

Rewriting the German Past: History and Identity in the New Germany



The fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989, signaled the beginning of the end of a divided Germany. More than any other event, it also symbolized the end of the so-called postwar era. The period in which not just European but global politics had been framed by the Cold War and the East-West divide was consigned to the past, to be replaced by an era whose contours have not yet clearly formed. The essays collected here offer a sober, informed, and stimulating reassessment of Germany and its past by internationally recognized scholars working from within and outside the new Germany. They all proceed from the recognition that the perspective from which the German past is viewed has changed irrevocably. Unification meant that the German Democratic Republic became history and its history, historiography, and its collapse are reevaluated. The essays examine the possibility of history being used, and possibly abused, in the service of the creation of a new national identity and question the legitimacy of the notion of Germany having followed a special path of development one that could hardly be viewed positively in the wake of the Third Reich but which suggested that Germany had claims to being a normal nation. They then go on to consider some of the radical changes to the institutional circumstances within which history is practiced in the united Germany.

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Swales **Rewriting the German past : history and identity in the new Germany** nach 1945, ah die Identitat verlorenging. . after 1945, when identity was lost. In the new Germany, questions such as, Who is German? new direction.1 Not surprisingly, the fight over Germanys future is fought across its past. last five years is a fierce struggle among German intellectuals who are rewriting the history of **Textual Responses to German Unification: Processing Historical and - Google Books Result** Rewriting the German Past by Reinhard Alter, 9781573923798, available at Book Rewriting the German Past : History and Identity in the New Germany. **Rewriting the German Past: History and Identity in the - AbeBooks** Jul 1, 1997 Rewriting the German Past. History and Identity in the New Germany. 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