

# Day of joy: October 3 will bring German unification

by Ortrun Cramer and Hartmut Cramer

In the wee hours of Aug. 23, 1990, the East German parliament, the Volkskammer, decided that on Oct. 3, the German Democratic Republic will join the Federal Republic of Germany according to Article 23 of the West German Constitution, the Grundgesetz. Two hundred ninety-four deputies of the Christian Democrats and the Social Democrats, as well as from the Liberal Party formed the required two-thirds majority in the vote. Sixty-two deputies of the communist PDS party and the leftist-green Alliance 90 voted against reunification.

This historic vote means that beginning Oct. 3, there will be only one, united Germany, represented by one President, one parliament, one government. Helmut Kohl will be the chancellor of the first freely elected government of all Germany since 1932. One hundred forty-four selected deputies from East Germany will join the 519 deputies of the West German Bundestag, debating and voting on all legislation and budget decisions. East Germany will come under the full jurisdiction of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Moreover, it means that the 1948 Constitution of West Germany, which declares the protection and development of the dignity and integrity of the individual citizen the prime aim of the German state, will be joined by the 16 million East Germans. The Constitution will therefore cover all 78.7 million Germans currently living between the French-German and German-Polish border. Earlier, the 400 East German Volkskammer deputies had taken a vote agreeing to hold all-German elections on Dec. 2, 1990.

## What the unification treaty says

The treaty on German reunification, the Einigungsvertrag, was signed on Aug. 31 in the historic Crown Prince Palace in East Berlin by West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schäuble and East German Deputy Prime Minister Günther Krause. The unity treaty's 46 articles include a number of transition agreements providing for special economic bonuses and budgetary support to inhabitants of the abolished East German state, whose living standards and productivity are about 50% of West German standards. The package includes a freeze to be imposed on the traditionally low rents, special investment incentives, agreements on social security, public health and unemployment checks and state-funded reschooling programs for most of the East Ger-

man workers who will have to quit their inefficient jobs and seek new ones over the next two or three years.

East German Premier Lothar de Maiziere declared the day of the signing of the historic treaty as "a joyful day for all Germans . . . a day of certainty and confidence." The vote for German unity was greeted with relief and hope by Germans in East and West, as well as representatives of industry and politics. The chairman of the largest West German industry association DIHT, Hans-Peter Stihl, called the vote an encouragement to Kohl to say clearly what the state's investment programs for East Germany will look like. Despite insufficient infrastructure and bureaucratic obstacles caused by relics of the former socialist system, West German industry knows that East Germany is a good place for investment, according to Stihl.

## Railways to the future

Among the many comments made on the nature of such possible investments by West German industry, were remarkable proposals made by the state secretary in the Bavarian Interior Ministry, Peter Gauweiler. In an article in the weekly *Der Spiegel*, he called for the building of an all-European high-speed rail network: "The basis for an economic recovery for East Germany, Poland, the Soviet Union, and the other states of Central and Eastern Europe is a thoroughly improved, efficient, and human transport network for people, goods, and materials inside and to and from these countries. . . . Errors in development as occurred in the [postwar] reconstruction of Western Europe should be avoided."

Gauweiler cited the example of the high-speed rail link between Tokyo and Osaka in Japan as an example to follow in Europe. Since the Japanese fast trains reduce the travel time for the 600 kilometer distance between the two cities to a mere three hours, 80% of all passenger Tokyo-Osaka travel is done by rail, as opposed to only 0.5% between comparable European cities.

Gauweiler combined the demand for a high-speed rail network in Europe with the proposal to involve at least parts of the Soviet military units still stationed in East Germany, in the building of the railways: "In the G.D.R. alone there are 363,000 Soviet soldiers, who have available untold thousands of vehicles, millions of liters of diesel fuel. . . . In the Soviet Western Group of Forces, there are 28 military

engineering units . . . trained in building rail beds and lines, and additionally 24 road-building units. . . . Western firms could secure the service of these Soviet Army units for appropriate payments." According to Gauweiler, Bonn Finance Minister Theodore Waigel has already pledged that this proposal will be incorporated in the talks with the Soviet Union. "Nothing is impossible anymore," concluded Gauweiler.

### **LaRouche 'Triangle' program shall prevail**

The building of a high-speed rail network, combined with roads, a network of magnetic levitation trains, a network of nuclear power stations to supply electricity, and an efficient communications system was originally demanded in a proposal from Lyndon H. LaRouche. As early as December 1989, LaRouche had outlined a program to develop the "Paris-Vienna-Berlin Productive Triangle," encompassing the industrial heartland of Europe, to become the "locomotive" for a new world economic recovery. This program has since been elaborated and recently published in German as a special report, which is being widely circulated among industrialists and politicians (see p. 14).

The "Productive Triangle Program" is also at the center of an election campaign by the Patriots for Germany party for the all-German elections on Dec. 2. Led by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the party's chairman and wife of Lyndon LaRouche, the party's candidates are campaigning around three major issues. The first is to tell voters the truth about the ongoing world-strategic crisis. In this effort, the Patriots candidates follow the tradition of the first postwar chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer, whose oft-repeated sentence—"The situation has never been so serious"—is still remembered. The second demand is to implement the comprehensive economic program outlined in the "Triangle" proposal. Helga Zepp-LaRouche has recently issued a call for the creation of an all-German "Triangle" ministry, replacing the old Ministry for All-German Affairs, which will not be needed after reunification.

The Patriots' call for the construction of nuclear energy plants puts them at odds particularly with the West German Social Democrats, whose chancellor candidate Oskar Lafontaine is calling for an "ecological state." In a recently issued appeal, he demanded an energy tax on all consumption in private households, public services, and industry, a penalty tax on pollution or waste of energy, and end to the funding of nuclear power, including the development of the breeder reactor.

The Patriots' third demand is certainly the most profound and the most unusual: a call for a new, cultural renaissance, in the absence of which none of the proposed economic programs will succeed. This must be based primarily on the heritage of the German Weimar classics, the music of Beethoven, the poetry of Friedrich Schiller and works of the classical artists, scientists, and statesmen, which center on the image of man as expressed in the notion of the *Filioque* of the Christian Augustinian creed, the idea that man can

and must act in the image of the living God. When West Germany's Constitution was drafted after World War II, its spiritual fathers had intended to make this image of man the center of the new Constitution; however, much of this concept was significantly watered down.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche will be joined in her campaign by other candidates in both eastern and western Germany. For the first time, the Patriots for Germany will also run candidates in Berlin, which is to resume its status as Germany's capital city. The Berlin slate of the Patriots is led by Anno Hellenbroich, director of the Executive Intelligence Review Nachrichtenagentur in Germany, and an expert on questions of internal security. Hellenbroich pledged that he would campaign for a complete exposure of all crimes of the Stasi, the communist secret police.

### **Kohl defends Christian image of man**

The tremendous impact which the Patriots' campaign and LaRouche's Productive Triangle is having on the bigger German parties, was already visible in the first election rally of Chancellor Kohl in East Germany. Speaking in the little town of Heiligenstadt, in the middle of the crisis-ridden mining area south of the Harz Mountains in Thuringia, Kohl on Sept. 3 made clear that he wants to win the elections—with the best ideas. Right before his speech, a Patriots representative personally handed Kohl a copy of the *EIR* study on LaRouche's "Productive Triangle," whose ideas have already been presented to him and his advisers in recent months.

"We need economic development," the German chancellor stated to the delight of more than 30,000 listeners, "and that means new roads and highways, modern railways, and in general the modernization of the infrastructure." Kohl came close to endorsing the principles of the Productive Triangle, proposing to reduce overhead costs by shifting the financial resources away from the non-productive areas and instead channeling the money into the productive parts of the economy. Quoting Ludwig Erhard, the father of the postwar German "economic miracle," Kohl focused on the productive *Mittelstand*, the small and mid-size entrepreneurs, as the key for economic development. And as if to underline that he was not simply calling for "free market economy," let alone crude "Manchester capitalism," Kohl added: "It's true that we are living in a secular world, but we should never forget, that it was precisely the Christian image of man which has helped us in times of severe crisis."

Kohl discussed the development of East Germany in the context of the economic development of the whole of Eastern Europe, especially Poland, but also "in solidarity with the Third World." Kohl reminded his audience, that in a few years from now, "Europe will be the biggest economic power on Earth" with the responsibility to secure world peace. Over and over, Kohl returned to the theme: "The old continent is back on the scene again."