

Migration in the Past in Germany

1. Emigration to America

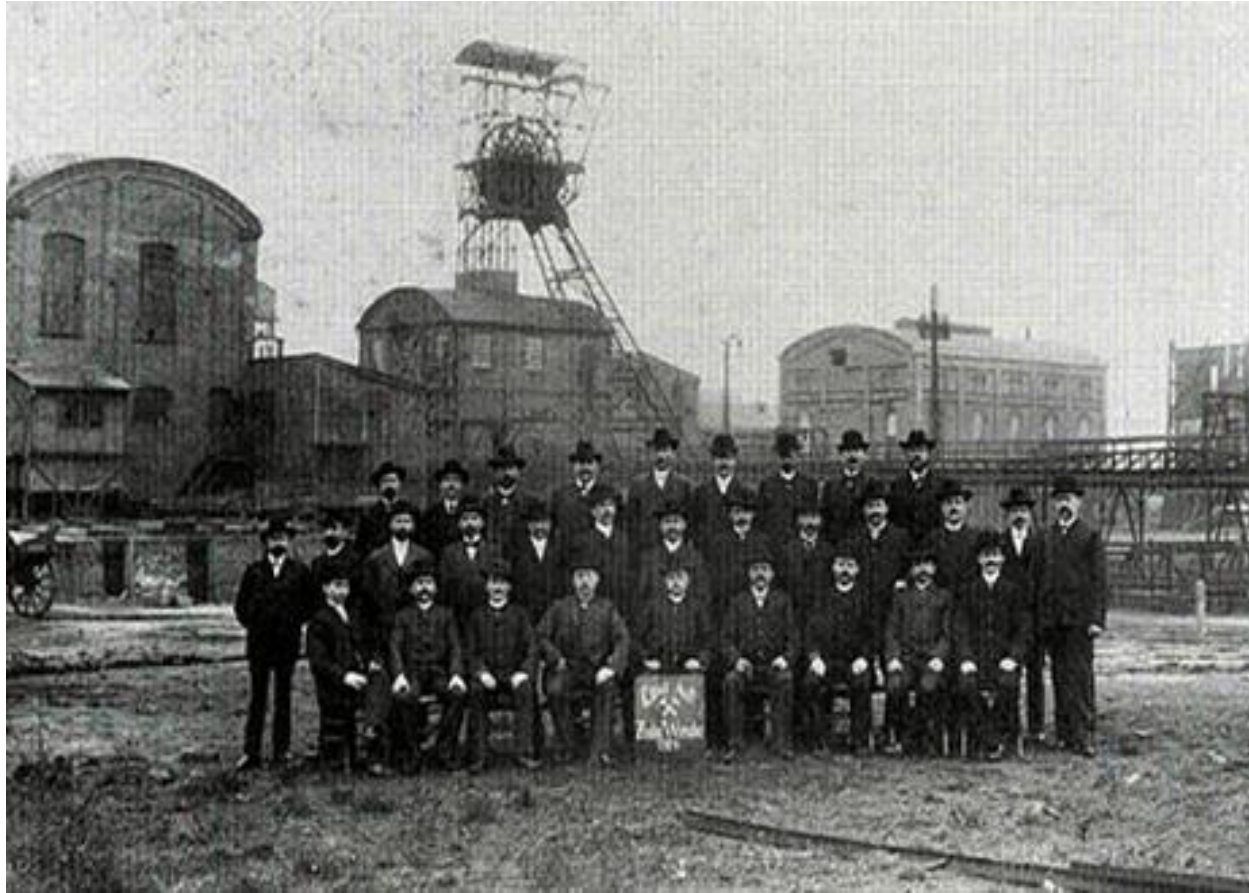


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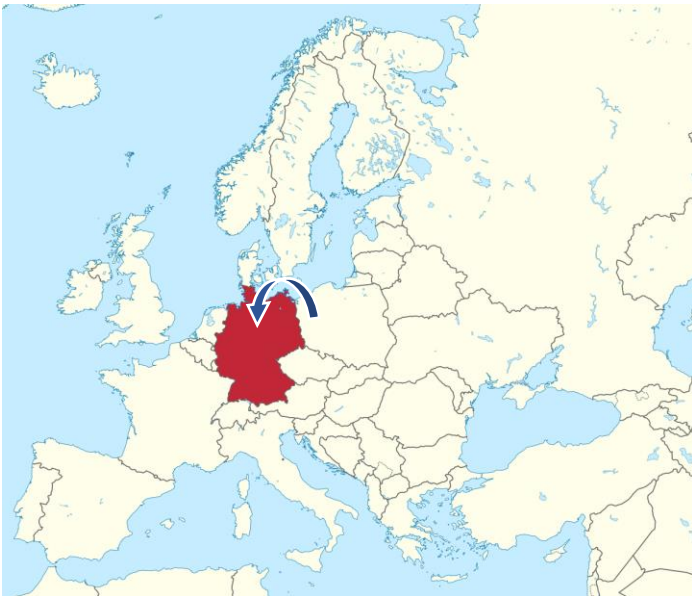
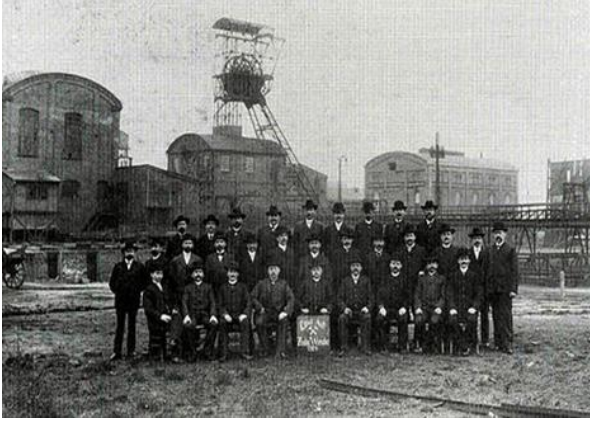


- began around 1700
- people mostly went to the U.S. - also to Canada, Brazil and Argentina.
- migration movement reached its peak in the 19th century
- until 1914 5.5 million Germans emigrated to the U.S.
- main reasons: poverty and unemployment (huge population growth in Germany)

2. Workers for the Growing General Industry and War Industry



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- at end of 19th century: many workers needed in Germany because of industrialization.
- many Polish-speaking workers came to live and work in western parts of Germany.
- back then these parts of Poland belonged to Germany
- In 1914: 1.2 million foreign workers needed during World War I
- 1.5 million prisoners of war were forced to work for German industry

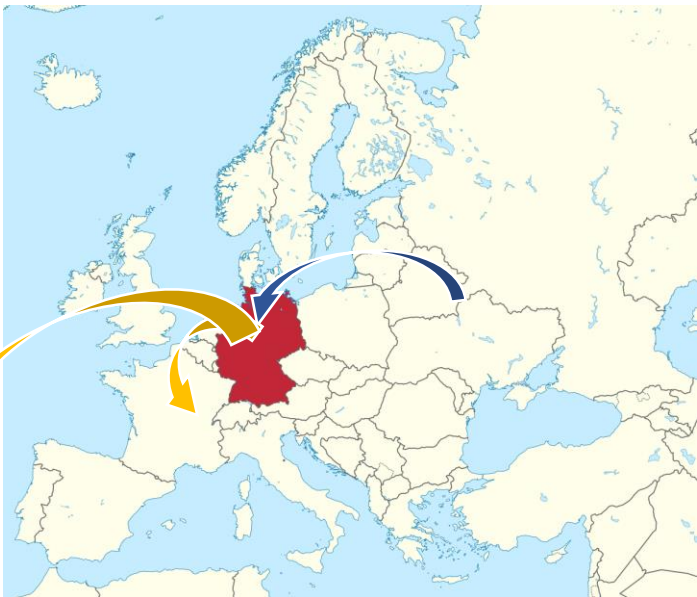
3. Migration after WWI: Russian and Jewish Migrants from Eastern Europe



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- early 1920s: 600,000 Russians fled to German Republic of Weimar because of the communist revolution in Russia
- more than a half of these refugees: went to Berlin, but then on to Paris or New York
- worse situation for Jews: they were fleeing from Eastern and Southeastern Europe
- around 70,000 sought asylum in the Weimar Republic until the anti- Semitic pogroms became more brutal...



4. Persecution of Jews and the Holocaust during the NS Regime



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- NS-government passed a lot of anti-Semitic laws
- attacks against Jews and their exclusion from society became “normal” and were even actively encouraged
- half of the 500,000 German Jews left the country until 1939
- more of them wanted to leave, but other countries would not let them in
- 1940-1945: 31,500 additional Jews were able to escape, most of them to the U.S. or Palestine
- 1940-1945: 130,000 Jews deported to concentration and death camps
- only 34,000 Jews survived the NS Regime in Germany

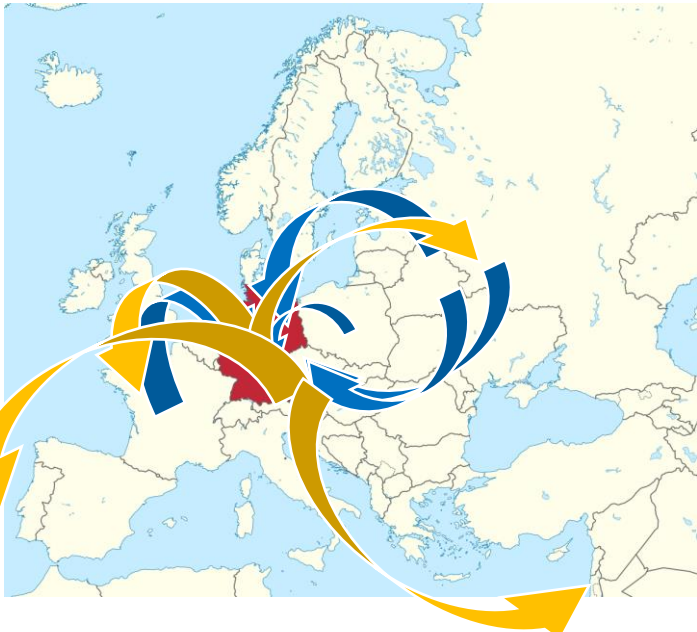
5. Foreign Forced Laborers and Displaced Persons



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- 1944: around eight million forced workers and prisoners of war employed in German war industry
- After World War II: 10-12 million so called displaced persons (DPs) in Germany (e.g. survivors of the work-, concentration-, and death-camps)
- shortly after the war: about five million DPs sent back to their home countries, but some also stayed in Germany
- 1950s: still 150,000 DPs in refugee camps



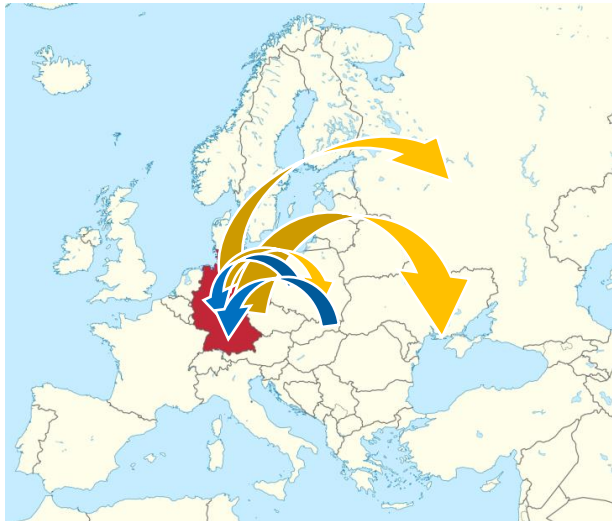
6. Displaced Persons and Resettlers



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- 18th century: about 740,000 Germans moved to the Danube area, to Transylvania, Russia or the Black Sea region
- During WW I and WW II: many Germans were sent to the conquered and occupied territory to live there
- after WW II: about 14 million descendants of those Germans fled back



- 1950: about 12.5 million DPs lived in Eastern and Western Germany
- after 1953: new law allowing some of these displaced persons and resettlers to have the German nationality
- about 4.5 million resettlers have come back to Germany since 1950

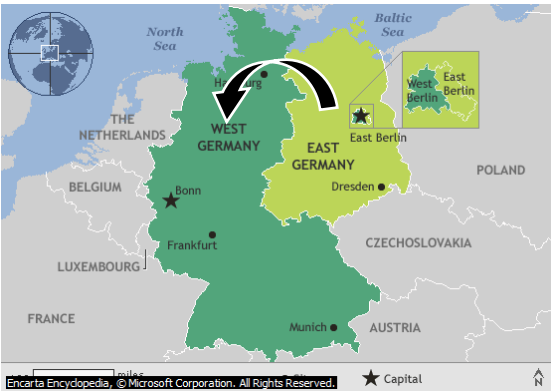
7. Migration Between the Two Germanies and Escape to the West



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- 1949—1961: 2.7 million people crossed the inner German border
- to stop this: the Russian controlled government of Eastern Germany built a wall through the middle of Berlin
- the government built a fence along the border through the whole country
- until 1989: 700,000 people left Eastern Germany
- some additional 5,000 East Germans managed to cross the wall/border
- at least 138 died while trying to cross this inner German border



8. Guest Workers in Germany



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➤ with increase in foreign trade: West Germany needed many more workers

➤ with the wall/fence no more migrants from East Germany could enter

➤ 1955: West Germany started to look for worker in Italy, Spain, Turkey, Greece and other countries, and over the next years 14 million guest workers arrived

➤ 1973: the government stopped the recruitment and most workers left Germany again

➤ about three million guest workers stayed and arranged for their family members to come

