

the most reliable fundamental of integration; notions on the hazards threatening Europe; theories of an "evolutionary revolution" and of a "systematic modernization" of capitalistic relations); and of a group of "interchangeable" theories very often contradictory (e.g. the controversy on a supra-national Europe). The European ideology represents at the same time progressive ideas and concepts (e.g. the slogan on international cooperation) and extremely backward notions (militant anti-communism). Truth-seeking and reliable analysis is interwoven with past mythological beliefs (e.g. the attempt to restore colonialism) and modern principles (commonwealth states). A situation of this kind is due to the dilemma in finding an appropriate, genuine and sound political creed for Western Europe — a conglomeration of states with divergent interests and aspirations (yet opposing communism) hoping at the same time to find an enticing formulary which would convincingly justify the existence of an independent community belonging to a category in itself.

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ORGANIZATIONAL FORMS OF CULTURAL INTEGRATION

The article discusses tendencies and developmental trends of the cultural integration in Western Europe in the years 1947—1964 inclusive. The considerable interest taken in this aspect of integration chiefly soon after the war is evident in the numerous and multifarious cultural enterprises undertaken both by integration organizations (WEU, OEEC; and since 1960: OECD, EEC, CECA, EURATOM, Conseil de l'Europe) and by other confederations and unofficial associations. Most eager cultural activities are performed by the Conseil de l'Europe. In recent years these activities are carried out jointly by several organizations and unofficial corporations, as for example the Centre Européen de la Culture, Fondation Européenne de la Culture, "European School Day" and others, all patronized by the Conseil de l'Europe. Cultural activities primarily concerned with educational problems of youth and adults are conditioned to the general trends of West European policy of integration. For many years a fresh, internal balance of strength, both in the political and cultural realm, has been striven for. Nowadays the cultural proceedings of European integration organizations are being extended over countries lying far beyond Europe. They can be regarded as symptoms of a new inclination of the European cultural policy.

The German Federal Republic is the one country especially interested in cultural proceedings aimed at a European integration. Hence it is represented in all of the institutions of this movement. By contributing to their activities Western Germany gains rapid access to the sources of cultural life in post-war Europe.

After a period of increased agility the interest taken in matters of European cultural integration had greatly subsided. Towards the end of the 1950's West German policy shifted from the European arena to the sphere of bilateral treaties. State-inspired lines of cultural proceedings in Europe are now substituted by a foreign cultural policy carried out by the government represented by appropriate institutions and organizations.