

Berlin Wall JCC

West Germany



Berlin Wall JCC West Germany Chairs: Megan Ngo, Ellie Jacobson
Sims: Drew Zarwell, Will Kussow, Ben Bush
Current Date: 7/1/1975

Letter from the Dias

Delegates,

Welcome to the Berlin Wall JCC: West Germany! We're so excited you're here. Our names are Megan and Ellie and we're juniors at Verona Area High School. In addition to Model UN, we're both on our school's track and field team, Battle of the Books team, and HOSA. This is our first time chairing for MADMUN but we've both had such great experiences in this conference in the past.

We understand that this may be a lot of people's first time in crisis committees and we'll make sure to make instructions clear and answer any inquiries to ensure you have the most rewarding experience possible! Be prepared to think fast and face our sims' challenges and don't be afraid to send your crisis notes. We look fondly upon delegates with creative and effective crisis arcs who push themselves to give speeches and take leadership (which includes encouraging others to participate and speak).

On the serious side, history has been twisted and told through layers of biases and narratives since the beginning of time. Through MADMUN's 2025 theme, *Dismantling Veils of Deception*, we hope to broaden your understanding of the history of the Berlin Wall, along with some answers to the question, *What could have happened if...?* We encourage all of you to question what choices made history result the way it did, and whether authorities made the right calls.

The topics discussed in our committee are serious, and we have a zero tolerance for carelessness regarding the humanness of these issues and ask all delegates to be mindful of their words and actions.

That said, we can't wait for MADMUN!

-Megan and Ellie

The History of the Berlin Wall

In the final days of World War 2, the Nazi's German Reich was collapsing in on itself from all sides. The Red Army crushed in from the east and a combined allied force was quickly advancing from the west and south. On April 1, 1945 the Soviet Union reached the city of Berlin, the historic German capitol. They

wasted no time engulfing the city in a horrific level of suffering and destruction, catastrophic retribution for the similar egregious acts of total war that the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe had endured in the previous years of the war against the Nazi Regime. As the dust settled and the city of Berlin lay in total and utter ruin the remaining leadership of the German Government surrendered and ended the most tragically horrifying fighting Europe had ever seen. Adolf Hitler and a handful of high ranking Nazis had taken their own lives to avoid punishment for their actions, but many others in Germany had collaborated or been Nazis, not the whole population, but many. The occupying powers in Germany held very little sympathy for the German people, allowing their soldiers to commit egregious acts against citizens. Red Army and US soldiers alike abused and raped the populations of Germany during combat operations and in the subsequent years of occupation in horrifying and traumatizing retaliation for the war. Entire cities had been leveled, with millions of homes and thousands of factories destroyed. The Allies were left to administer and find a role for over 1.5 million German POWs, 1 million more wounded German soldiers, and millions of refugees/displaced peoples in Germany¹. Through early occupation years the German people often did not receive sufficient or any food rations from the allies. In the postwar period aid was stretched thin across a devastated Europe, and food was often diverted to countries who were victims of the Nazis, not to the German people who were blamed for the war².

After German surrender, the Allies met at the Potsdam Conference³ in July of 1945 to determine the fate of postwar Germany. Germany would be stripped of all of its annexations during the war and a large amount of its former territory. Germans who lived in these territories were displaced and forced to move into the new German boundaries. Additionally this new Germany was to be divided into occupation zones from which each major ally (France, The United Kingdom, The United States of America, And the Soviet Union) could administer after the war. France, The UK, and The US administered the zones that made up the western and southern regions of Germany, whilst the Soviet Union controlled the eastern portion of the

¹ Knowles, Chris. "Germany 1945-1949: A Case Study in Post-Conflict Reconstruction - Uol History and Policy." *Uol History and Policy*, 14 Feb. 2025, historyandpolicy.org/policy-papers/papers/germany-1945-1949-a-case-study-in-post-conflict-reconstruction/.

² "Aspect of History, When Germany Was Divided into Two Separate States." *Wikipedia.org*, Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., 5 July 2003, en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Germany_%281945%E2%80%931990%29. Accessed 25 Aug. 2025.

³ "Potsdam Conference." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 29 July 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Potsdam_Conference#Germany.

nation. Berlin, as the German capital and center for allied command, was also divided into four separate administrative zones between the powers, despite being fully encapsulated inside the greater Soviet controlled eastern zone.

Tensions quickly arose between the occupying powers in Germany. There was always distrust between the Soviet Union and the western nations, the conflicting ideologies of these nations, Capitalism vs Communism, gave way for natural rivalry and suspicion. This paranoia had only been exemplified by the war. The western nations were ultimately distrustful that the Soviet Union, and Joseph Stalin specifically, had been in cooperation with Adolph Hitler due to the Molotov and Ribbentrop Pact outlining non aggression between the two during the early days of the war. Additionally the Soviet Union was distrustful of the west, and vice versa, due to disagreements on military strategy during the war. Stalin often accused the west of waiting until the last moment to open a second front of the war in France to severely weaken the Communists in Europe in order to control the postwar continent⁴. As the war came to a close, allied powers, but especially the Soviet Union, had raided German industry of machinery, infrastructure, and goods, shipping them to their homelands to stimulate economies that had been ravaged. This destroyed what little was left of an already desecrated German industrial base and left little way for a rebuilding Germany to ever sustain itself. How to go about reconstructing Germany quickly became a point of contention between the Allies. The United States would heavily support rebuilding Germany's industrial base and infrastructure to benefit Europe as a whole. This was part of the overarching US Marshall Plan to fund reconstruction in Western Europe, and soon after this plan went into motion France and the UK too joined this plan to reconstruct Germany. The Soviet Union, in opposition, did not implement these plans, and instead continued to extract reparations from East Germany. The Soviet Union, and especially Stalin, sought to maintain a weak and Soviet controlled Germany to prevent a threat like the Nazis from ever emerging again. Across Eastern Europe the Soviet Union pursued propping up communist regimes as a measure of security both from these countries, and from the western powers they viewed as hostile. This conflict of policy across postwar Europe would prove to be the point of no return for the Cold War. The western allies had always assumed the division of Germany, agreed upon at the Potsdam Conference, would be a temporary measure until a new German Government could be established. The Soviet Union made it clear they would not be withdrawing from East Germany or supporting reunification. In response to this, on May 23rd, 1949, France, The UK, and the United States officially combined their occupation zones into a new German government, the Federal Republic of Germany, or West Germany for short⁵. Shortly thereafter, on October 7th, 1949, The Soviet Union propped up an East German government, the German Democratic Republic, which was immensely controlled by Soviet authorities. Berlin, the historic capital of

⁴ . "Origins of the Cold War." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 5 July 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Origins_of_the_Cold_War#Interwar_diplomacy_%281918%E2%80%931939%29.

⁵ "West Germany Is Established | EBSCO." *EBSCO Information Services, Inc.* | www.ebsco.com, 2023, www.ebsco.com/research-starters/history/west-germany-established.

Germany, would create a west German exclave, still divided between communism and capitalism, despite being in the heart of east German Territory.

Within West Berlin the Allies' Marshall plan gradually took effect, improving West German's standard of living. West Germany's economy would continue to improve through the early 1970s. The political structure of west Germany was a democratic one, established by the allied powers, but with multiple competing parties independent from The US or UK, such as the Social Democratic Party and the Christian Democratic Union, to name the largest of the parties. Unlike West Germany, East Germany had poorly recovered from the war. Paying Soviet reparations and having their industries extracted to the Soviet Union left East Germany with a weakened economy and impoverished population by the mid 1950s. Conversely West Germany at this point had near total employment of their population and actively sought immigrant workers. East Germany's politics, too, were very heavily influenced by the Soviet Union, and the ruling party of East Germany was formed through Soviet direction. In East Germany noncommunist parties had their influence nullified by being merged into large coalitions of communist parties. Noncommunist parties were compensated for their existence in order to maintain the illusion of fair democracy in East Germany. The lack of opportunity and political persecution in East Germany became a serious problem for the country, as through the 1950s well educated German workers and families began to rapidly flee the country to the West, so that, by 1961, nearly 3 million East Germans had left the country. This was a problem for the East German government, the amount of citizens leaving caused a phenomenon called "Brain Drain"⁶, which is a term that means well educated people leave an area en masse so that there is a shortage of skilled workers to fill important roles in society. Because the people who left for the West were often some of East Germany's most skilled workers, their absence was causing huge economic damage to the country. Across the Eastern Block the Soviet Union had already emplaced systems of limited travel for citizens, and this included East Germany, whose citizens needed passes to enter and exit the country. Stalin and the East German leadership went a step farther though, and in 1952 agreed to close the Inner German Border, and erected a barbed wire fence between the two Germanys. These measures increased tensions between the two Governments, but was overall ineffective in stifling the flow of the exodus. Although the Inner German Border had been fenced off, the city of Berlin remained undivided by any physical barrier, and East and West Berliners traveled freely across the city. The City became a loophole for many East Germans escaping the country. An East German citizen could travel to East Berlin, and pass into West Berlin without being stopped, and then from there finding transportation to West Germany as a whole. The City of Berlin became the main means of escape for East Germans, and millions flooded through the city to escape the east. The city of Berlin not only served as a means of escape for East Germany's populace, but also as an unfavorable comparison between capitalism and communism. The proximity of the two systems inside the city of Berlin, capitalism in the west and communism in the east, highlighted communism's

⁶ . "Human Capital Flight." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 28 Apr. 2019, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_capital_flight.

failures to innovate technologically and provide for its people. The East German Government and Soviet Union came to the conclusion that the open border in Berlin had to come to an end, so on August 13th, 1961, the East German Government began construction of the Berlin wall. Cutting directly through the streets of Berlin, the wall divided not only the city, but also family members and friends from one another. Where an arbitrary line had once stood dividing the city of Berlin invisibly, there now stood a 12 foot tall concrete barrier. The East German and Soviet Governments would continue to upgrade and reinforce the wall through the coming decades, going on to add barbed wire, guard towers, and a second 'inner wall' that would create a 100 meter wide no man's land in between the cities.

In terms of its immediate goals, the Berlin wall was successful, it stopped the flow of migrants out of east Germany, on the other hand, the wall was yet another point of tension between the Western and Eastern Blocks as whole. In October of 1961 there would be a dispute between the west and east at the wall, known as the Berlin Crisis of 1961⁷, which would see the United States and Soviet Union standoff with tanks positioned along the wall, and risked starting a war between the two powers in Germany. Although the wall's construction was a point of disagreement between East and West, it did finally subdue concerns that the Eastern Block would take west Berlin by force⁸. The wall represented a physical separation of East and West Berlin, demarcating and effectively recognizing West Berlin's right to exist inside of East Germany. As US president John F. Kennedy would admit, "A wall is a hell of a lot better than a war."

Tensions between the Eastern and Western Blocks would ease in the coming decades, as the two sides reproached with each other. In the Transit Agreement of 1972 it was agreed that west Berliners would be allowed to visit east Berlin and East Germany. In December the same year the Basic Treaty⁹ was signed, outlining that for the first time in their short history the two German governments would recognize the sovereignty of the other. These treaties were monumental in normalizing relations between the two countries, and gave hope that future efforts for reunification could be peaceful and collaborative. However with the border between East and West Germany still being patrolled by guards the country is as far from being unified as ever. With a wall carving right through the city of Berlin, separating two governments, fundamentally different to one another, monumental work is still needed to be done if Germany is to be unified once again. It is up to the most powerful people in our government, the people behind the scenes to make progress towards bringing peace and security to Germany. Just as important, though, are the everyday people of Germany, East and West, who have the strength and numbers to rise up for freedom, for democracy.

⁷ Office of the Historian. "Milestones: 1953–1960 - Office of the Historian." *State.gov*, 2024, history.state.gov/milestones/1953-1960/berlin-crisis.

⁸ History.com Editors. "Berlin Wall | HISTORY , Dates & the Fall | HISTORY." *HISTORY*, 15 Dec. 2009, www.history.com/articles/berlin-wall.

⁹ Wikipedia Contributors. "Basic Treaty." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 2 July 2011, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basic_Treaty,_1972.

Rooting Out East Germany's Communist Threat

Even before the Berlin Wall stood, Berlin represented the epitome of tension between not just East Germany and West Germany, but between communism and capitalism. These tensions resulted in both sides participating in espionage, so much that Berlin was referred to as the “Capital of Spies.”¹⁰

Both East Germany and West Germany had intelligence agencies. Known as the Stasi, the intelligence agency of East Germany was feared for its ruthlessness both in domestic and international surveillance. There were instances where the Stasi kidnapped East German officials who had escaped to West Germany, brought them back to East Germany, and executed them. The Stasi also aided terrorist groups, such as the Red Army Faction (RAF), in their attempts to attack West Berlin¹¹, especially in the 1970s. Also, the Stasi converted many lower-level West German spies sent to East Germany to falsely report information back to the BND as part of their counterintelligence operations¹².

Conversely, the intelligence agency of West Germany and the current agency of the reunified Germany is the BND. During the 1960s before the construction of the Berlin Wall, the BND gathered an immense amount of information about East German life, everything from the number of beds in hospitals to the size of East German airfields. However, the East Germans quickly retaliated against the West Germans' covert operations and turned many of the informants into double agents for the Stasi. After the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, the espionage of the BND greatly decreased in effectiveness. Still though, the foreign intelligence operations of the BND proved helpful in some instances. In 1962, the BND was the first intelligence agency to learn about the Soviet Union's intention to construct weapons on Cuba, known as the Cuban Missile Crisis, which strengthened West Germany's relationship with the United States. The BND also received information about other Soviet Union operations in Eastern Europe. However, the BND also had many faults. Under the leadership of Reinhard Gehlen, who was later released from the organization in 1968, the BND hired many people who were later suspected of being Soviet spies. The BND later restructured under the leadership of its new president Gerhard Wessel¹³.

¹⁰“The Capital of Spies in Cold War Berlin | German Spy Museum Berlin.” *Deutsches Spionagemuseum*, 2016, www.deutsches-spionagemuseum.de/en/espionage/capital-of-espionage.

¹¹ “BND German Intelligence Organization.” *Britannica*, Britannica, www.britannica.com/topic/BND#ref127828.

¹² Ault, Julia . “What Happened in East Germany? - Perspectives - College of Humanities - the University of Utah.” *Humanities.utah.edu*, 29 Oct. 2021, humanities.utah.edu/perspectives/2020-2021/what-happened-in-east-germany.php.

¹³ . “Federal Intelligence Service.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 6 Aug. 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Intelligence_Service#History.

By 1974, the public was aware of the presence of intelligence operations in their country, especially after spies' true loyalties were uncovered. In 1974, the identity of an East German spy was revealed, sending ripples of suspicion throughout West Germany. In an event later called the Guillaume Affair¹⁴, the secretary of Chancellor Willy Brandt was exposed as an East German spy. The closeness and success of East Germany's spy to the West German government shocked the country and resulted in the resignation of Chancellor Brandt. Though the spy was alleged to have been sent to destabilize the West German government by endangering Chancellor Brandt's reputation and position as Chancellor, the head of East German intelligence, Markus Wolf, denied it.

Additionally, both sides utilized propaganda in order to cement their ideologies within their population. Schools in East Germany were intended to conform the younger generations into believing and promoting wholeheartedly the views of the Communist Party¹⁵. In these schools, children were taught that the West was bad and threatened the East and their "peaceful" way of life. Overall, though direct physical attacks weren't used by either side, subversive tactics and espionage were widespread.

Amidst all the hostility between the two states, there remains an underlying question, can Germany ever be reunited again? Is there a peaceful route to reunification with East Germany? For a long time this has been a contentious debate, especially between the leading two parties in the GDR, the Christian Democratic Union¹⁶ and the Socialist Democratic Party¹⁷. The CDU generally sides closely with the United States and other western powers, focusing on competing with the Eastern Block. Meanwhile the Socialist Democratic Party prioritizes finding paths to reunification, even at the cost of posturing with the East. The SDP made progress towards rapprochement with the East in the early 1970s, but much work still needs to be made. There is still large opposition in the CDU to normalizing relations, and whether or not Germany should seek reunification at all. Choices about using propaganda or spywork against the East must always be made with consideration of the context of their effect on the relations between East and West Germany. No matter the case, West Germany must have a way to combat the threat that

¹⁴ "Gaius Chamberlain." *HistoryofSpies.com - Your Resource for Espionage on the Web*, 19 Mar. 2015, historyofspies.com/the-guillaume-affair/. Accessed 1 Sept. 2025.

¹⁵ Ataman, By Sheena McKenzie and Nadine Schmidt Video by Ed Kiernan and Joseph. "East German Kids Were "Taught to Lie." Then the System Came Crashing down Overnight." *CNN*, 9 Nov. 2019, www.cnn.com/2019/11/09/europe/berlin-wall-30-years-schools-grm-intl.

¹⁶ Wikipedia Contributors. "Christian Democratic Union of Germany." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 1 Sept. 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_Democratic_Union_of_Germany#History.

¹⁷ "Social Democratic Party of Germany." *Wikipedia*, 31 July 2020, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Democratic_Party_of_Germany.

East Germany and its communist system poses, whether this be peaceful, covert, or outright, something must be done¹⁸¹⁹²⁰.

Guiding Questions:

- What is your person's position on how West Germany should react to East Germany's espionage attempts?
- Should espionage be abandoned or continued?
- How can West Germany root out East German spies already present in West Germany?
- How can we assure the public of the stability of our government?
- Should propaganda be used, and if so, how?
- Is there a peaceful route to reunification?

Assisting Easterners

For regular civilians in East Germany, every day was plagued with fear. East Germany was a dictatorship in which media and other rights were strictly restricted. People living in East Germany were indoctrinated through propaganda, the education system, and limited travel to other communist or socialist countries. The Stasi, the East German Intelligence agency, made frequent arrests and citizens were often encouraged to report people they suspected to support the West. While this contributed to an environment of distrust, many East Germans found solace in tight communities where they could feel protected from prying ears. It was often among these small groups that plans to escape East Germany would take shape²¹.

Though escaping posed deadly risks, many East Germans attempted to cross the Berlin Wall and seek refugee status in West Germany. Before the Berlin Wall was revitalized with barbed wire and other restrictions, up to 1,700 East Germans were crossing into West Germany.

Even after the barriers grew, Easterners found other ways to escape into West Germany, such as using buildings that overlooked the wall to cross the physical boundary. West Germany

¹⁸ JFK Library. "The Cold War in Berlin | JFK Library." *Jfklibrary.org*, 7 Nov. 2024, www.jfklibrary.org/learn/about-jfk/jfk-in-history/the-cold-war-in-berlin.

¹⁹ "History of Germany 1945-1990." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, [en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Germany_\(1945-1990\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Germany_(1945-1990)).

²⁰ Office of the Historian. "Milestones: 1989-1992 - Office of the Historian." *State.gov*, 2019, history.state.gov/milestones/1989-1992/fall-of-communism.

²¹ Ataman, By Sheena McKenzie and Nadine Schmidt Video by Ed Kiernan and Joseph. "East German Kids Were "Taught to Lie." Then the System Came Crashing down Overnight." *CNN*, 9 Nov. 2019, www.cnn.com/2019/11/09/europe/berlin-wall-30-years-schools-grm-intl.

assisted these attempts by standing on the other side of the wall and aiding people as they crossed. This strategy was quickly snuffed out, and East German officials forced citizens to move or seal the exits.

Later, the “No Man’s Land” strip between the two barriers that composed the Berlin Wall was constructed and often had military patrols to stop defectors from escaping into West Berlin. Even with these increased risks, many East Germans still tried to escape. Some utilized steam trains, ziplines, tightropes, and airplanes, and others still created tunnel systems to pass²²; the latter of which was shut down by the Stasi after over 80 people had escaped. Upon reaching West Berlin, escapees would claim refugee status, and under 1953 Federal Expellee Law²³ would be allowed to claim citizenship in West Germany²⁴. West Germany claims that it is the sole sovereign body for representing the German people, and for that reason it claims representation for the people of East Germany, despite having no control over the East German Government.

West Germany, both the government and the civilians, assisted those in East Germany in escaping and surviving their everyday lives. West Germans on the individual level would send Care Packages to those in the east, often containing treats or other supplies, such as coffee. However, the support was stifled after the East German government restricted the amount of parcels East Germans could receive, along with limiting the type of items that could be sent. In the face of food shortages in the East, West Germans continued to provide humanitarian aid in the few ways they could²⁵.

On a larger scale, the West Germany government also assisted East Germans who wanted to live in West Germany. In a practice called Häftlingsfreikauf (“Prisoners’ ransom”) West Germany would pay East Germany for the transfer of people who had been imprisoned for political reasons to West Germany²⁶. These political prisoners had the choice to move to West Germany from prison; however, they didn’t have the chance to cut ties or say goodbye to others. By this program’s end in October 1989, around 33,755 East German political prisoners were released to West Germany. Aside from political prisoners, West Germany helped secure 250,000 exit visas for East Germans who wanted to immigrate to West Germany. East Germany was

²² Blakemore, Erin. “All the Ways People Escaped across the Berlin Wall | HISTORY.” *HISTORY*, 8 Nov. 2019, www.history.com/articles/berlin-wall-crossings-east-germany.

²³ Wikipedia Contributors. “Federal Expellee Law.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 6 Aug. 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Expellee_Law.

²⁴ . “Republikflucht.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 5 Apr. 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republikflucht.

²⁵ Shereck, Sabine. “Parcels of CARE.” *BBC*, 18 Dec. 2021, www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3ct2zvj.

²⁶ Wikipedia Contributors. “Trading of East German Political Prisoners.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 16 Dec. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trading_of_East_German_political_prisoners.

incentivized to support these practices because the payment from West Germany would help East Germany through the state of financial crisis they had been in since the early 1970s.

It is the government of West Germany's responsibility to take care of the needs of its citizens, and it has been claimed time and time again by West Germany that it has authority over the entire German body; Accordingly, it is the West German Government's responsibility to make a decision on how best to help the people of East Germany, or if to help them at all. Furthermore, they must weigh the consequences and benefits of helping East Germans. If the GDR does help them, could that be a political or propaganda victory? Could East German refugees serve as valuable informants, or have valuable skills to the GDR? Either way, a structured approach to the question of East German Refugees is imperative to defining West Germany's position in the cold war as a whole.

Guiding Questions:

- Should West Germany continue to help Easterners?
- Should the West German Government continue to support the East through ransom payments?
- Could helping East German Refugees prove to be politically or strategically advantageous?
- Are there risks associated with helping or not helping refugees?

Positions List

Name	Position	Description
Gerhard Wessel	President of the Federal Intelligence Bureau	<p>After World War II, Gerhard Wessel became an anti-Soviet spy. In 1975, Wessel was the president of the intelligence agency (BND). He worked on developing espionage in East Germany as well as bolstering the West Germany military. While he did gain information about the Soviet Union's plan to invade Czechoslovakia, there were some shortcomings. Under his leadership, multiple spies from East Germany infiltrated West Germany</p> <p>https://www.nytimes.com/2002/08/03/world/gerhard-wessel-88-german-espionage-chief.html</p>
Egon Bahr	Minister of Federal Government	<p>After World War II, Egon Bahr was a journalist before participating in the government. Throughout his political career, Bahr advocated for the reunification of Germany as well as improving relations with the Soviet Union; however he was still anti-Communism. He believed that by diplomatic negotiations, reunification could be attainable. Many disagreed with his beliefs and accused him of being treasonous.</p> <p>https://www.nytimes.com/2002/08/03/world/gerhard-wessel-88-german-espionage-chief.html</p>

		015/08/21/world/europe/eg-on-bahr-who-helped-reunify-germany-dies-at-93.html
Klaus Schütz	Mayor of West Berlin	<p>Klaus Schütz fought for Germany in World War II but after he was injured, he joined the Social Democratic Party. During his time as mayor, the relations between East Germany and West Germany, as well as the fractured city of Berlin, improved. However, multiple scandals resulted in Schütz's government being weakened until he resigned his position in 1977.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaus_Sch%C3%BCtz</p>
Willy Brandt	Leader of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, ex-chancellor of West Germany	<p>Willy Brandt was the chancellor of West Germany, but resigned after his secretary was revealed to be a Communist spy from East Germany. During his time as chancellor, he tried to improve relations with East Germany and the Soviet Union and advocated for reconciliation. After his resignation, he remained the leader of the Social Democratic Party.</p> <p>https://www.britannica.com/biography/Willy-Brandt</p>
MG Sam S. Walker	Commandant of American Sector of Berlin	<p>From 1977 to 1978, MG Sam S. Walker, a decorated officer, served as the Commanding General of Allied Forces. In</p>

		<p>the beginning of 1975, he was appointed as the United States commander in the American Sector of Berlin. There, he commanded the 3rd Infantry Division in Germany. Later in the year, he returned to the United States.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sam_S._Walker</p>
MG Roy Redgrave	Commandant of the British Sector of Berlin	<p>MG Roy Redgrave fought in World War II as part of the British Royal Horse Guards. Afterwards in 1975, he served as the Commandant of the British Sector in Berlin.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Redgrave_(British_Army_officer)</p>
Cristina Perincioli	Activist for the women's movement	<p>Born in Switzerland, Cristinia Perincioli moved to Berlin in 1968 to study at a film academy. She is a renowned filmmaker and was an activist in the women's movement in West Germany. Her movies advocate for the rights of women and contributed positively to the movement.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cristina_Perincioli</p>
Hans-Jochen Vogel	Federal Minister of Justice	<p>From 1974 to 1981, Hans-Jochen Vogel served as the Federal Minister of Justice, which is in charge of ensuring the rule of law within the government. Before this position, he</p>

		<p>also served as the Mayor of Munich. He supported the women's movement and believed that reunification should include voices from both East Germany and West Germany.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans-Jochen_Vogel</p>
Dietrich Stobbe	Vice Chairman of the SPD, Senator for Federal Affairs	<p>Though he would later be elected as the Mayor of Berlin, in 1975, Dietrich Stobbe was the vice chairman of the SPD as well as a senator for federal affairs. He believed in strengthening West Berlin's transportation systems as well as reassuring the public in the Senate's efficiency.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dietrich_Stobbe</p>
Hans-Dietrich Genscher	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Vice Chancellor of West Germany	<p>After fighting for Germany in World War II, Hans-Dietrich Genscher resided in East Germany until he escaped to West Germany and started participating in politics. In 1975, he was the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and Vice Chancellor of West Germany. Throughout his political career, he believed in improving relations with the Soviet Union and reuniting East and West Germany.</p> <p>https://www.britannica.com/biography/Hans-Dietrich-Genscher</p>

Peter Lorenz	Candidate for Mayor of Berlin, was kidnapped	In 1975, Peter Lorenz, a candidate for mayor, was infamously kidnapped by an anarchist group for the release of imprisoned group members. While Lorenz was eventually released, he lost the race and Klaus Schutz, the incumbent mayor, won. He was part of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU). The CDU supported organizations made up of East Germans who had escaped to West Germany. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Lorenz
Helmut Schmidt	Chancellor of West Germany	During 1969 to 1972, Helmut Schmidt served as the minister of defense and the minister of finance in 1972 to 1974. He was part of the Social Democratic Party. While he was chancellor, he was motivated to reduce public spending and was determined to maintain civil relationships with the Soviet Union and East Germany. https://www.britannica.com/biography/Helmut-Schmidt
Petra Kelly	Founder of the Green Party, activist for peace and the environment	Though she hadn't yet co-founded the West German Green Party, in 1975, Petra Kelly was protesting for anti-nuclear causes. While she was a part of the Green Bundestag, she advocated for the release of West German prisoners in East

		Germany. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petra_Kelly
Helmut Kohl	Leader of the Christian Democratic Union	As the leader of the Christian Democratic Union, Helmut Kohl was credited for overseeing the reunification of East Germany and West Germany. He supported Ronald Reagan and the United States against the Soviet Union when he later succeeded Helmut Schmidt as chancellor. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helmut_Kohl#Political_views
Walter Scheel	President of West Germany	Before serving as the president of West Germany, Walter Scheel was the foreign minister and deputy chancellor of West Germany. During his time in office, he helped foster peace between the two Germanys as well as reconciliation with the Soviet Union. While his position as the foreign minister and deputy chancellor was cut short when the chancellor, Willy Brandt, was forced to step down, he served as the president of West Germany, albeit the role was generally considered ceremonial. https://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/25/world/europe/walter-scheel-west-germany-obituary.html

Herbert Wehner	Chairman of the SPD	<p>Before becoming the chairman of the SPD, Werner was a member of the German communist party (later abandoned by the political party) and the Federal Minister of Intra-German relations. Although he was known for his insulting comments towards other politicians, this rhetoric will not be permitted in the MADMUN committee.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_Wehner</p>
Rainer Hildebrandt	Founder of the Checkpoint Charlie Museum	<p>Hildebrandt was an avid anti-communist who founded the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, a museum dedicated, which was a famously known crossing point in the Berlin Wall between West Germany and East Germany.</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainer_Hildebrandt</p>