1955 - Jeffrey M. Diefendorf 1993 This book brings together 9 essays which address a number of central issues relating to the nature of German industrialisation, including the role of foreign competition in fostering technological change, the importance of market integration for economic development and the response of German banks to industrialisation. The book also provides an important corrective to the traditional interpretation of German industrialisation and reassesses the economic impact of the customs union (Zollverein). The reappraisal of some dominant themes in German economic and business history is distinctive in its explicit use of economic theory in historical analysis of long-term growth processes. It also emphasises the importance of sectoral analysis and illustrates the usefulness of a differential regional approach for understanding the process of German industrialisation.

The West German Economy and the Challenge of the Nazi Past, 1945-1955 - S. Jonathan Wiesen 2003-01-14 In the aftermath of World War II and the Holocaust, West German industrialists faced a major crisis in their public image. With mounting revelations about the use of forced and slave labor, the “Aryanization” of Jewish property, and corporate profiteering under National Socialism, industrialists emerged from the war with their national and international reputations in tatters. This groundbreaking study, Jonathan Wiesen explores how West German business leaders remade and marketed their public image between 1945 and 1955. He challenges assumptions that West Germans--and industrialists in particular--were silent about the recent past during the years of...
denazification and reconstruction. Drawing on sources that include private correspondence, popular literature, and a wealth of unpublished materials from corporate archives, Wiesen reveals how German business leaders attempted to absolve themselves of responsibility for Nazi crimes while recasting themselves as socially and culturally engaged public figures. Through case studies of individual firms such as Siemens and Krupp, Wiesen depicts corporate publicity as a telling example of postwar selective memory. In his introduction and conclusion, Wiesen considers the recent establishment of a multibillion dollar fund to provide financial compensation to the victims of industrial exploitation during World War II. This acknowledgment by German industry of its ongoing responsibility for its past crimes underscores the contemporary relevance of Wiesen's study.

How German is She?—Erica Carter 1997 The 1950s have passed into the history books as the period of the Federal Republic of Germany's so-called "economic miracle"; yet attention to women's roles in economic reconstruction has until now been negligible. In this book, Erica Carter explores how the development of a "social market economy" after 1949 gave a new centrality to consumers as key players in the economic life of the nation, and, in that process, gave women a new public significance. Public attention focused in particular on the nation's housewives, who were to train the populace for entry into a new world of consumer prosperity. Carter investigates this focus from two perspectives: in part 1, she tackles the political economy of postwar West German consumption, and in part 2, she looks at representations of the consuming woman across a range of popular cultural forms. Since visual imagery is discussed at length, the book is lavishly illustrated with advertisements, fashion photographs, film stills, and documentary photography from the period. How German Is She? also makes a distinctive contribution to questions of national identity. While many historians agree that nationalism was a spent force after 1945, Carter argues that concepts of nationhood survived in the rhetorics of public policy and in popular culture of the period. In this context, national and efficient consumption became a housewife's duty, not just to husband and family, but to the postwar "nation." The book will be of primary interest to scholars and students in German studies, women's studies, and cultural studies. Erica Carter is Research Fellow in German Studies, University of Warwick.

The Politics of Economic Decline in East Germany, 1945-1989—Jeffrey Kopstein 2000-11-09 Jeffrey Kopstein offers the first comprehensive study of East German economic policy over the course of the state's forty-year history. Analyzing both the making of economic policy at the national level and the implementation of specific policies on the shop floor, he provides new and essential background to the revolution of 1989. In particular, he shows how decisions made at critical junctures in East Germany's history led to a pattern of economic decline and worker dissatisfaction that contributed to eventual political collapse. East Germany was generally considered to have the most successful economy in the Eastern Bloc, but Kopstein explores what prevented the country's leaders from responding effectively to pressing economic problems. He depicts a regime caught between the demand of a disaffected working class whose support was crucial to continued political stability, an intractable leaders from responding effectively to pressing economic problems. He depicts a regime caught between the demand of a disaffected working class whose support was crucial to continued political stability, an intractable

American Military Communities in West Germany—John W. Lenza 2016-04-29 On April 28, 1946, a small group of American wives and children arrived at the port of Bremerhaven, West Germany, the first of thousands of military family members to make the trans-Atlantic journey. They were the basis of a network of military communities--"Little Americas"--that would spread across the postwar German landscape. During a 45-year period which included some of the Cold War's tensest moments, their presence confirmed America's resolve to maintain Western democracy in the face of the Soviet threat. Drawing on archival sources and personal narratives, this book explores these enclaves of Americanism, from the U.S. government's perspective to the grassroots view of those who made their homes in Cold War Europe. These families faced many challenges in balancing their military missions with their daily lives during a period of dynamic global change. The author describes interaction in American communities that were sometimes separated, sometimes connected with their German neighbors.

The Miracle Years—Hanna Schissler 2001 Exploring postwar German history, literature and film, this text examines the lives of real people to learn how they experienced and represented the institutions and social forces that shaped their lives and defined the wider culture.

Imperial Germany, 1871-1918—Volker Rolf Berghahn 2005 A comprehensive history of German society in this period, providing a broad survey of its development. The volume is thematically organized and designed to give easy access to the major topics and issues of the Bismarckian and Wilhelmine eras. The statistical appendix contains a wide range of social, economic and political data. Written with the English-speaking student in mind, this book is likely to become a widely used text for this period, incorporating as it does twenty years of further research on the German Empire since the appearance of Hans-Ulrich Wehler's classic work.

An Exercise in Futility—Albrecht O. Ritschel 1994 This paper assembles and reviews data on growth performance for East Germany. Conclusions are only tentative, as data reliability is still poor. Examining factor growth and total factor productivity performance, the paper arrives at three main conclusions. First, large-scale dismantling of capital by the Soviets was outweighed by migration, such that the aggregate capital-labour ratio in East Germany around 1950 was similar to that of West Germany. Second, the record of productivity growth follows the common pattern for Western countries. The productivity slowdown set in with a delay, however, as foreign borrowing and subsidized oil imports isolated East Germany from the first oil shock. Third, when these subsidies ended and debt service mounted, East Germany ran into a debt crisis, with productivity growth becoming zero or even negative in the 1980s.

Germany from Defeat to Partition, 1945-1963—D.G. Williamson 2014-10-13 This book covers the years, 1945-63 which witnessed the total defeat of the Third Reich, the occupation and evolution of the German Federal Republic and German Democratic Republic. The impact of the occupation is analysed, as are the events leading to the division of Germany. Politics, economic history and social and cultural change in both Germanys are fully explored. Thus in the FRG the nature of Adenauer's success in creating a parliamentary democracy is analysed, as is the West German 'economic miracle'. There is also a chapter specifically on social and cultural developments in the FRG. The GDR is treated equally comprehensively with particular attention being paid to the Socialist Unity Party and how it was able to dominate the GDR and survive the riots of 17-18 June 1953. The events leading up to the construction of the Berlin Wall are also carefully covered. In the Conclusion a comparative summary of the two German states is made in the light of key themes.

The Miracle Years—Hanna Schissler 2001 Exploring postwar German history, literature and film, this text examines the lives of real people to learn how they experienced and represented the institutions and social forces that shaped their lives and defined the wider culture.
The West German borderlands that emerged along the volatile inter-German border after 1945. These border regions constituted the Federal Republic's most sensitive geographical space where it had to confront partition and engage its socialist neighbor East Germany in concrete ways. Each issue that arose in these negotiations against the backdrop of the Cold War helped to shape them.

In topical chapters, the book addresses the economic consequences of Cold War Germany and the German reunification process from the spatial perspective of the West German borderlands that emerged along the volatile inter-German border after 1945. These border regions constituted the Federal Republic's most sensitive geographical space where it had to confront partition and engage its socialist neighbor East Germany in concrete ways. Each issue that arose in these borderlands - from economic deficiencies, border tourism, environmental pollution, landscape change, and the sitting of US atomic bases, to magnificently clear facilities in the most militarized border of its day, the Iron Curtain. In topical chapters, the book addresses the economic consequences of the border for West Germany, which defined the border regions as depressed areas, and examines the cultural practice of western tourism to the Iron Curtain. At the heart of this deeply-researched book stands an environmental history of the Iron Curtain that explores transboundary pollution, landscape change, and a planned nuclear industrial site at Gorlieben that was meant to bring jobs into the depressed border regions. The book traces these subjects across the camera of 1989/90, thereby integrating the "long" postwar era with the post-unification decades. As Eckert demonstrates, the borderlands that emerged with partition and disappeared with reunification did not merely mirror some larger developments in the Federal Republic's history but actually helped to shape them.

The Making of German Democracy - Armin Gründbacher 2010-03-15 This is the first English language source reader that deals with post-war (West) Germany. The sources, which include official Allied and German documents, parliamentary debates, contemporary newspapers articles, diaries and a large number of previously unpublished archival materials, allow for the first time a source-based study of post-war Germany for non-German speakers. The sources allow an assessment of the changes of Allied policy in the immediate post-war years which led to the establishment of the Federal Republic of Germany, explain the country's role in the intensifying Cold War, and encourage a re-evaluation of the "economic miracle" and whether the Federal Republic signified a "new start" for Germany or a "restoration" of the old social forces and patterns. The book will be of great benefit to students of German post-war history at all levels. It offers a unique opportunity for teachers and lecturers to go well beyond the traditional sources explaining German History and the Cold War.

GIs in Germany - Thomas W. Maulucci, Jr 2013-09-02 These fifteen essays offer a comprehensive look at the role of American military forces in Germany since World War Two.

America and the Shaping of German Society, 1945-1955 - Michael Ermuth 1993 This book focuses upon the work of the United States, in both its official and unofficial capacities, in shaping the political culture and foundations of the Federal Republic during the crucial period of 1945 to 1955. It draws together the work of well-known scholars, both German and American, along with the reflective accounts of actual participants and witnesses of this period.

The Two Germanies, 1945-1990 - Mary Fulbrook 1992-11-11

Germany and the Cold War - Charles River Editors 2018-06 *Includes pictures *Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an 'Iron Curtain' has spread across the continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central Europe and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia; all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject, in one form or another, not only to Soviet influence but to a very high and in some cases increasing measure of control from Moscow." - Winston Churchill, 1946 In the wake of World War II, the European continent was devastated, and the conflict left the Soviet Union and the United States as uncontested superpowers. This ushered in over 45 years of the Cold War, and a political alignment of Western democracies against the Communist Soviet bloc that produced conflicts pitting allies on each sides fighting, even as the American and Soviet militaries never engaged each other. Though it never got "hot," the Cold War was a tense era until the dissolution of the USSR, and nothing symbolized the split more than the Berlin Wall, which literally divided the city. Berlin had been a flashpoint even before World War II ended, and the city was occupied by the different Allies even as the close of the war turned them into adversaries. After the Soviets' blockade of West Berlin was prevented by the Berlin Airlift, the Eastern Bloc and the Western powers continued to control different sections of the city, and by the 1960s, East Germany was pushing for a solution to the problem of an enclave of freedom within its borders. West Berlin was a haven for highly-educated East Germans who wanted freedom and a better life in the West, and this "brain drain" was threatening the survival of the East German economy. In order to stop this, access to the West through West Berlin had to be cut off, so in August 1961, Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev authorized East German leader Walter Ulbricht to begin construction of what would become known as the Berlin Wall. The wall, begun on Sunday August 13, would eventually surround the city, in spite of global condemnation, and the Berlin Wall itself would become the symbol for Communist repression in the Eastern Bloc. It also ended Khrushchev's attempts to conclude a peace treaty among the Four Powers (the Soviets, the Americans, the United Kingdom, and France) and the two German states. Of course, the Berlin Wall also literally divided West Germany from East Germany, and West Germany became one of the most stable and prosperous states in Europe during the Cold War. It had a remarkable history, albeit one that was interrupted by numerous crises and problems. The West Germans honestly confronted its brutal past and competently absorbed the far poorer Soviet satellite East Germany upon the reunification of Germany in 1990. This, of course, was not at all certain or obvious when the Allies beat back the Nazis at the end of the war in 1945, but far from making the same mistakes the Allied Powers made after World War I, the Allies opted to mold West Germany as a liberal, democratic state that would achieve prosperity and renounce war. West Germany: The History and Legacy of the Federal Republic of Germany during the Cold War examines the country and its place at the center of geopolitics after World War II. Along with pictures and a bibliography, you will learn about West Germany like never before.

Technology Transfer out of Germany after 1945 - Burghard Ciesla 2013-05-13 Technology Transfer out of Germany studies the movement of technology and scientists between East Germany and the Soviet Union, and West Germany and the Western Allies, using documented examples and case studies, and asks whether the confiscation of documents, equipment and scientists could really be considered to be a form of 'intellectual repatriation.'

West Germany and the Iron Curtain - ASTRID M. ECKERT 2021-03-15 West Germany and the Iron Curtain takes a fresh look at the history of Cold War Germany and the German reunification process from the spatial perspective of the West German borderlands that emerged along the volatile inter-German border after 1945. These border regions constituted the Federal Republic's most sensitive geographical space where it had to confront partition and engage its socialist neighbor East Germany in concrete ways. Each issue that arose in these borderlands - from economic deficiencies, border tourism, environmental pollution, landscape change, and the sitting of US atomic bases, to magnificently clear facilities in the most militarized border of its day, the Iron Curtain. In topical chapters, the book addresses the economic consequences of the border for West Germany, which defined the border regions as depressed areas, and examines the cultural practice of western tourism to the Iron Curtain. At the heart of this deeply-researched book stands an environmental history of the Iron Curtain that explores transboundary pollution, landscape change, and a planned nuclear industrial site at Gorlieben that was meant to bring jobs into the depressed border regions. The book traces these subjects across the camera of 1989/90, thereby integrating the "long" postwar era with the post-unification decades. As Eckert demonstrates, the borderlands that emerged with partition and disappeared with reunification did not merely mirror some larger developments in the Federal Republic's history but actually helped to shape them.
down to earth, pragmatic, and forward-looking. Democracy, economic liberalism, and European integration were the signposts to the future. Even though the old ruling elite with their power base in the agrarian East had been swept away by the end of the war, the social and industrial fabric of Germany society did not crumble altogether. Crucial structures survived and contributed to West Germany’s phenomenal recovery, while the East was forced to submit to a ruthless Soviet leadership. Now, however, following the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the aftermath of German reunification will be long and painful, for never have two economies and societies been fused together which had grown as far apart as West and East Germany. Lothar Kettenacker’s book offers a fascinating survey of the fortunes and features of East and West Germany - how the two states drifted apart, the differences between their economies, politics, and cultures; and the problems and events surrounding their unification.

**The Assimilation of German Expellees into the West German Polity and Society Since 1945** B.G. Lattimore Jr. 2012-12-06 The expulsions of German nationals from former Reich territories east of the Oder-Neisse Rivers and of German minority communities from various Eastern European nations following the collapse of the Nazi regime in 1945 constitute one of the least appreciated consequences of the Second World War. Numbering some ten million people, this group formed nearly a fifth of the total population of the new West German state which emerged in 1949 and presented a grave threat to its early stability. The state (Land) which received the greatest number of these largely destitute expellees in proportion to its indigenous population was Schleswig Holstein: in the years between 1945 and 1948 its population doubled. This predominately agrarian area underwent severe strains in accommodating these newcomers, and its handling of the expellee problem provided a bench mark for the evaluation of the assimilation process throughout the Federal Republic. While the tracing of the assimilation of the expellees into the West German polity and society has been voluminously documented at the national level, much less research into the process has been conducted at the state and local levels. The principal reason for this seems to lie in the belief that the process has been success fully completed at these lower levels and may be considered a 1 The classic treatment of the first decade and a half of the assimilation process under siege is Eugen Lemberg and Friedrich Edding, eds. 

**Quest for Economic Empire** Volker Rolf Berghahn 1996 German unification evoked ambivalent reactions outside its borders: it revived disquieting memories of attempts by German big business during the two world wars to build an economic empire in Europe in conjunction with the military and the government bureaucracy. But there are also high hopes that German finance and industry will serve as the engine of reconstruction in eastern Europe, just as it played this role in the postwar unification of western Europe.

**The Two Germanies Since 1945** Henry Ashby Turner 1987-01-01 Surveys German postwar history, discusses the leadership of both nations, and identifies common problems the two now face

**Germans from the East** H.W. Schoenberg 2012-02-01 Who, in 1945 and 1946, could have foreseen that the economic and social integration of the millions of Germans from the East expelled into West Germany after World War II would largely be accomplished in a few years? And, who could have foreseen that many years after this accomplishment the political repercussions of the expulsions would go on? Yet, surprisingly enough, this is what happened. In 1969, as usual, the major issues of the federal election campaign in West Germany hardly reflect any specific economic and social concerns of the expellees, not even those bruited about by the NPD (Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands). At the same time, how ever, all the political parties vying in the campaign, with the exception of the newly founded, less influential DKP (the new German Communist Party), pay considerable deference to the political interests of the expellees in the German question. Whether these interests represent the opinion of most of the expellees and whether the expellee associations in fact speak for many voters is another matter. Why are these questions rarely posed? Why, despite the economic and social integration of the expellees, do the East German Home land Provincial Societies - the Landsmannschaften - retain much influence? The explanation of this phenomenon becomes increasingly clear if one reads the intelligent and superbly documented analysis by Hans Schoenberg.

**Power and the People** Eleonore C. M. Breuning 2005 This book covers various aspects of the social history of politics on both sides of the Iron Curtain in the period 1945 to 1956. The contributors come from a range of countries (Austria, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia and the United Kingdom) and comprise a mixture of established historians and younger scholars engaged in pioneering research. The chosen time-frame saw most of the decisive developments which set the pattern for the remaining Cold War period and is therefore of key importance for any student of this topic.


**Britain Looks to Germany** Donald Cameron Watt 1965