

THE ROLE OF GERMANY IN THE WORLD

Tomasz Budnikowski, Marta Gótz, Krzysztof Malinowski, Ilona Romiszewska, Reorientation of the FRG's Foreign Policy? Excerpts from Expert Analyses

The material consists of excerpts from expert analyses prepared by scholars from the Institute for Western Affairs, commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (founding organ). The first part contains an assessment of the impact of reforms launched under Agenda 2010 on German economy in 2013 and its future development. Crucial characteristics of the German economic model are identified and compared with the French vision of the functioning of economy especially in the context of the European Union and specifically in the eurozone. The authors of the second expert analysis focus on changes in Germany's foreign trade and direct investments identifiable after 2007 which lead to increased importance of economic cooperation with countries outside the European Union. However, it must be emphasized that the readiness to broaden global economic contacts does not cause a re-evaluation of the foundations of German foreign policy nor its greater independence that would result in new possibilities of exerting influence in international relations.

Krzysztof Malinowski, The Leadership Role of Germany in Europe and the World from the Perspective of German Scholarly Discourse

The debt crisis in the eurozone has triggered a heated debate on the FRG's new role in Europe. Germany's growing significance in the remedies enacted within the eurozone was an impulse for deliberations about the optimal strategies that would take into account the domestic economic interests of particular countries on the one hand and the cohesion of European integration on the other as well as the expectations of the countries experiencing the effects of the crisis. German political scientists unanimously claim that the expectations of Germany's partners and allies as to its engagement in solving problems within the EU are instrumental in compelling Germany to assume some kind of "co-leadership" role in the EU.

Aleksander Gowin, The Role of Culture in the Foreign Policy of the FRG

The object of the article is to show the role of culture in the FRG's foreign policy amid disintegration of a bipolar international order and to highlight the challenges to Germany's cultural foreign policy in the context of globalization processes. An analysis of the sources and conditions of this policy allows to reconstruct the process of incorporating culture as an integral element of Germany's foreign policy (the so called third pillar of FRG's foreign policy). Inclusion of culture in the discourse of the FRG's foreign policy alongside economic and technological potential that entails leadership contributes to a consistently constructed image of a country with a great power of attraction and capable of building positive external relations in a dynamically transforming reality of international relations.

Beata Molo, The Problem of Ensuring Germany's Energy Security in the Context of Gradual Resignation from the Exploitation of Nuclear Power Plants

The article presents selected problems pertaining to Germany's energy security in the context of the country's resignation from the exploitation of nuclear power plants. The following issues are discussed: power mix structure, degree of dependence on the import of energy resources and diversification of directions of supplies. The causes and essence of the change of decision concerning the use of nuclear power in Germany following the failure of nuclear reactors in Japan in March 2011 are also analyzed.

Helena Wyligata, Environment Protection in the Foreign Policy of the FRG

The article provides an analysis of the circumstances conditioning environmental foreign policy (Umweltaußenpolitik), which is an important area of the diplomatic activity of the Federal Republic of Germany on the international arena and allows it to assume a leading role in the developmental processes underway in Europe in the 21st century. The first part explains the concept of Umweltaußenpolitik and outlines the context and methodological assumptions of the research. The research itself was done using the matrix proposed by P. Harris and J. Barkdull in 2002, which has so far rarely appeared in Polish literature of the subject of a country's foreign policy. On this basis the second part of the article explains conditions characterizing the foreign policy of the FRG that determine the realization of this country's interests in international environment protection. The indicated determinants help us to assess the ways and forms of Berlin's anticipations of global ecological problems; they also serve as a background for presenting the strategies and tools employed by German diplomacy to secure its interests.

Piotr Kalka, Position of German and Polish Research and Development Works at the Beginning of the 21st Century

The article compares the position of the FRG and Poland regarding R&D at the beginning of the 21st century. The R&D level of a country essentially determines its economic growth, since research and development works – their scope and structure – are a crucial influence on technical progress. The FRG has a much stronger position in research and development works than Poland and German science develops more dynamically. The causes of this state of matters lie mainly in the FRG's advantage in the intensity of research and development and a different structure of financing this field of activity.

Malwina Księżniakiewicz, German Debate on the Future of European Integration (After the Treaty of Maastricht)

The article discusses Germany's participation and role in the debate on the future of European integration which accelerated with the onset of the 21st century. German conceptions of the development of European integration and the EU target system as a federation caused widespread debate in Europe and subsequently led to the initiation of work on drafting a constitutional treaty. It eventually turned out to be Germany's failure as the Constitution for Europe was abandoned after negative results of referenda in France and the Netherlands in 2005. Crisis in the eurozone was yet another factor that sparked the debate on the need of systemic and institutional changes in the EU. Germany consistently asserts its slogan *mehr Europa* as the sole remedy that can enable the EU to overcome the crisis and give momentum to European integration processes.

Wiesław Małecki, Wilhelm von Humboldt. Between Antisemitism and Judeophobia

The article offers a detailed analysis of an official document of 1809 by Wilhelm von Humboldt titled "On the Project of a New Constitution for Jews", which had a major impact on the process of granting them equal rights in Prussia. This slim document contributed in a direct way to the adoption in 1812 of the most progressive emancipation edict that equaled the rights and obligations of Jews to those of other citizens. Being a momentous manifestation of classic German liberalism it voiced the staunch opposition of a Prussian statesman and philosopher of the law against enlightened absolutism. Humboldt based his arguments on the belief that in the process of creating the rule of law it is indispensable to proclaim an individual's inalienable rights to freedom and security. The text also mirrors the revolutionary changes that led in the second half of the 18th century to dissolution of the traditional model of Jewish life.

Piotr Tomczyk, The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour – Genesis and Judicature

The aim of the article is to present the judicature in cases connected with „The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour” from 1935. An attempt will be made to answer the question, if judges involved in accomplishing the National Socialists racial ideology, carry a share of responsibility for the Holocaust.

Jan Wnęk, Polish Reception of German Pedagogical Thought in the First Half of the 19th Century

As a result of the fall of the Polish state Poles were deprived of any influence on the official school system. School became a political instrument of the occupying country’s authorities. In this difficult period of national captivity, the pedagogical ideas of the most outstanding representatives of German pedagogical thought were propagated on Polish territory. Polish educators traveled in Germany to become acquainted with the activity of pedagogical institutes there and attempted to transfer their methods of work onto the Polish soil. An excellent way to popularize the ideas of German educators was translating their writings into Polish. In the first half of the 19th century the Polish public could read in their native Polish tongue the then most popular works of such German authors as Campe, Niemeyer and Kant. Some of the translations were published (and commented upon) in journals. Polish educators used the German pedagogical literature critically, adapting the views of German authors to the Polish conditions.

Barbar Kobzarska-Bar, Values and Interests in the Foreign Policy of United Germany

The article tackles the problem of values and interests in the German security policy particularly during the administration of the CDU/CSU and FDP coalition headed by Angela Merkel. From the statements on security policy formulated by members of subsequent cabinets after 1990 it follows that Germany is in the course of redefining its role in international relations. This role is now defined by a tradition of multilateralism and the conception of a civil state adapted to new challenges that a contender to the position of a world power must confront. A policy of values and interests is the hallmark of Merkel’s present government.

Izabela Janicka, A Wave of Political Radicalism in Germany

The Federal Republic of Germany has become in the first decade of the 21st century an arena of growing political radicalism. The article presents the three major aspects of this threat: terrorism on the part of the extreme right; greater activity of German armed groups of the extreme right and left; growing importance of the salafi movement. On account of the scale of inflicted destruction, the motives of its authors and the weakness of the state information services we witness the emergence of a real threat of growing chaos with unforeseen effects. In the context of an atmosphere of an uncertain future and a perspective of social degradation attention is also drawn to the human factor which is responsible for the value crisis of German democracy.

Marek Andrzejewski, Sport and Politics. The Olympic Medals of German Athletes (1896-2012)

German athletes came first in the medal tally of the Summer Olympic Games only once, in 1936 in Berlin. However, the team of the FRG, GDR or Germany came first in the medal tally of the Winter Games five times. In the all-time tally German athletes hold the third position, overtaken only by teams from the USA and Russia (USSR). This shows that for over a century Germany has played a leading role in the Olympic Games and is a sport power.

Olaf Bergmann, "Prosto z mostu" on the Jewish Issue in the Third Reich

The focus of the article is a discussion of numerous press publications on the development of the situation of the Jewish population in Germany under Hitler's administration in the second half of the 1930s. The analyzed material includes articles, reports, columns and press notes that appeared in "Prosto z mostu", a weekly published in Warsaw until 1935 (nominally it was a literary-artistic periodical but in fact its profile was mainly political). "Prosto z mostu" was undoubtedly one of the most interesting journals released in Poland in the last interwar years. The weekly was closely connected with the milieu of the so called national youth, which in the second decade of Poland's independence significantly increased its activity and social influence. The editor-in-chief of "Prosto z mostu" was Stanisław Piasecki and among its journalists were leading young politicians and ideologists of a broadly understood national camp, including Jan Mosdorf and Wojciech Wasiutyński, as well as representatives of a much older generation such as Aleksander Świętochowski and Adolf Nowaczyński.