

"Bei uns ist immer was los!"

OCTOBER 3—DAY OF GERMAN UNITY / TAG DER EINHEIT How Oktober 3 became German Unity Day?

May 18th, 1990

The Federal Republic and the GDR signed a treaty agreeing to an economic, currency and social union between the two states. Kohl labeled this the "hour of birth for a free and united Germany."

As part of the treaty, plans began to separate East Germany into its five former states: Brandenburg, Saxony, Saxony Anhalt, Thuringia and Mecklenburg Western Pomerania.

These states had been abolished during the GDR era, in favour of a centralised East German administration.

July 1st 1990

As the Deutschmark officially replaced the Ostmark in East German currency, the two states' economic and monetary union was cemented.

The currency union was "an important step towards national and political unity," said Bauerkämper.

"It was an economic reunification, but also a symbol for political reunification," he told The Local.



Around 2.6 billion Deutsche Marks were handed out to GDR citizens in the hours after monetary unification, according to estimates. As citizens stormed the East German Deutsche Bank, many were injured.