### Land and People

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Berlin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total area (square miles)</td>
<td>137,830 (Slightly smaller than Montana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>82.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual population growth rate (%)</td>
<td>1975-2000: 0.2, 2000-2015 (projected): -1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban population (%)</td>
<td>87.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic composition (%)</td>
<td>German: 91.5, Turkish: 2.4, Other: 6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major language(s)</td>
<td>German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious affiliation (%)</td>
<td>Protestant: 34, Roman Catholic: 34, Muslim: 3.7, Unaffiliated or other: 28.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Economy

| Domestic currency | Euro |
| Total GNI (US$) | 2.09 trillion |
| GNI per capita (US$) | 25,270 |
| Total GNI at purchasing power parity (US$) | 2.28 trillion |
| GNI per capita at purchasing power parity (US$) | 27,610 |
| Structure of production (% of GDP) | Agriculture: 1.2, Industry: 31.2, Services: 67.6 |
| Labor force distribution (% of total) | Agriculture: 2.8, Industry: 33.4, Services: 63.8 |
| Exports as % of GDP | 36 |
| Imports as % of GDP | 31.8 |

### Society

| Life expectancy at birth | 78.7 |
| Infant mortality per 1,000 live births | 4.16 |
| Adult literacy (%) | 99* |
| Access to information and communications (per 1,000 population) | Telephone lines: 696, Mobile phones: 682, Radios: 570, Televisions: 586, Personal computers: 382.2 |

#### Women in Government and the Economy

| Women in the National Legislature lower house or single house (%) | 31.8 |
| Upper house (%) | 24.6 |
| Women at ministerial level (%) | 35.7 |
| Female legislators, senior officials, and managers (% of total) | 34 |
| Female professional and technical workers (% of total) | 49 |
| Female economic activity rate (age 15 and above) (%) | 47.9 |
| Female labor force (% of total) | 42 |
| Estimated earned income (PPP US$) | Female: 18,703, Male: 35,885 |

### Composite Ratings and Rankings

| 2002 Human Development Index (HDI) ranking (value) out of 177 countries | 19 (.925) |
| Gender-related Development Index (GDI) ranking (value) out of 144 countries | 19 (.921) |
| Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) ranking (value) out of 78 countries | 9 (.804) |
| Corruption Perception Index (CPI) ranking (value) out of 145 countries | 15 (.8.2) |
| Environmental Sustainability Index (ESI) ranking (value) out of 146 countries | 31 (.56.9) |
| Freedom in World rating | 1.0 (Free) |

### Political Organization

| Political System | Parliamentary democracy |
| Regime History | After Third Reich's defeat, Germany was partitioned and occupied by Allies in 1945. In 1949 the Federal Republic of Germany (FGR) was established in the west, and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) was established in the east. The two German states unified in 1990. |
**Administrative Structure**  Federal, with 16 states. Germany does not have sharp separation between levels of government.

**Executive**  Ceremonial president is the head of state, elected for a five-year term (with a two-term limit) by the Federal Convention. Chancellor is head of government and is a member of the Bundestag and a leader of the majority party or coalition.

**Legislature**  Bicameral. *Bundestag* (614 members at 2005 federal election) elected via dual ballot system combining single-member districts and proportional representation. Upper house (*Bundesrat*) comprises 69 members who are elected and appointed officials from the 16 states.

**Judiciary**  Autonomous and independent. The legal system has three levels: Federal High Court, which is the criminal-civil system; Special Constitutional Court, dealing with matters affecting Basic Law; and Administrative Court, consisting of Labor, Social Security, and Finance courts.

**Party System**  Multiparty. Major parties are Social Democratic Party (SPD), the Greens, Christian Democratic Union (CDU), Christian Social Union (CSU), Free Democratic Party (FDP), and Left Party (Linke. PDS).
Chapter 12 Germany the Impact of the Past

I. The German “Volk”
   A. An ethnic and racial mixture
      1. Celts and many “barbarian tribes” (Cimbri, Teutonic, Frisian, Chatti)
      2. Tacitus’ study identified three groups (Ingaevones, Hermiones, Istaevones)
      3. Most of the individual tribes disappeared and were replaced by greater political units (Saxons, Franks, Alammanii, Vandals, Burgundians)
      4. In the second half of the second century, the Goths appear from the East
      5. In the fourth century, the Huns invaded (Attila)
         a. the “Great Migration” occurred as Visigoths, Ostrogoths, and Vandals move into Roman territory, first as mercenaries, later as conquerors
         b. 451 AD, a combined Visigoth and Roman force defeats Attila at the Catalanian Plains
      6. By the late fifth century, of the great confederacies, only the Saxon and the Alammanii remain (eventually absorbed by Charlemagne’s Empire)
      7. There are clashes between the Merovingian dynasty of Salian Franks (from Gaul) and Thuringians, Alammanii, Bavarians, Arian Goths, and Saxons
      8. In the 6th century, the eastern borders are invaded by land seeking Slavs and Baltic peoples and the Germans and Merovingians ally to fight the invaders
      9. In the 8th century, the Merovingians are replaced by the Carolingian dynasty and the Germans are absorbed by the Holy Roman Empire of Charlemagne (Karl der Grosse)
   B. Contrary to the Nazi theory of the Aryan race, “Germans are a combination of Celts, Romans, several Germanic tribes, Slavs, and Balts.” – Roskin

II. The “Fragmented Nation”
   A. “Neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire” – Voltaire
      1. “Although it soon fell apart, the German wing continued to call itself that until Napoleon ended the farce in 1806.” – Roskin
      2. In fact, German nobles had gained so much power that by the 13th century, the “Emperor” was simply a figurehead
         a. Actual power was in the hands of princes and clergymen
         b. Hundreds of independent cities and principalities
   B. The Protestant Reformation
      1. In the 16th century, the German monk Martin Luther reflected the feelings of many Northern Germans that the Church of Rome was corrupt and ungodly
      2. The dramatic posting of the 95 Theses on the door of the church at Wittenburg signaled the beginning of the Reformation and Christian schism
      3. North German princes used Lutheranism as a justification to stop paying taxes to Rome
      4. Religious wars break out with the North and East becoming “Protestant” and the South and the Rhineland staying mostly Catholic
   C. The Schmalkaldic War
      1. Habsburg Emperor Charles V (Catholic) is intent on crushing Lutheranism
      2. German Protestant princes seek alliance with Catholic France to defeat Charles
3. The Religious Peace of Augsburg (1555) creates the doctrine of “cuius regio
eius religio” which increases the power of local princes and German disunity

D. The Thirty Years War
1. In 1618, the Habsburgs once more try to extend their power
2. Again, the Protestants need French (Richelieu) and Swedish (Gustavus
Adolphus) help in repulsing the Habsburgs
3. The result of the war is approximately 30% of the German population dies
4. The Treaty of Westphalia confirms the rule of “cuius regio” leaving Germany
   broken into 360 political entities.

III. The Rise of Prussia
A. 18th century
1. Brandenburg expands to the Eastern Baltic region adding Silesia and parts of
   the Rhineland
2. Junkers (Prussian nobility) hold great estates worked on by serfs
3. Junkers control all higher civil service and military positions
4. They are famous for their discipline and attention to detail
B. Prussian kings become obsessed with military power
1. “Prussia is not a country with an army, it is an army with a country”—Voltaire
2. King Fredrick William demands military obedience and “Prussian efficiency”
3. Frederick the Great (1740-1746), called the “enlightened despot,” keeps the
   army in constant readiness and personally administers his kingdom

IV. German Nationalism
A. Napoleon’s conquest of the German states
1. Welcomed by liberals unhappy with German backwardness and disunity
2. Napoleon consolidates many ministries (except Prussia and Austria) into the
   Confederation of the Rhine
3. Napoleon also introduces new laws to free the economy and society
B. Ideas of Nationalism
1. Anti-French feelings stir German feelings of “Nationalism”
2. Romantic, angry, racist feelings, hearkening to a “mythical past”
   a. Volksgeist: a German tribal spirit reflecting superiority to other people
   b. Lebensraum: the belief Germany is entitled to more territory
C. Prussia is looked to for leadership in expelling the French
D. After Napoleon’s defeat, German nationalist promote the idea of a unified, modern
   Germany
E. Austrian Prince Metternich, however, is opposed to liberalism and nationalism
1. As a compromise, he supports the creation of a “German Confederation” of 39
   principalities, which he thinks will contribute to European stability
F. In 1848, liberals and nationalists throughout Europe stage revolts to overthrow the
   “Metternichian system”
1. In Frankfurt, liberals offer the King of Prussia the crown to a German
   constitutional monarchy—he contemptuously refuses
2. The army clears out the National Assembly in Frankfurt and German liberals
   either convert to pure nationalism or flee to the United States

V. The Second Reich (1871-1918)
A. Otto von Bismarck: Prussian/German Prime Minister (1862-1890)
1. “Prussian Junker to the bone,” he saw German unification as the only way to preserve and defend Prussia
2. He hated political parties, parliaments, and anyone who opposed him
3. His preference was a “one-man’s style of government”
4. *Kulturkampf*: his struggle with the Catholic church in which he tried to subordinate the Church to the German state pitted the Catholic south against the Protestant north
5. *Machtpolitik*: power politics, and *realpolitik*: the politics of realism were Bismarck’s tools for unifying Germany
   a. He was cautious for he knew the danger of expanding too far
   b. With the creation of the Second Reich, he concentrated on preventing his enemies (i.e., the Netherlands, France, Austria) from forming coalitions
   c. He warned against an alliance with Austria, considering Austria’s ambitions in the Balkins
6. When the Prussian parliament deadlocked over whether to increase the military budget, Bismarck ordered new taxes and spent the money without parliamentary approval
7. “Not by speeches and majority decisions will the great questions of the time be decided—that was the fault of 1848 and 1849—but by iron and blood.”
8. Eventually wars consolidated many Germans states behind Prussia
   a. 1864 against Denmark
   b. 1866 against Austria
   c. 1870 against France

B. January 18, 1871, Wilhelm is proclaimed German Emperor at the Palace of Versailles, the Second Reich begins
   1. It was an undemocratic, authoritarian government
   2. The Reichstag had limited powers (e.g., it could approve or reject the budget)
   3. The Chancellor (Prime Minister) was not answerable to the Reichstag
   4. The Kaiser was not a mere figurehead, but actually set policy
   5. The individual states reserved their autonomy

C. The fall of Bismarck
   1. Kaiser Wilhelm II (the third and last German Emperor) represented the new Germany which knew no limits to German power
   2. Wilhelm II was impatient with Bismarck’s social conservatism which he felt estranged him from his subjects
   3. In the general election of 1890, Bismarck’s coalition of Conservatives and National Liberals fell from 220 to 135, the Radicals, Centre, and Social Democrats rose from 141 to 207
      a. Bismarck wished to tear up the constitution and set up a military dictatorship
   4. Relations between Wilhelm and Bismarck deteriorated
   5. Bismarck unsuccessfully tries to organize a strike of Prussian ministers
   6. On March 18, 1890, opposed by the Kaiser and the military, Bismarck is forced to resign

VI. World War I
   A. German foreign policy had become expansionist
      1. Kaiser Wilhelm II envisioned Germany as a great imperial power dominating Europe and competing with Great Britain overseas
2. In 1899, a program of naval armament begins an arms race with Britain
3. Germany supports the South African Boers in their war against Britain
4. Germany supports Austria in its conflict with Russia over the Balkins

B. World War I
1. On June 28, 1914 the assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand at Sarajevo lights the powder keg
2. One month later (July 28), Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia; this is followed with a declaration of war against Russia and France (June 29)
3. On July 31 Russia and Germany mobilize; on August 1, a state of war exists between Russia and Germany; on August 2, Germany enters France
4. On August 4, Germany enters Belgium provoking her ally Britain
5. On August 5, Britain enters the war

C. Four Years and 10 million lives later, Germany surrenders, Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicates

D. “Betrayal” and Humiliation
1. Many Germans were in denial over Germany’s defeat
   a. The “Dolchstoss Myth” among right wing Germans was that Germany had been betrayed by democrats, socialists, Bolsheviks, and Jews
   b. There had not been any fighting on German soil, so why did the German Army surrender? It was incomprehensible.
2. The Treaty of Versailles blamed Germany for the war and imposed an oppressive price
   a. The French took Alsace-Lorraine and the Saar; Germany also lost the Polish corridor
   b. German colonies in Africa and the South Pacific were lost
   c. Germany was levied an impossible $33 Billion in reparations
   d. The military was disbanded

VII. The Weimer Republic
A. The fundamental problems of the Weimer Republic
1. Germans had no experience with either a republic or a democracy
2. The Weimer Republic lacked “legitimacy” in the eyes of many Germans as it had been forced upon them by the victorious allies and traitors
3. The Treaty of Versailles was so punitive and its demands for payment so high that it psychologically humiliated and economically crippled Germany

B. Popular opinion of the Weimer Republic
1. One-fourth supported the Republic and were wholehearted democrats
2. One-fourth hated the Republic and were anti-Republic
3. The rest went along until the economy deteriorated and then split between authoritarian left and authoritarian right

C. Hyper-inflation
1. Government printing of money to pay the reparations demanded led to economic insanity
   a. Wheelbarrows of money were needed to buy a loaf of bread
   b. Middle-class families had their businesses and savings wiped out
2. Still, by the mid-20s the economy stabilized and started to improve

D. Post-war Politics
1. The largest parties were the Social Democrats, Catholic Centre, and Conservatives
2. The National Socialist German Workers’ Party was small and dismissed
E. The impact of the world economic depression changed German politics greatly
   1. The moderate parties declined
   2. The Nazi party and the Communist party grew in numbers
      a. The Communists reviled the Social Democrats as “cowards” and under
         Stalin’s orders rejected a joint program with the Socialists
      b. Adolf Hitler joins the Nazi party and soon takes command
   3. In 1932, the Nazi party wins one-third of the German vote
      a. President Hindenburg names Hitler Chancellor in 1933
      b. The Weimer Republic is finished

VIII. The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich
A. The Nazi Regime
   1. Pseudo-socialist in that it promises jobs and welfare, it is in practice
      *gleichschaltung* (i.e., a “coordinated control” of the economy by the Nazis)
   2. Although not elected by a majority of Germans, by the late 1930s it is clear
      that a majority of Germans are won over as German prosperity and power
      increase
   3. For some, membership in the Nazi party means better jobs and opportunities
B. Enemies of the state
   1. Communists, socialists, and old-style Conservatives go underground, flee, or
      are imprisoned
   2. The Jews (less than ⅙ of a percent of the population) are depicted as “a
      poisonous, foreign element who aimed to enslave Germany in the service of
      international capitalism, international communism, or both.”
      a. They were deprived first of their civil rights, their jobs, their property,
         their citizenship, and in the “final solution,” their lives.
C. Hitler’s War Plan
   1. Lebensraum: “Living space” Hitler’s plan to consolidate Germany’s borders
      a. First, absorb the Saar (1935)
      b. Second, take Austria and the Sudetenland (1935)
   2. It was so easy, none of Germany’s World War I enemies did more than give
      lip opposition to German aggression
   3. Hitler’s designs on Czechoslovakia was appeased when Britain’s Prime
      Minister Neville Chamberlain accepted Hitler’s assurance that no further
      expansion would follow (1939)
   4. 1939 Hitler and Stalin sign a mutual non-aggression pact and agree to divide
      up Poland.
   5. Hitler orders the invasion of Poland, September 1, 1939 (Soviet invasion of
      the eastern frontier of Poland occurs on September 17th)
   6. On September 3rd, Britain and France declare war on Germany, but do nothing
      to stop the take-over of Poland
D. The “Phony War”: Six month follow with no combat
E. Blitzkreig
   1. Germany takes the Netherlands, Belgium and then France
   2. British soldiers flee Dunkirk, the bombing of Britain follows
   3. Hitler, Mussolini, and Togo form an alliance
F. In the Summer of 1941, after assembling the largest army in history, Hitler orders the
   conquest and enslavement of Russia (Operation “Barbarossa”)
G. December 7, 1941, Germany’s ally Japan bombs Pearl Harbor, the U.S. declares war on Japan and mutual declarations of war between Germany and the U.S. follows
H. In 1942 the German army is devastated by the bitter Russian winter and retreats from Russia
I. In 1944, the U.S., Britain, Canada, and French Resistance invade Normandy
J. In February 1945, the “Big Three” (Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin) agree to divide Germany into four zones (Berlin in the Soviet zone is to be divided into four sectors)
K. April 30, 1945, Hitler shoots himself and his body is burned
L. VE day (Victory in Europe), May 8, 1945

IX. The Occupation
A. The USSR Revenge
   1. Having lost 27 million people, Russia loots the defeated East Germans
   2. It dismantles whole factories and ship them to Russia
   3. It floods the eastern sector with worthless currency
B. British and Americans decide to rebuild Germany
   1. The U.S. Marshall Plan pumps $3.5 Billion into West Germany
   2. In 1948, British and Americans introduce a new deutsche mark
C. In 1948, the Soviets blockade Berlin
   1. For a year the British and American airlift helps the people of West Berlin survive
D. In 1949, the western allies return governing power back to the West Germans
E. In response, the USSR sets up a puppet East German government
F. On August 17-18, 1961, a concrete wall topped with barbed wire is constructed dividing East and West Berlin.
G. On November 8, 1989, the “wall” is torn down
H. On October 2, 1990, the two Germanys are reunited as prosperous and democratic West Germany absorbs a weak and dependent East Germany
Chapter 13 Germany: The Key Institutions

I. Foundations of the Federal Republic of Germany
A. The Grundgesetz (Basic Law)
   1. Based in part on the 1848-1849 Frankfurt and 1919 Weimar Constitutions
   2. Meant to be temporary, it continues as Unified Germany constitution
B. Federalism
   1. Germany's Länder "have as much power as American states, maybe more" – Roskin
   2. The Länder are responsible for education, medical care, police, etc.
   3. There are 16 Länder: 10 West Germany, 5 East Germany, plus Greater Berlin

II. The Bundespräsident
A. Head of State: the "dignified" rather than "efficient" part of government
   1. A figurehead with few political but many symbolic duties
   2. Receives foreign ambassadors and ministers
   3. He proclaims laws (after they have been passed by the parliament)
   4. He dissolves the Bundestag (upon the chancellor's request)
   5. He appoints and dismisses the chancellor (on direction of the leading party)
B. Election and Term of Office
   1. Elected by a "special Federal Assembly composed of all Bundestag members
      plus an equal number of electors from the state legislatures (Länder)
   2. Serves 5 years and may be re-elected once
   3. A "dead-end job" it is given as a reward to a "distinguished senior politician"

III. The Chancellor
A. The German "Prime Minister" (the efficient part of government)
   1. Elected by the Bundestag
   2. The Chancellor picks his own cabinet—with political considerations
B. The Chancellor sets government policy

IV. The Cabinet
A. Size (2002): 13 ministries (see pp 202)
   1. These are added, deleted, combined, split, and reshuffled from one cabinet to
      another as needed
   2. No big deal, what the leader of the largest party wants, he get
B. Practically all German cabinet ministers are also politicians with seats in the Bundestag
   1. They are rarely specialists in their assigned portfolio
   2. Most are lawyers and have served in a variety of party and legislative positions
C. The job of parliamentary state secretary is training for potential cabinet ministers.

V. The Bundestag (Lower House)
A. Size: At least 598 members, it usually gets more (2004: 603 members)
B. Term of office and Salary
   1. 4 year term
   2. $89,900 a year (2004)
C. A parliamentary system, it can never be a severe critic of the government
   1. The majority party chooses the Chancellor
2. The Bundestag can only unmake a government when it makes a new one
3. “On balance, the Bundestag has less independent power than the U.S.
   Congress, but more than the French National Assembly, and possibly even the
   British House of Commons.”—Roskin

D. Committee Work: The Bundestag Strength
1. Most sessions are “secret,” allowing deputies (even the opposition) to be heard
2. “German legislative committees are more important and more specialized than
   their British counterparts.”—Roskin
3. Germany party discipline is not as tight as the British, allowing deputies from
   even the ruling party to criticize a government bill
4. All bills must be reported out of committee (they cannot be killed)
5. Once back on the floor, voting is on party lines “with occasional defections on
   matters of conscience.”—Roskin

E. Standing Committees
1. Generally correspond to cabinet ministries
2. Each cabinet minister can deal directly with a parallel, relevant Bundestag
   committee; being Bundestag members themselves, ministers can go from their
   executive offices to the committees to explain a proposed bill

F. Bundestag membership is heavy with civil servants
1. German law permits bureaucrats to take leaves of absence to run for and serve
   in the Bundestag

G. Bundestag membership also includes people from interest groups (business associations
   and labor unions)

VI. The Bundesrat (Upper House)
A. Size: 68 members
   1. Every German Land gets at least three
   2. The more populous get four; the most populous gets six

B. Appointment to Office
   1. Each Land has the right to appoint its delegates
   2. Usually the delegates are the Land’s “leading state-level politicians”
      a. These are officials elected to the Landtag, who become cabinet members in
         the Land government
      b. This often means that members of a state’s delegation will all belong to one
         party.
      c. Each Bundesrat delegation must vote as a bloc, not as individuals; the theory
         being that they represent the state, not parties nor themselves.

C. The 16 Länder has equal power with the Bundestag on legislation that affects state
   affairs (including finances)
D. On other issues, the Bundesrat can veto a bill, but the Bundestag can override it.

VII. The Bundesverfassungsgericht (Federal Constitutional Court)
A. Created in 1951 partly on American insistence and located in Karlsruhe
B. Composition
   1. 16 judges
   2. 8 elected by the Bundestag; 8 elected by the Bundesrat
C. Term of Service: one non-renewable 12 year term
D. Two Divisions: Two courts (“senates”) of eight judges each
E. Completely independent of the other branches of German government
F. Subject Matter Jurisdiction
   1. Cases between Landers
   2. Questions of civil liberties
   3. “Dangerous” political parties
   4. The constitutionality of statutes (Judicial Review)

G. The Court operates in the context of the German Civil Law (code law), unlike the U.S. Supreme Court which renders decisions within the Common Law system

H. Decisions
   1. The Court has declared some right and left political parties illegal on the grounds that they sought to overthrow the constitutional order
   2. It has ruled that abortion bills conflict with the right to life provisions of the Basic Law and are unconstitutional (though in 1993 it decided not to prosecute women having a 3rd trimester abortion)
   3. 1979 it ruled that “worker codetermination” in the running of factories was constitutional
   4. 1983 it ruled that Chancellor Helmut Kohl’s action to lose a Bundestag vote to call an early election was constitutional
   5. 1994 it ruled Germany can send troops overseas for peacekeeping operations
   6. 1995 it overrode a Bavarian law requiring a Crucifix in every classroom

VIII. Germany’s “Two-Plus” Party System
   A. German governments almost always consist of one large party in coalition with one small party due largely to Germany’s proportional representation system.
   B. The CDU (Christlich Demokratische Union)
      1. The FRG’s largest political party
      2. Origin: the old Catholic based Center party; after WWII it broadened its positions to attract center-right Protestants
      3. Platform: “social-market economics”
   C. The CSU (Christian Social Union) “Bavarian affiliate” of the CDU
   D. The SPD (Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands)
      1. Origin: Marxist, it antedates the FRG
      2. 1959 it dropped Marxism altogether
      3. Today a center-left party, its members include working class and intellectuals
      4. Platform: welfare measures and “reform”
   E. The Greens
      1. An ecology-pacifist party established in 1983
      2. The 3rd largest party, coalition partner with the SPD
      3. Once radical, now pragmatic and regierungsfahig (able to form a government)
      4. Platform: phase out Germany’s nuclear power plants, “eco-tax” gasoline
   F. The Free Democratic Party (Freie Demokratische Partei)
      1. A “classic liberal party” (in Europe, a centrist party)
      2. Platform: free market, free society, more individual responsibility, less government
   G. The Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS)
      1. An East German party that barely survives
      2. Members include ex-Communists and “those who feel ignored”
   H. Several small leftist and rightist parties win locally but never nationally
      1. These include the Communists and neo-Nazis
XI. A Split Electoral System: A German Hybrid

A. The German electoral system combines single-member districts with proportional representation
   1. The voter has two votes
      a. One vote is for a single representative in one of 299 districts
      b. One vote is for a political party
   2. The party vote is the crucial one
      a. It determines the total number of seats a party gets in a given Land
      b. Some of these seats are held by the party’s district winners
      c. ADDITIONAL seats are taken from the party’s Landesliste to match the percentage won on the “second ballot”
      d. The Landesliste is a list of persons whom the party proposes as deputies with priority given to the people at the top of the list

B. The German system works like proportional representation (with the % of votes nearly equal to the number of seats) but with the advantage of single-member districts.
   1. As in Britain and the U.S., voters get a district representative
   2. And the party gets its “fair share” of the national vote

C. Personality counts in German elections
   1. A politician cannot be “just a good party worker,” he must earn the voters’ confidence
   2. It is also a matter of pride to win with a higher % of votes than one’s party

D. The Threshold Clause
   1. In German elections, a party must win at least 5% nationwide to get its proportional representation share of Bundestag seats
   2. Purpose: to keep out extremist and splinter parties
   3. But even if below 5%, a party gets whatever single-member constituency seats it wins

E. Public Campaign Funds
   1. German parties get government help for campaign funds, but after the election
   2. For each vote, the party gets European Euros
   3. Also, parties’ contributions and membership fees are matched 50% by federal funds
   4. Typically, national campaigns cost taxpayers $150 million
List of political parties in Germany

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is a list of political parties in Germany.

The Parliament of Germany, the Bundestag, has a plural multi-party system, with two major parties, the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) and the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), with its sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU) in the same parliamentary group, also known as CDU/CSU or the Union.

Furthermore, Germany has three minor parties, the Free Democratic Party (FDP), The Left, and Alliance '90/The Greens. The federal government of Germany usually consists of a coalition of a major and a minor party, most typically CDU/CSU and FDP, or a 'red-green alliance' of the SPD and Greens. From 1966 to 1969, and again from 2005 to 2009, the federal government consisted of a Grand Coalition.[1]

Coalitions in the Bundestag and state legislators are often described by party colors. Party colors are the Social Democratic Party being red, the Alliance '90/The Greens green, the Free Democratic Party yellow, the The Left dark red or purple, and the CDU/CSU black.[2][3]

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The parties

Parties represented in the Bundestag or the EP

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A Common CDU/CSU faction in the Bundestag; CSU runs only in Bavaria, CDU elsewhere.
B Merger of PDS and WASG

**Parties represented in state parliaments**

- Free Voters (FW)
- Pirate Party Germany (PIRATEN)
- National Democratic Party of Germany (NPD)
- South Schleswig Voter Federation (SSW)
- Citizens in Rage (BIW)
- German Communist Party (DKP)[4]

**Minor parties**

- Anarchist Pogo Party of Germany (APPD)
- Bavaria Party (BP)
- Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (BüSo)
- German Centre Party (ZENTRUM)
- Christian Centre (CM)
- Communist Party of Germany (Roter Morgen)
- Communist Party of Germany (1990)
- Ecological Democratic Party (ödp)
- Family Party of Germany
- Feminist Party of Germany (DIE FRAUEN)
- German Social Union (DSU)
- Human Environment Animal Protection (Die Tierschutzpartei)
- Marxist–Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD)
- Party of Bible-abiding Christians (PBC)
- Revolutionary Socialist League (RSB)
- Social Equality Party (PSG)
- Statt Party
- The Freedom - Civil rights Party for more Freedom and Democracy


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- The Party
- The Friesen
- The Republicans (REP)
- pro Germany Citizens' Movement

Defunct parties
- The Grays – Gray Panthers (GRAUE)
- Law and Order Offensive Party (Offensive D)

Historical parties

Parties existing until the end of World War I
- Bavarian Peasants' League (BB)
- Centre Party (Zentrum)
- Christian Social Party (CSP)
- Fatherland Party (Germany)
- Free Conservative Party (FKP)
- Free-minded People's Party (FVP)]
- Free-minded Union (FV)]
- General German Workers' Association (ADAV)
- German Conservative Party (DKP)
- German-Hanoverian Party (DHP)
- German People's Party (DtVP)
- German Progress Party (DFP)
- German Free-minded Party (DFP)
- Independent Social Democratic Party of Germany (USPD)
- Liberal Union (LV)
- National Liberal Party (NLP)
- National-Social Association (NSV)
- Progressive People's Party (FVP)
- Social Democratic Party of Germany
- Social Democratic Workers' Party of Germany (SDAP)

Parties in Weimar Republic
- Bavarian People's Party (BVP)
- Centre Party (Zentrum)
- Christian Social People's Service (CSVD)
- Communist Party of Germany (KPD)
- Communist Party of Germany (Opposition) (KPO)
- Conservative People's Party (KVP)
- German Democratic Party (DDP)
- German National People's Party (DNVP)
- German People's Party (DVP)
- German Racialist Freedom Party (DVFP)
- German State Party (DStP)
- German Workers' Party (DAP)
- Independent Social Democratic Party of Germany (USPD)
- National Socialist German Workers' Party aka Nazi Party (NSDAP)
- Socialist Workers' Party of Germany (SAPD)

**Defunct parties in (former) West Germany**

- Alliance of Germans (BdD)
- German Party (DP)
- German Conservative Party - German Right Party (DKP-DRP)
- German Reich Party (DRP)
- All-German Bloc/League of Expellees and Deprived of Rights (GB/BHE)
- All-German People's Party (GVP)

**Parties banned by the Constitutional Court**

- Socialist Reich Party (SRP), banned in 1952
- Communist Party of Germany (KPD), banned in 1956

**Parties in (former) East Germany**

**Bloc parties in the socialist state (1949–1989)**

- Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), "Leading Role" per 1968 Constitution
- Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDUD)
- Liberal Democratic Party of Germany (LDPD)
- Democratic Farmers' Party of Germany (DBD)
- National Democratic Party of Germany (NDPD)

**During transition (1989–90)**

- Alliance 90
  - Democracy Now
  - Initiative for Peace and Human Rights (IFM)
  - New Forum
- Alliance for Germany (AfD)
  - Christian Democratic Union (CDU)
  - Democratic Awakening (DA)
  - German Social Union (DSU)
- Association of Free Democrats (BFD)
  - Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)
  - Free Democratic Party (FDP)
  - German Forum Party (DFP)
- Democratic Farmers' Party of Germany (DBD)
- Green Party (Greens)
- National Democratic Party of Germany (NDPD)
- Social Democratic Party in the GDR (SDP)
- Socialist Unity Party of Germany—Party of Democratic Socialism (SED-PDS)
- United Left (VL)

**See also**


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Chapter 14 German Political Culture

I. An absence of liberal democracy
   A. Since the Enlightenment, Germany has had a “liberal tradition”
      1. There have been liberal philosophers, artists, writers, scientists
      2. Leibniz, Kant, Goethe, Beethoven
   B. In Germany, however, “liberal democracy” was overwhelmed by authoritarianism
      1. In 1849, German liberals were suppressed
      2. Bismarck’s Second Reich treated liberals with contempt
      3. In the Weimar Republic, liberals were a minority, easy prey for the Nazis
   C. East Germany’s “people’s democracy”
      1. Communism in East Germany meant obedient and powerless individuals

II. The “Moral Vacuum”
   A. A liberal democracy requires a moral foundation
      1. Representative democracy requires trust that representatives will be moral even “idealistic” - Roskin
      2. A moral foundation is the basis for legitimacy
   B. The Post WWII Problem
      1. The persistence of ex-Nazis in high places
         a. Immediately after the War, the Allied occupiers initiated a policy of “denazification”
         b. But while 177 war criminals were tried, some got away and some made themselves “useful” to the occupation authorities in business, politics, and the civil service
      2. The judicial system did not prosecute Nazi criminals until the 1960s
      3. With the Cold War, Western Allies decided they needed Germans to block Soviet expansionism and stopped “rubbing German noses in the past”

III. The Remembrance of Things Past
   A. “Past go away!”
      1. For decades, German history textbooks were blank between 1933 and 1945
      2. Young Germans of the 1950s and 1960s were ignorant of the Nazis and the Holocaust
   B. “Holocaust” (1979 TV American mini-series) grabbed German attention
      1. In the 1980s curricula and textbooks changed to deal with the Nazi period
      2. But it also made some Germans resentful and feeling “picked upon”
   C. The generation of Germans coming out of the War tried to blot out the past
      1. They focused on work, making money, and spending conspicuously
      2. Their material prosperity did not fill the moral and historical void of their young, however
         a. Young Germans of the 60s seemed profoundly dissatisfied
         b. In the 70s and 80s some young Germans turned to radical, sometimes violent politics and murder (e.g., the Bader-Meinoff gang)
   D. Facing the past directly and admitting a certain degree of “collective guilt”
      1. Vergangenheitsbewattigung (Catholic writer Heinrich Boll, 1950)
      2. Former President Richard von Weizacker, writer Gunter Grass
E. East Germany: “We were not Nazis”
   1. The policy of East Germany was denial.
   2. Thus, East Germans avoided moral responsibility
   3. There was nothing to be ashamed of; the Nazis were a foreign power

IV. The Generation Gap
A. The young German is more open, free-spirited, less obedient, democratic, European
B. Young women now work outside the home and participate in politics
C. Sydney Verba’s “output affect” and “system affect” description of German culture
   1. 1960’s study: Verba contended that Germans liked a system as long as it
      produced (jobs, security, material goods), “output affect”
   2. They did not like a system simply because it was “good”, “system affect”
   3. Germans, he concluded were “fair-weather democrats” not “rain or shine
      democrats”
D. Today, system affect has increased among younger Germans – Roskin

V. Is Germany today a “normal country”?
A. There has been a return of patriotism and pride to be German; a feeling of being as
   democratic as any European country, no longer needing to feel guilt about the past
B. Yet, criticism of Israel raises charges of neo-Nazism
C. Many young Germans feel mainstream parties (CDU and SPD) are unresponsive
D. Many young Germans also distrust the United States
   1. The assassination of President Kennedy
   2. Anti-war feelings about Vietnam, President Reagan, Iraq
E. Some young Germans see a reunified Germany taking its place as leader of Europe

VI. “The Disorienting Unification”
A. Joy over unification soured as the cost of building up East Germany caused anger and
   resentment
   1. Wessis are upset with Ossis’ demands
   2. Ossis feel humiliates and alienated
B. Politically, Ossis have weak party identification and shift from one election to the next
C. Economically, unemployment is twice as high among Ossis; Wessis resent the massive
   assistance given to the east
D. Anti-immigrant, racist feelings have grown (neo-Nazi and skinhead youth)

VII. Developing Political Participation
A. The Civic Culture (1959) by Almond and Verba described the German attitude towards
   politics as one of “detachment” (no point in getting involved)
B. Now, Wessis are “among the most democratic and participatory in the world” – Roskin

VIII. The “German Political Elite: Lawyers and Economists
A. Many politicians have studied Civil Code Law with its emphasis on fixed rules
   1. Law makers see their role as drafting precise laws
   2. Cabinet ministers see their role as strictly enforcing laws
B. Economists often become important politicians
   1. Ludwig Erhard
   2. Helmut Schmidt
IX. The German “Split Personality”: Romanticism v. Realism
A. Realism
   1. Most of the time Germans are pragmatic, hardworking, thrifty, clean, orderly, cooperative, family oriented
   2. Germans value achievement: to work harder, produce more, and proudly let others know about it
B. Romanticism
   1. The 19th century intellectuals (like Richard Wagner) who reveled in the Volkgeist
   2. The Nazi youth who dreamed of the “thousand year Reich”
   3. The 1970s far-left terrorists who thought of reaching utopia by assassination
   4. The present day Greens who long for a “pastoral idyll free of industry and pollution”
   5. The striving for “perfection”
C. “Germans have an enormous capacity for idealism and the perversion of it.” - Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt
Chapter 15 Germany Patterns of Interaction

I. German Politics
A. With unification German politics became more complex and less stable
   1. It has become a “two plus three system”
   2. The “plus” includes more than one small party (FDP, Green, PDS)
   3. The Two large parties have lost some of their votes to smaller parties
   4. Coalition formation is more difficult (5 combinations are possible)
B. Possible Coalitions
   2. Social-Liberal Coalition: SPD (sometimes FDP) (Brandt & Schmidt in 1970s)
   3. Grand Coalition: CDU and SPD (1966-69) not happy
   4. Red-Green Coalition: SPD and Green (Schroeder/Fischer)
   5. “Traffic Light” (Ampel): SPD, Green, and FTD (yellow), possible but Greens and FTD are ideologically incompatible
   6. “Jamaica”: CDU (black), FTD, and Green, right-wing except FTD and Greens oppose each other
   7. SPD-Left: but Oskar Lafontaine (Left) and Schroder (SPD) hated each other
   8. “All-Left”: SPD, Green, and Left, possible but improbable
   9. “government of national unity” of all parties: perhaps in wartime/emergency, but such a coalition would not stay together for long

II. Political Parties and the Electorate
A. Ideologically, Germans are mostly in the center with few on the left and right
   1. Political parties, if they want to win, must appeal to the center
   2. The SPD may lose some members, but its electoral chances improve
      a. In 1959 the SPD meeting at Bad Godesberg renounced Marxism
      b. It drafted a Basic Program and proclaimed itself “rooted in Christian ethics, humanism and classical philosophy”
   3. The CDU meanwhile downplays its conservatism claiming to represent all Germans
B. Filling the void left by the SPD, newer, more radical parties have emerged
   1. The Greens and the communist PDS
   2. The SPD is still pulled in two directions
      a. The traditional socialist wing (Oskar Lafontaine)
      b. The “right” (Schroder who tried to create a “New Middle” but failed)

III. The Chancellor and the Electorate
A. Personality has become more important than ideology in the mind of many voters
B. With the decline of Weltanschauung (“world view”) parties and the move of the two large parties to the center, the personality of a candidate is often what persuades voters
   1. The “Americanization” of European politics
   2. Although voting may be by party list, citizens know that in choosing a party they are actually electing a chancellor
   3. German campaigns are conducted with the leading figures of the two parties on billboards, in the media, and in the mind of the public
C. A German candidate for chancellor must project strength and level-headedness
1. A candidate’s background is extremely important (e.g. economist)
2. Adherence to “democratic rules” is also important

D. Case study 1: Helmut Kohl in the 1980s-90s was seem as “steady, optimistic,” but by 1998 he was seen as “old, tired”

E. The “Catchall Party”
   1. “Otto Kircheimer (German political scientist) coins term noting the end of “world view” parties in Germany
   2. “Catchall” parties are big, loose, pluralist parties that have diluted their ideologies so that they can accommodate many diverse groups of supporters

IV. German Dealignment
A. Dealignment is when voter preferences, often unfocused, connect with no party on a long term basis
B. Increasingly, Germans dislike both major parties and doubt that either does any better in office than the other
   1. Voter turnout has fallen (91% in 1972 to 71% in 2009)
   2. More voters scatter their votes among a variety of small parties all over the political spectrum, form left to right (e.g. the brief Staat party)
C. Reasons for Dealignment
   1. The “normal and natural maturation process that many advanced democracies go through” - Roskin
   2. The catchall party phenomena
      a. With two catchall parties, they are so moderate and similar that they “become boring”
      b. Catchall parties don’t offer exciting new programs, choices, personalities
   3. The end of the Cold War and the absence of the Soviet threat

V. The Bundestag and the Citizen
A. Voters don’t really know what the Bundestag does
   1. Partly this is because Bundestag deputies mostly see their role in the Rechtsstat tradition: to legislate
B. The Legislature’s Functions
   1. Lawmaking is only one function
   2. Oversight of government (catching corruption, inefficiency, uncovering scandals, threatening budget cuts, keeping bureaucrats in check) is another
   3. Education (teaching citizens about government by example) is yet another
   4. Representation (serving constituents, voters feel their deputy speaks for them)
C. The “unrepresentative German representative”
   1. The average Bundestag deputy is close to 50, male, lawyer educated, civil servant employee, party leader, or interest group official
   2. Candidates tend to be older, party loyalists rather than bright, new faces
   3. As a result, many Germans don’t feel represented, they feel the Bundestag is “the arena where the powerful interests of society work out deals with little reference to the common citizen, the little guy.” – Roskin

VI. The Union-Party Linkup
A. Unions in Germany are still strong, but they’re not what they used to be
   1. 20% of Germany’s labor force is unionized
2. There are eleven German industrial unions federated into one organization: the *Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund* (DGB) with 6.6 million members
   a. The *IG Metall* (2.3 million members) is the largest single union
   b. The DGB is still listened to by the SPD
   c. The have political clout and have gotten an elaborate welfare system, a short work week, even director’s seats on large companies
3. But union membership is down (6.6 million from 11.8 million in 1990)
B. The German Basic Law forbids a formal union-party relationship
   1. But everyone knows that labor is a pillar of SPD strength
   2. And many SPD Bundestag deputies have union ties (Schroder’s labor minister had been a deputy chairman of *IG Metall*)
C. *Vereinte Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft* (Verdi): a new force on the labor front
   1. In 2001 five service unions (3 million members) including clerks, nurses, and civil servants organized
   2. Their demands differ from the industrial unions in the DGB
D. Since the SPD has become more catchall, its union relations have been strained but still holds together for the simple reason that no other party will treat them as well
E. In the 2009 elections the *IG Metall* refrained from endorsing any party
   1. Some unionists went to the Left Party

VII. The Management-Party Linkup
A. Management has “warm connections” with the CDU, but not as close as unions have with the SPD
B. The *Bundesverbund der Deutschen Industrie* (BDI)
   1. Its agenda: flexible labor contracts and tax cuts are shared by the CDU
   2. But it also wants select immigration to fill high-tech vacancies, whereas the CDU says no to all immigration
C. When the SPD is in power, the BDI finds it can “get along” quite well, too
D. The major focus of business is with the *bureaucracy*, not the parties
   1. Providing information to the relevant ministry
   2. Explaining to civil servants why regulations should be modified
   3. Going along with government economic plans

VIII. The Lander and Berlin
A. Federalism in Germany is often uncoordinated, powerless, deadlocked, and encourages federal-state “squabbles”
B. The reasons for German Federalism
   1. Germany’s long history of regionalism (postwar German politicians themselves were proud of their regional origins and were committed to a federal structure)
   2. The occupying allied powers, fearful of a resurgent German centralized state, wanted it that way
C. Germany is probably more federal than the United States
   1. Its Lander run more of their own affairs and get a bigger portion of taxes than do U.S. states
   2. Individual and corporate income taxes are split equally between Berlin and the Lander (42.5% each); 15% going to the cities
   3. Lander also get 49.5% of the VAT (value-added tax)
   4. Poorer Lander (eastern Lander) get additional funds
D. Disadvantages of German Federalism
   1. There isn’t much of a nationwide police force (which is a problem in fighting terrorists)
   2. There is a lack of coordinated effort in environmental policy (fighting pollution)
      a. In 1988 the Bundestag created a federal environmental ministry, but this could not override Land environmental ministries
   3. Its decentralized educational system makes teaching the Nazi past difficult
E. German Landers resist moves that would erode the power of Landers officials
   1. Bundesrat delegation are designated by Land governments
   2. the Bundesrat must concur on any move that would alter the balance of power between the federation and the Lands, it check both the cabinet and the lower house (Bundestag)

IX. German Voting Patterns
A. West German voting patterns tend to follow class, region, and religion
   1. But the addition of East Germany in 1990 “muddied some of these generalizations” – Roskin
   2. The general dealignment of parties also affected these patterns
B. The typical SPD voter
   1. Protestant
   2. Working class
   3. Northern large city
C. The typical CDU voter
   1. Catholic
   2. Middle class
   3. Southern small town
D. CSU: Catholic Bavaria
E. Free Democrats: Protestant middle class
F. Greens: the young
G. The Left: East Germans and those who feel left out of the overall prosperity
   1. In 1990 with reunification many East Germans went heavily CDU
   2. As costs and disappointments set in, some switched to SPD or Green or the ex-Communist Party of Democratic Socialism
   3. In 2005 and 2009 many switched to the Left Party
H. “German voting, like the German party system, has become more complex and less predictable.” – Roskin
Chapter 16 What Germans Quarrel About

I. The Great Quarrel: how does the government trim an overly generous welfare state and cut its onerous taxes and regulations?
   A. Failure to do so will continue high unemployment and low economic growth
   B. But once created, a welfare state with high benefits and many bureaucrats is hard to cut

II. Wirtschaftswunder ("economic miracle")
   A. After WWII, there was a kind of "rough equality" among Germans
      1. Almost everybody was poor
      2. Income distribution was more equitable than in the victorious countries
      3. German expectations were more modest than Americans or Britons
   B. Under CDU Economics Minister Ludwig Erhard a laissez-fair policy was launched
      1. West Germany relies mainly on market forces
      2. Sozialmarkt was free market plus bank loans to "socially needed ends"
   C. In the 1970s, Modell Deutschland stressed consensus
      1. No one’s views were ignored
      2. Unions were given a role in overall company policy (codetermination)

III. The End of the Miracle
   A. By the time of unification in 1990, the "miracle" had ended
      1. Economic growth slowed (the slowest of the European Union)
      2. Unemployment neared 10% (twice as high in the east as in the west)
      3. Welfare spending grew
   B. In 1996, the Bundestag cut Germans’ health, unemployment, and welfare benefits and gradually raised the retirement age (65 for men, 63 for women)
      1. The Kohl government called the cuts moderate and necessary
      2. Opponents (SPD) called them "socially obscene"
      3. Though the SPD won in 1998, Schröder had to carry out more conservative-type reforms in taxation, welfare, and workforce flexibility.

IV. The Problems of Unification
   A. The Economic Inequality of West and East Germany
      1. In 1990, East Germany had a per capita GDP half that of West Germany
      2. West German products were desired around the world, East German products were vastly inferior
   B. When the barriers disappeared, West German currency and products flooded into East Germany, and the East German economy immediately collapsed
      1. East Germans simply stopped buying East German products
      2. As gigantic state subsidies ended, East German factories and farms closed
      3. East German unemployment went from essentially zero to millions
   C. Many had supposed that West German firms would put their capital and know-how into East German firms—they did not.
   D. Saving the east required huge amounts of west German taxpayer money
      1. Despite Chancellor Kohl’s promise not to raise taxes, a 7.5% "solidarity surcharge" on income taxes was levied
      2. Nobody liked it, but Germany had to get its budget deficit below 3%, as required for the new European currency (the Euro)
E. Irritating West Germans is the lack of “hard work ethic” and “entrepreneurial risk-taking” among East Germans
   1. Under the Communists’ centrally planned economic system, East Germans never developed such attitudes
   2. “They got used to a vast welfare system that offered security for all but few incentives for individual exertion.” – Roskin
   3. East Germans, for their part, point to the billions in U.S. Marshall Plan aid that rebuilt West Germany and demand that West Germans do the same for the east

F. Resentments flare in each half of Germany against the other half

V. Anti-Immigrant Feelings
   A. Like Britain and France, Germany gets immigrants from poor countries seeking jobs which produces German resentment
      1. In 2004, there were 7.4 million foreigners in Germany (2 million workers and their families)
      2. Most are from Turkey, ex-Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy, and Spain
   B. The Immigration into Germany began in 1955
      1. Italian and later Spanish Gastarbeiter were invited and they came eager to work
      2. Soon Germans abandoned dirty, dangerous, unskilled work for better jobs, leaving their old jobs to foreigners
      3. At first, workers were to stay only three years, but then they began to stay and send for their families
      4. Turkish immigrants now total 2.1 million
   C. By the 1980s, poor people worldwide had discovered Germany’s liberal asylum law
      1. A foreigner had only to claim that he/she was politically persecuted
      2. Though usually motivated by economics, the legal process let the asylum seeker stay in Germany for years, all the while on welfare
      3. Amid great political controversy (the SPD opposed), the asylum law was eventually tightened to exclude most claimants
   D. Xenophobia
      1. Many Germans believe foreigners bring crime and terrorism; two-thirds oppose immigration
      2. FRG law discriminates against people of non-German descent
      3. Turks and Africans working in Germany have been attacked and killed (in some cases, neither the police nor neighbors did anything to stop the violence)
      4. Small anti-immigrant parties have sprung up in Germany that would expel foreigners and get tough on crime
      5. Still, hundreds of thousands of Germans have rallied and protested against xenophobia and violence
   E. Supported by business leaders, Germany now issues limited numbers of “green cards” to skilled immigrants
True of False (mark T for true or F for false)

01. The Rhine is Germany’s natural western border. ______

02. The Holy Roman Empire continued in name until 1806. ______

03. The Nazis came to power with a majority vote. ______

04. The Bundestag meets in the Reichstag. ______

05. The Bundesrat is coequal in power to the Bundestag. ______

06. A party must win five percent nationwide to get any representation in the Bundestag. ______

07. Germany uses the common law. ______

08. Two presidents of the FRG had been Nazis. ______

09. Younger Germans tend to be more democratic than older Germans. ______

10. German political views tend to be unimodal. ______

11. Germany is more federal than the United States. ______

12. Protestant East Germany votes strongly CDU. ______

13. East Germany held free elections before unification. ______

14. German workers have a say in company policy. ______

15. Erhard’s Sozialmarkt was pure, laissez-faire capitalism. ______

Bonus Question:

16. East and West Germany are now psychologically unified. ______
Possible Essay Questions/Topics
Unit 3 – Germany

01. Analyze and describe the political impact of religion on Britain, France, and Germany.

02. What is federalism and what are its strengths compared to unitary and confederate systems?

03. Is the European trend toward personality contests in political elections basically a healthy or dangerous trend? Explain your response.

04. Why are many of the advanced democracies, such as Britain, France, and Germany, experiencing voter dealignment? Is this a dangerous trend or simply the maturing of voters?

05. Comparing the two halves of Germany, what conclusions can be drawn about market and socialist economies?

06. Looking at the governments of Britain, France, and Germany, what does the political label “left” mean?