

Mrs Hammond

**THE  
EAST GERMAN  
PEACE  
PLAN**

*Communist*

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*The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic adopted a historic document on 6 July 1961, the "German Peace Plan". The plan contains proposals for the foundation of a German Peace Commission and an agreement between the two German states, proposals for a peace treaty and the settlement of the West Berlin problem, and proposals for the formation of a German confederation.*

*At the same session the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic adopted an appeal to all Germans in the East and West.*

*The text of these two documents follows:*

## **The German Peace Plan**

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic adopts the statement made by the Chairman of the Council of State on the conclusion of a peace treaty with the two German states and the solution of the West Berlin problem.

Conscious of its national responsibility the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic makes the following declaration:

To prevent the grave danger of atomic war in Germany and the world as well as to secure a future in peace to the German people the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany has become a necessity that can no longer be postponed. Sixteen years after the end of the Second World War the elimination of all its vestiges is, for the German people, a requirement of national self-preservation. The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic therefore declares the conclusion of a unitary peace treaty with the two German states to be the foremost duty of the German people. Should the conclusion of such a peace treaty be prevented by the resistance of the governments of the western powers and West Germany, the German Democratic Republic will conclude the peace treaty with all states of the Anti-Hitler Coalition which are ready to do so at the peace conference.

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic welcomes the proposals for the immediate conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany and the settlement of the West Berlin problem which Prime Minister N. S. Khrushchov of the Soviet Union submitted to President J. F. Kennedy of the United States at the Vienna meeting. The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic considers the recommendation of the Soviet memorandum, according to which the four powers shall declare from the outset that they will recognize every agreement which the two German states may jointly make concerning questions of a peace settlement with Germany and reunification, to be a historic opportunity for the German nation.

At this hour Germans are called upon to act themselves in their most special German affair of peace and reunification. In fulfilment of its national duty the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic adopts the German Peace Plan and submits it to the West German government and Bundestag and to the German people of the two German states.

## Formation of a German Peace Commission

The governments of the two German states immediately agree on the formation of a German Peace Commission made up of representatives of the parliament and government of the German Democratic Republic and of the German Federal Republic. The most urgent task of the German Peace Commission is to negotiate and agree on the drafting of German proposals for the peace treaty, and on a goodwill agreement aimed at the immediate improvement of relations between the two German states.

## Goodwill Agreement

The goodwill agreement to be drafted by the German Peace Commission and recommended for signature to the two German governments and parliaments could contain the following points:

- 1) The two German states agree to renounce the atomic armament of their forces and to stop arming immediately.
- 2) The two German states agree on the numerical strength, armament and the stationing of their armed forces until the conclusion of a disarmament agreement.
- 3) The two German states permit no war and revanchist propaganda on their territories.
- 4) The two German states consider the decision concerning the social order to be an act of self-determination of the people of the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic. They commit themselves not to interfere in questions concerning the social order of the other German state.
- 5) The two German states advocate the conclusion of a non-aggression pact between the member-states of the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO states, and the establishment of an atomic weapon-free zone in Central Europe.
- 6) The two German states commit themselves to adopt measures to expand trade between themselves. They agree to expand cultural and sports relations between their citizens and institutions and to take steps towards facilitating and improving tourist traffic.

The valid principle in the Peace Commission is that neither side shall impose its will upon the other, but that understanding is to be reached step by step.

This principle is also most important in the drafting of German proposals for a peace treaty which must aim at facilitating the immediate conclusion of a peace treaty and opening the road to the peaceful solution of the German problem.

## **German Proposals for a Peace Treaty**

The most important task of the German peace treaty is to make a decisive contribution to the safeguarding of a lasting peace on the basis of the United Nations Charter. The peace treaty must prevent any war from ever again starting in Germany. It must for ever assure to the German people peace and complete equality in the family of nations. German proposals for a peace treaty should therefore include the following points:

1) The two German states commit themselves to renounce any threat of violence or use of violence in international relations, to settle international differences solely by peaceful means and to co-operate actively in establishing peaceful coexistence among peoples and states.

2) The two German states advocate the establishment of a militarily neutral Germany. The chief powers of the Anti-Hitler Coalition guarantee the inviolability of this neutrality. The numerical strength, armament and stationing of the necessary defence forces of the two German states will be fixed. They renounce the equipment of their forces with atomic weapons and they support general and complete disarmament.

3) The two German states and the other signatories of the peace treaty confirm the existing German frontiers. The inviolability of the territory of the two German states will be guaranteed.

4) All war and revanchist propaganda is prohibited. All fascist, militarist and revenge-seeking organizations and formations are forbidden. Persons who have committed crimes against peace, crimes against humanity and war crimes may not hold leading public positions.

5) The signatories of the peace treaty acknowledge the complete sovereignty and self-determination of the German people including the right to choose the road towards the reunification of Germany as a peace-loving state according to their own judgement and without outside interference.

6) The signatories of the peace treaty support the German people's demand to co-operate in the United Nations and other organizations on a basis of equality. Until the reunification of Germany they support the admission of the two German states to the United Nations.

7) The two German states will be guaranteed complete freedom to develop a peaceful economy, to ocean navigation and access to world markets.

## Settlement of the West Berlin Question

The West Berlin question will also be settled on the basis of the peace treaty. The peace treaty provides that West Berlin be given the status of a neutral Free City until the reunification of Germany.

No espionage, subversive and undermining activity or hostile propaganda against other states may originate from the demilitarized, Free City of West Berlin. Every form of war propaganda and the activity of militarist and fascist organizations are prohibited.

West Berlin citizens are guaranteed the inviolability of the status of the neutral Free City and the right of decision in their internal and foreign affairs. Communications of the neutral Free City will be guaranteed on the basis of appropriate agreements with the German Democratic Republic.

## German Confederation

The peace treaty assures peace and opens the road to German reunification which, in view of the existence of two German states with different social systems, can only take place by way of a confederation. Its aim is the co-operation of the two German states on the basis of peaceful coexistence in order to prevent further estrangement and to create the prerequisites for the German nation's reunification as a peace-loving, democratic and neutral state.

The organs of the German confederation discuss and adopt recommendations to the two German governments.

To guarantee the security of Europe, for the rapprochement of the two German states and their peaceful reunification they recommend, among other things, measures to be taken concerning the following questions:

- 1) The implementation of the peace treaty provisions throughout Germany.
- 2) The step-by-step reduction of commitments resulting from the two German states' membership in military blocs, withdrawal from these military alliances, withdrawal of foreign troops and the dissolution of their bases.
- 3) The agreement on the military neutrality of the two German states as a basis for the future militarily neutral united Germany.
- 4) The completion of the general and total disarmament of the two German states as a German contribution to world disarmament.
- 5) The carrying out of the foreign relations of the two German states in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter. Membership of the two German states or their confederation in international organizations and adherence to conventions, agreement on all questions arising from the two German states' membership in international economic organizations.

6) The guarantee of assistance to economically underdeveloped countries and the renunciation of all forms of colonialism.

7) The expansion of relations between the two German states in the field of economy and trade, culture, science and technology, and sport; the creation of conditions allowing unrestricted travel.

8) The drafting of a democratic constitution for the united German state in which serving peace is the first duty of every citizen. The preparation and carrying out of general, free and secret democratic elections for the all-German parliament throughout the whole of Germany.

9) The establishment of the all-German government of a peace-loving, neutral and democratic German state with Berlin as its capital.

The peace plan of the German people points out the road to a peaceful and happy future for Germany.

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic considers that truth demands that it be pointed out to the entire German people that the road to the reunification of Germany can be opened only by vanquishing the German revanchism and militarism which have been restored in West Germany. The safeguarding of the peaceful future of the German nation demands the further strengthening of the German Democratic Republic, the certain bastion of peace and security in Germany.

Every German of goodwill in the East and West of our homeland has a national duty to do everything in his power that the German Peace Plan may become reality.



# Appeal to All Germans in the East and West

The vital interests of the German people demand the safeguarding of peace. Our people still have no peace treaty sixteen years after the end of the war. Deep concern for the maintenance of peace and the destiny of the nation induced the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic to address the following telegram to the Bonn Bundestag and the government of the German Federal Republic on 28 June 1961:

*"Concerned about the future of the German nation, determined to contribute to the safeguarding of peace in Germany and Europe and thereby to the reunification of Germany, the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic approaches the German Bundestag and the government of the German Federal Republic with the request that they agree to the immediate opening of negotiations between representatives of the two German states on a peace settlement with Germany and questions of reunification."*

*"A historic opportunity for the German nation must be made use of! According to the proposal of the Soviet Union the four powers shall declare from the outset that they will recognize every agreement the Germans may make concerning a peace settlement and questions of reunification. We may thus jointly assure that the national interests of the German people will be observed."*

*"The Council of State of the German Democratic Republic appeals to the German Bundestag and to the government of the German Federal Republic not to frivolously gamble away the great opportunity for our nation again as has unfortunately occurred far too often in German history to the detriment of the German people."*

The Council of State  
of the  
German Democratic Republic  
(signed) Walter Ulbricht  
Chairman"

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic is unanimously of the opinion that deliberations between representatives of the two German governments will contribute towards the establishment of normal peaceful relations between the two German states and thereby facilitate German reunification. Proceeding from this idea the People's Chamber adopted the German Peace Plan which it submits to the West German

government and Bundestag and to the German people in both German states.

It is high time that the atomic armaments race be immediately halted through agreement among the Germans, that the two German states agree on how general disarmament can be begun in Germany, that they agree on the renunciation of the reciprocal use of force and on non-intervention in internal affairs. The peace treaty would guarantee that a war could never again be started on German soil and that Germany could never again be drawn into a war.

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic calls upon all Germans and especially upon all Germans in the West of our homeland: Enforce your will for peace!

Demand of the West German government that joint negotiations of representatives of the two German states on German proposals for drawing up and concluding the peace treaty, on the establishment of normal peaceful relations between the two German states and on questions of reunification be entered into.

The time is overripe for the final conclusion of the Second World War and the removal of its dangerous vestiges by means of the peace treaty before the flames of a Third World War can grow out of the still glowing ashes of the Second World War.

The situation in Germany and in the world has changed fundamentally. Today the forces of peace are strong enough to curb the aggressors. The peace-loving German people have the strength to maintain peace in Germany if they unite their efforts in the struggle

- for the immediate conclusion of the peace treaty, which will also solve the West Berlin problem,
- for the curbing of militarism,
- for a neutral and peace-loving democratic Germany,
- for the happy future of the nation!