

The severe winter of 1946/1947 led the Americans to support economic aid to all of Europe, based on the idea of cooperation and ultimate European integration (which would also neutralize any independent German threat). The Berlin Blockade and the subsequent Soviet militarization of East Germany accelerated West Germany's full integration into the West, rightly noted by Jackson, with its accession to NATO in 1955.

To make his case, Jackson demonstrates how the notion of the West (liberal, democratic, Christian) achieved the status of a rhetorical commonplace as it was invoked and progressively adapted to shifting circumstances by increasing numbers of American and German leaders (Truman and influentials in his administration, Adenauer and his CDU) in such policy forums as congressional debates, State Department memos, Adenauer's speeches, German party debates, etc. While the use of this commonplace shaped American policy, it also shored up Adenauer's power vis-à-vis SPD opponents, who could always be tainted by Marxist association.

Jackson's West, like the rest of our world, is a product of transactional social construction: there was, and is, no such essentialist "thing" as the West. This is purely a social construct cemented together through repeatedly common deployment, by leading voices ("agents"), of a collection of ideas solidified in the increasing consensus, which accretes and is reinforced by repetition, on a particular idea of the West. His documentation of this rhetoric of influential agents coming to terms with the particulars of temporal contingencies and thus shaping the course of further events makes his case unassailable.

Jackson's book likewise brilliantly illuminates "wie es eigentlich gekommen ist," how it actually came about, to reconstruct a classic historian's phrase, casting new light on how policy is made and how it becomes institutionalized and hence history. A tour de force on both fronts, it is compelling reading for both the student of (German) history and politics or "Western Civ" and the student of the sociology of knowledge.

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Rolf Steininger. *Der Staatsvertrag. Österreich im Schatten von deutscher Frage und Kaltem Krieg 1938–1955*. Innsbruck: StudienVerlag, 2005. Pp. 198. Paper €19.

Prolific, provocative, and readable Rolf Steininger, Germany's gift to Austria through his professorship at Innsbruck University, took the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty to remind jubilant Austrians that in rediscovering 1955, they should not forget years like "1914, 1918, 1921, 1927, 1934 or 1938"(7). He wants them to remember with humility their relationship with Germany and the role that the Nazi era and Cold War Germany played in the history of Austria's celebrated State Treaty.

Steininger has a stated and unstated goal and message for this book. His stated goal is to remind Austrians of the importance of the German Question and the

Cold War as the context that conditioned the State Treaty. Citing British Public Record Office sources, the works of Bischof, Gehler, and Stourzh, as well as his own publications, Steininger stresses the degree to which Austria was a pawn in Cold War struggles between East and West: the Western Allies feared Soviet influence in a postwar Austria and their use of Austria as a bridge to influence in Italy and Germany. These fears led the Western Allies' to favor Italian retention of South Tyrol, rearm Austria to thwart a Soviet takeover, and be wary of Soviet offers of an end to Four-Power military occupation of Austria in return for a neutral Austria. The Western Allies feared that Austrian neutrality could be the Soviet trump card for a similar solution for Germany.

Steininger's unstated goal is to teach Austrians humility in regard to their twentieth-century history. He does so by undercutting Austrian postwar victim myths by revealing the degree to which Austrians were not only victims, but also overrepresented as perpetrators in the "Nazi Terror Apparatus" (22). He also stresses the degree to which the Western Allies dismissed Austria except as a pawn in the Cold War. Ultimately, he concludes that Adenauer's determined western course, despite the inevitable consequences for a divided Germany, was the basic precondition for the Austrian State Treaty: "Without Adenauer no State Treaty" (142).

The last sentence of Steininger's book is the most revelatory of its stated and unstated goals and overall message. Citing the British Foreign Office's continuing interest in the German Question after the signing of the Austria State Treaty, Steininger notes that it would be some years before the end of a divided Germany: "By then Austria was long forgotten" (154). For Steininger, the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Austria's State Treaty in 2005 should have been a time for a longer, larger, and more humble Austrian perspective on its relationship with Germany and the rest of Europe.

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Nancy M. Wingfield and Maria Bucur, eds. *Gender & War in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2006. Pp. x, 251. Paper \$24.95.

For this book, Wingfield and Bucur have assembled committed gender historians to provide an introduction into the "gendering of the front" through the lens of Eastern Europe. This collection of essays examines the deconstruction of the exclusively masculine heroism on the Eastern Front in World Wars I and II. The focus on the transformation of societies in Eastern Europe predicated on the experiences of war is both highly innovative and significant.

The essays of this book represent historians' use of a variety of topics to address the essential gender components for understanding war. The resounding contrasts between and among Eastern States' experiences during the two wars create a striking tableau on which to examine embedded assumptions of heroism, sacrifice, and