

How long-standing German policy blended with the EU Project.

Readers of Anthony Coughlan's article on recent German policy for a unified European federal state may have been surprised by his mention of Hitler's domination of Europe as being reminiscent of conspiracy theory. However, reliable documentary sources show that German politicians had plans for European unification long before the Nazi era. In the early 19th century, Germany was divided into numerous smaller states, of which the largest were Prussia and Bavaria. People realised that a divided Germany could not gain the advantages of the industrial revolution without a large economic area and technical developments like railways. So they joined in a Customs Union (Zollverein) with a common external tariff and internal free movement of goods. It was in operation thirty years before Germany became a politically unified state in 1871.

There was nothing inherently sinister in this and it was remarkably successful. The most prominent advocate of the system was the economist Friedrich List, who appeared on the post war postage stamps of both the

communist German Democratic Republic (as the unifier of the German railway system) and of the West German Post Office (as a forerunner and prophet of the European Economic Community).

List's ideas also influenced the policies of Imperial Germany from 1871, the Weimar Republic from 1918 and the Nazi era (1933-1945) , as is demonstrated in the following article with an eye witness video account of the true aims of the post war European Coal & Steel Community, as well as documentary evidence of the policies followed by the leadership of the Third Reich in what they also called the "European Economic Community". Sufficient original text is provided so that people can take a balanced view on adequate evidence rather than short excerpts.

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