

## AMERICAN CONCEPT OF AN "ATLANTIC COMMUNITY" AND THE INTEGRATION OF WESTERN EUROPE

International status of the United States of America has always been based on the economic and military resources of this country. Half of the world capitalist production being concentrated in USA, the latter represents a leading power influencing its economic trends. Nevertheless, the continually increasing supremacy of USA has been hindered by the novel ideas prevailing in the world, especially by the processes of decolonization and the general tendencies of industrialization and independent control of national economies. Ascent of the dynamic system of socialist economy has impressively reduced the sphere of influence of USA. Agencies of this type have shaped the American concept of international economic relationships manifest in America's attitude towards the processes of integration in Western Europe.

The United States of America have based economic development on the system of protectionism. Natural resources, extensive home market, inflow of immigrants and of currency favoured the establishing of a self-sufficing economy. For these reasons USA soon became the leading capitalist country.

Dynamics of the international relationships have compelled USA, however, to revise the traditional protectionism. The political and economic situation after World War II required a wide-spread exchange with the remaining world. USA therefore attempted to unite the capitalistic countries and thus create a counterweight against the socialistic system. In the economic domain these concepts found their expression in the doctrine of multilateralism. In order to provide grounds for a functioning of this system, USA has taken the initiative in organizing several international economic bodies. American policy has become pervaded by the idea of a political and military community under the auspices of USA, justified by the "communist danger", and widely propagated in the political arena. Many of these American ideas have only been partly successful, chiefly because of the increasingly strong tendencies of integration gaining hold in Europe and aimed to become independent from America. Under these circumstances USA has made a novel attempt to subdue Western Europe to her political and economic concepts framed in the idea of an "Atlantic Community". Yet, further proceedings in Europe and in the American economics again forced USA to revise the concept of an "Atlantic Community". The new initiatives found an expression in the broadly launched programme of an "Atlantic Partnership" wherein America appears as a partner, rather than a protector, which used to be the case up to now. And so it can be stated that the processes of European integration have lead America to a dead-end by imposing a menace to her foundations and institutions. The new American initiatives have become manifest in the economic domain in the "Trade Expansion Act", while in the political — in the project of organizing Multilateral (Nuclear) Forces. Processes of West European integration are not a political achievement only, aimed against the socialist countries; at the same time they represent a policy with a strong anti-American spirit.

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## COOPERATION OF THE GFR WITH THE NATO COUNTRIES IN MATTERS OF ARMAMENT

Cooperation of the German Federal Republic with the NATO countries in matters of armament is associated in its beginnings with the restoration of the Federal Defence Forces; it is economic, military and political aspect. This joint operation has been characterized by several inconsistencies which are a pehodni



culiar feature of economic relations among capitalistic countries. Hence in many domains it has proved pure formal and little effective.

Nevertheless, armament cooperation of the NATO countries has reduced the investigation and production expenditures and has hastened the advancement of military scientific research. For German Federal Republic the cooperation in question is in the first place of a military and political bearing; it has made it possible for Western Germany to catch up with, and in some fields of the military production even to overtake, the leading countries of the North Atlantic organization. This in turn has strengthened the position of GFR in the Atlantic alliance and rendered the Federal Defence Forces less dependent on their partners. As the country armaments expanded there has taken rise in GFR a social force directly interested in the armament orders, and eo ipso in maintaining the international tension. On grounds of the obtained — as a rule secret — licences and on the basis of cooperation with USA, Great Britain, France and other NATO countries there has been set going in GFR a production of the most modern types of rockets, military aircraft, ships, tanks, radar equipment etc. This enabled the West German industry to acquire in a short time knowledge of the complicated production technology of electronic appliances, high-energy fuel, control systems etc. which are of essential importance for the modern civil industry. In further consequence, the export goods of West German industry have become more attractive in the world markets. What more, the armaments industry of GFR has already reached a level at which it represents a dangerous competitor on the munitions markets of NATO.

Hence, the cooperation of NATO countries with GFR in the domain of munitions creates a menace to the world peace, and directly jeopardizes the economic and political aims of West Germany's allies.

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#### POLISH-CZECHOSLOVAK COOPERATION IN THE YEARS 1960—1964

In Polish-Czechoslovak relations the years from 1960 to 1964 inclusive are characterized by a further tightening of the bonds of cooperation, both in the field of mutual contacts and in the representing of a common view on the key problems of the world policy. Both countries share the same attitude on the foreign policy in respect to the world peace. As regards the German problem, Poland and Czechoslovakia have based their concepts on these matters on an apprehension of the actual reality, shaped after 1945, leading to a firm view on the intangibility of the frontiers between Germany and Poland or Czechoslovakia. Upon searching for a solution of the German problem both sides put the utmost emphasis on the veritable menace to peace from the part of West German militarism. Polish proposals of establishing in central Europe an atomless zone (the so-called Rapacki's plan, and later the Gomułka's plan) have encountered full approval from the part of Czechoslovakia.

As regards the mutual relations between Poland and Czechoslovakia in the recent years they have gained several more bonds. From among economic conventions, the treaty on economic and scientific-technical cooperation ratified on September 10, 1960, plays an outstanding role. It has provided grounds for organizing a Polish-Czechoslovak Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technical cooperation. Likewise the convention on a cooperative erection of copper mines in Poland should be mentioned as one of greater importance. Both countries cooperate as well in the fields of metallurgy, machine industry, water economy, transport, transit, agriculture and atomistics. There is also taking place a successful exchange of goods between the two contracting parties. Other problems