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Union of German Socialist Organisations in Great Britain,

Oct. 23rd, 1943

3, Fernside Avenue,  
London, N.W.7.

## THE INTERNATIONAL POLICY OF GERMAN SOCIALISTS

The following statement of the international policy of German socialists has been issued by the "Union of German Socialist Organisations in Great Britain."

1. As international socialists we aim at an international order that will eliminate the causes of armed conflict.

The international labour movement and the other democratic movements, above all of the peasants and the intelligentsia, are in our opinion the decisive forces for the achievement of this aim.

We desire the closest co-operation of the organised workers of all lands in a new international organisation, with the task of working out a common policy for the socialist labour movement and putting it into practice.

2. We advocate a federation of all the peoples of Europe, because full national sovereignty is no longer compatible with the economic and political condition of Europe.

It is a vital interest of German democrats and socialists, and indeed of the democrats and socialists of all Europe, that the peace of Europe should be given a stable foundation through the co-operation of the British Commonwealth of Nations, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and the United States of America. A free and united Europe can only develop in friendly co-operation with all of these powers, not by leaning to one or the other side only.

Federations which comprise only groups of nations we regard as a guarantee of peace only if they are integrated in and subordinated to an international organisation.

3. The first objective of the post-war international policy of German socialists must be to integrate a democratic Germany into this international order.

It is essential for the success of such a policy that the principles of the Atlantic Charter should be applied to a democratic Germany in their full extent.

We German socialists recognise the need for real guarantees of security felt by the nations attacked and oppressed by the national-socialist and fascist aggressors. At the same time, we are convinced that all technical guarantees of peace can only have lasting effect if they form part of a truly international system of security. This system must combine a strong executive capable of holding down aggressors with far reaching powers of arbitration for the peaceful solution of conflicts. Such a system will also guarantee the peace and security of a democratic Germany.



The first contribution of a democratic Germany to such a system will be its immediate military disarmament.

We are convinced that it is not enough to destroy the German military machine. We are determined to break the strongholds of the social power of the economic and political forces behind German militarism by the expropriation of Germany's war industries and the big landed estates and by the democratic rebuilding of the administration from the lowest units upward.

We recognise it as a duty of honour for the coming free Germany to help with all her strength in the reparation of the injustices inflicted on other peoples by Hitlerite Germany and in the rebuilding of Europe.

It will be one of our main tasks to create the moral and mental conditions for the pursuit of a consistent policy of peace and understanding by the new German democracy by a thorough-going reform of German education.

Lasting success in winning the German people for such a policy will largely depend on whether they are given a chance to follow their own initiative in shaping their internal political, social and cultural life.

Above all it would have fatal consequences for Germany's internal development if conditions were imposed which would cause lasting mass unemployment and prevent an effective policy of social security.

4. Even after the Hitler dictatorship has been overthrown, we shall have to fight against strong reactionary forces at home for this international policy. We hope that the confidence and the active support of the international labour movement and of the forces of peace and progress in all nations will be with us in this struggle.

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in Great Britain,*

*3, Fernside Avenue,  
London, N.W.7.*



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