

Exhibition

'TRANSFORMATION EAST' Lives in Transition

Conception and text: Stefan Wolle

Published by the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in East Germany (Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung) and the Federal Government Commissioner for the New Federal States in cooperation with NDR and Statista

Order our exhibition on the history of the reunification of Germany for your cultural or educational work abroad



Photo 1: picture alliance / dpa / Jens Büttner • Photo 2: picture alliance / ZDF / Peter Glaser • Photo 3: Ann-Christine Jansson / Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung • Photo 4: picture alliance / Zentralbild / Bernd Strömk

30 years of reunified Germany. To mark this occasion, the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in East Germany and the Federal Government Commissioner for the New Federal States have made an exhibition called "Transformation EAST. Lives in Transition" available for your cultural and educational work abroad.

Across 20 exhibition panels, texts written by Berlin historian and publicist Stefan Wolle and 128 contemporary photos taken by renowned photographers recall the impacts of reunification on everyday life.

QR codes link to interviews with contemporary witnesses recorded by Northern German Broadcasting (NDR). Three exhibition panels produced by the online portal Statista augment the exhibition with facts and figures on the developments since 1990.

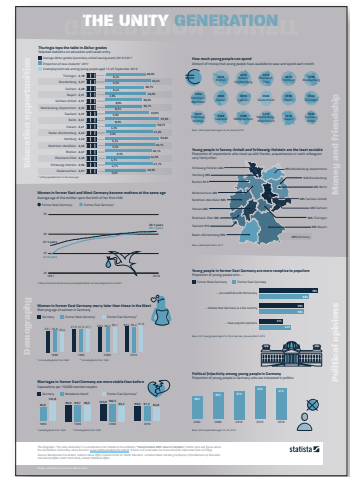
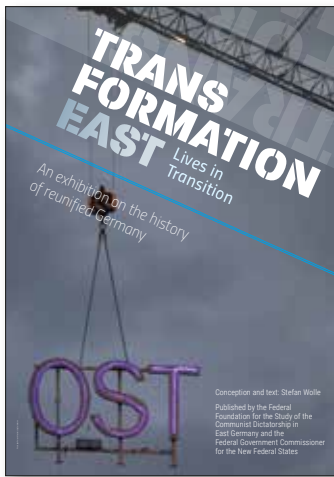
The exhibition will be available in two formats from March 2020 – DIN A1 and 215 (h) × 85 (w) centimetres – in German,

English, French, Spanish and Russian. A bilingual version will be available in a 215 (h) × 120 (w) centimetre format.

The German version of the exhibition can be ordered in printed form as a DIN A1 poster set for a nominal fee of 30 euros plus shipping costs. We will make all the other formats and language versions available for download free of charge.

You will then be able to recreate the exhibition at your own cost in one of the available languages and formats as a poster set, for example, on Aludibond boards or rigid foam, as a banner or a on a roll up. Alternatively, you could task the creator of the exhibition, Druckerei Vögel based in Stamsried (Bavaria), with producing your copy.

Would you like to present the exhibition in your native language? We can provide you with the translation template and put you in touch with the exhibition's graphic designer, who you can then task with transposing the layout.



Content of the exhibition

“Transformation EAST. Lives in Transition” addresses the expectations and trust that East Germans associated with the reunification process through images and texts. It recalls the solidarity between Germans and their willingness to help each other. The exhibition tells of new beginnings and awakenings, as well as of the desire to reappraise the SED dictatorship. It documents the despair that went hand in hand with economic collapse and the rise in unemployment, as well as the experiences of loss and fears that characterised the 1990s in former East Germany. Subjects explored include the simultaneous renovation and demolition of towns and cities in the east of Germany, the situation of women and families, and a youth culture torn between techno, punk and right-wing extremism. Themes range from resentments to political violence, the question of who has the right to shape national identity, relations with Eastern neighbours, the development of the former East and its successes, as well as new social divides that have been reported in recent years.

Exhibition concept

Each exhibition panel presents seven photos taken by renowned photographers next to captions and a feuilleton style exhibition text comprising roughly 1,000 characters. QR codes link to interviews with contemporary witnesses, which lend the exhibition an additional multimedia dimension. These are provided via a collaboration with Northern German Broadcasting (NDR), which carried out a multimedia storytelling project to mark 30 years since the Peaceful Revolution. Three supplementary exhibition panels produced by the online portal Statista present facts and figures about developments since 1990. A series of extensive accompanying materials will be uploaded to www.umbruch-ost.de. These will include handouts for preparing supplementary panels on local history, educational notes, ideas for supporting events, material for press and publicity work and much more.

Exhibition organisers

The publishers of the exhibition are the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in East Germany and the Federal Government Commissioner for the New Federal States. Both institutions advocate a consistent yet nuanced appraisal of the history and impacts of the communist dictatorship in the GDR as well as of the partition of Germany. Established in 1998 by the German Bundestag, the foundation makes a significant contribution to shaping the culture of remembrance across the whole of Germany by supporting projects and through its own events and publications. The Commissioner for the New States is also involved in this field, while moreover ensuring that all decisions and measures enacted by the federal government suitably take into account the specific interests of the population of former East Germany.

Conception and texts of the exhibition: Dr Stefan Wolle, Director of Research at Berlin’s DDR Museum. Project leader and picture research: Dr Ulrich Mählert, Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung. Photographic consultants: Ann-Christine Jansson and Harald Hauswald. Exhibition design: Dr Thomas Klemm, Leipzig. Project management: Dr Georg Gremse, g.gremse@bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de

www.beauftragter-neue-laender.de | www.bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de

Order “Transformation EAST”

You can find an overview of the various ordering options here:

www.umbruch-ost.de/bestellen.html

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