

ONE GERMANY, TWO STATES

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ABSTRACT

The Berlin blockade was the first negative experience the Germans experienced after the end of World War II. What happened convinced them that it was obligatory to establish a state. Western foreign ministers agreed. They had united their areas of occupation and now the final steps were taken to establish a state in West Germany. If it happened, this part of Germany would enjoy security and prosperity. The Allies were working without delay to create the German state in the west. From the beginning, there were disputes over how this state would exist and what authority it should have. Seeing that they were not in agreement, Western forces thought to ask the Germans how they wanted their state to be. On September 1, 1948, the first German constitutional assembly was convened to establish the form of government. The Allies had a veto, but thought they would give the Germans an opportunity to present their ideas and make concrete proposals. The Allies agreed to build a statute declaring all the powers and obligations to build a new German constitution. When the Berlin blockade became serious, on July 1, 1948, the three Western powers, through their governors, met in Frankfurt with the mayors and filed three documents. These letters were called the "Frankfurt Documents" and allowed the Presidents to rush to create the state of West Germany. September 1, 1948 would be the deadline for the Heads of State to submit the draft proposal which would be put to a popular referendum. The Frankfurt documents clarified the rights of each party and the new form of organization of the German state.

Keywords: State, Constitution, Frankfurt Documents, Security, Prosperity.