

ERP Exhibit in Berlin in George C. Marshall House, 1950

*Archives, Koblenz B146 387 (fiche 4)
(translation by Sheryl Kroen)*

I. Entrance

Why are Americans helping Europe?

Picture of Statue of Liberty

The US wants to secure Freedom
Need and Chaos breed radical ideas.

Making it possible for Europe to live and work in freedom and peace is to erect a wall against radicalism, even in America.

The US wants the recovery of the world trade system.
Europe is important in the international trade system.
The breakdown of this wide-ranging trade system is also costly to the American people.

The US is ready to help all men in need and unfreedom. Wherever need and misery arise America will freely offer relief.

Genuine human sympathy urges Americans to help.

18 Nations are making a concerted effort together.

Image: Europe, light, on dark background, out of which spring 18 figures representing the 18 participating ERP countries. Each holds out goods they have to offer to the others.

End of Entrance marked by a large ERP emblem, and a globe, hanging overhead, made of metal bands, its axis composed of the flags of the 18 nations of the ERP.

II. Europe, 1945-1947

Vernichtung (Destruction, annihilation, extermination) spread across Europe

Image illustrating "Ghostly hints of war"

Image: Herr X, in uniform marching. (this man appears later in exhibit)

... and left its traces

Image and explanations showing Europe in the rubble: crippled transportation networks, dwellings, factories in ruins, black market, need, exhausted men, children in misery.

Herr K in front of the rubble that was once his home.

Everyone lacks: Food shortage, coal shortage, steel shortage. Shortages of fertilizer, electricity, transportation, consumer goods.

Exhibit of the state of European Agricultural Production

| | | |
|----------|---------|-------------------|
| Flour | 1934/38 | 34 million tons |
| | 1946/47 | 28.3 million tons |
| Potatoes | 1934/38 | 57.7 million tons |
| | 1946-47 | 50,7 million tons |
| Meat | 1934/38 | 9 million tons |
| | 1946/47 | 5.9 million tons |

Coal Production (England and Germany)

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Before the war | 437 million tons |
| After the war | 191.4 million tons |

Steel Production (West Germany)

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Before the war | 54.8 million tons |
|----------------|-------------------|

America helps

Image: American ships coming across the Atlantic help arrives from America, 12.5 billion dollars worth of goods up through 1948.

Image: Herr K receives a CARE package.

America eases the want, yet...

National commercial interests make Europe into a leaky barrel, a problem that cannot be solved,

Herr X works again, but....

Exports are lacking...

Europe's total exports 1938 and 1947

| | | |
|------|---------|----------------------|
| 1938 | Imports | 5820 million dollars |
| 1938 | Exports | 3730 million dollars |
| 1947 | Imports | 6200 million dollars |
| 1947 | Exports | 2900 million dollars |

Trade within Europe

| | | |
|------|---------|----------------------|
| 1938 | Imports | 6900 million dollars |
| 1947 | Exports | 3900 million dollars |

American manufacturers require payment in dollars. Shortages of exports brings shortages of dollars.

Herr X turns his pockets inside out looking for money

Shortages of Exports Leads to Import Restrictions

Lack of raw materials, hunger, unemployment

Herr X in front of the unemployment bureau

III. The Way to European Cooperation: Europe 1948-1950

An American Had an Idea

Photograph of George Marshall, with an excerpt from his speech

The initiative must come from Europeans themselves.

Europe takes the lead

British Foreign Minister Bevin, French Foreign Minister Bidault recognize the possibility

12 July 1947 16 Europeans come to Paris,; Russia turns down invitation

22 Sep 1949 Paris meeting

17 Dec 1947 US Congress gives 522 million dollars in aid for France, Austria and Italy

3 April 1948 US Congress passes law offering 8.527 billion dollars in ERP aid until 1950....

Provided by two weeks of labor from every American for the rebuilding of Europe.

ERP deliveries arrive in Europe

Image: photographs of harbors and deliveries "Darstellung der Art der Güter"

OEEC begins to work

Organizational plan with 18 participants, Law establishing OEEC

Europe comes back to life

Rebuilt industry, new work opportunities "up from the rubble"

To all who get help from the ERP

Consumer goods of all sort illustrated

The ERP dollar helps twice:

Herr X buys a suit

The American worker pays for the material with dollars for Europe

The European importer pays in his own currency

The money is collected in counterpart funds

Counterpart funds are used for the Reconstruction

The counterpart funds allows for the financing of reconstruction

Exhibit/illustration of reconstruction work made possible by counterpart funds

The Big Goal

Reconstruction and economic cooperation in Europe

Europe without need, happy, healthy, and hard working men in Europe

Photomontage and statistics

So does the ERP function

A moving model of the organization and workings of the ERP

ERP help ends in 1952. Economic Cooperation must be in place by 1952

IV. European Economic Cooperation

OEEC: The infrastructure in Europe that remains

Quotes from Europeans

“The OEEC is the living expression of the wills of European regimes to work together.” Mr. Robert Marjolin, General Secretary of the OEEC.

So geht es nicht! (This won't work!)

Illustration of 18 workers carrying out a construction project without blueprints, plans. No building is produced.

The OEEC: the construction office for the new Europe

In contrast to previous picture, will build on the basis of a clear plan. The fruits—evident in solid buildings emerging from the ashes—are evident for all to see.

European Cooperation

Moving model of Europe with visible frontiers that appear and disappear. In a blink the frontiers disappear and a hearty traffic between countries starts up: trains travel, factories at work.

Franz Blücher (Vice Chancellor of Germany): “Europe can improve its condition only by the realization of European cooperation and the strengthening of the European economic area.”

Tage Erlanger (Ministerpresident of Sweden): “Free foreign trade will lead to lower production costs and prices.”

V. Germany in the ERP

Germany's Goals for “take-off”

Economic cooperation with other European nations

Rise in living standards

Increase in imports

Increase in exports

Increase in industrial production

Increase in agricultural production

Full employment

Healthy finances

Enlargement and modernization of industrial infrastructure

Clearing of the rubble (war damage)

Plan for an increase in efficiency

Coal extraction from 330,000 tons/day in 1948
 To 450,000 tons/day in 1952

Industrial production from 79% of prewar amount in 1948
 To 110% of prewar amount in 1952

Exports from 1353 million dollars in 1948 to 2800 million dollars in 1952
Equalization of imports and exports.

ERP Dollar aid for West Germany

Daily over 3 million dollars reaches West Germany from 1.4.48 to 30.6.50 for a total of 2, 720, 247, 701 dollars

Illustration of goods being delivered

Agricultural products
Industrial products and raw materials

West German Production takes off

From 180,000 tons of coal daily to 330,000 tons in 1949
From 4,700,000 tons of steel annually to 9,000,000 tons of steel .
Our total industrial product stands at 83% of 1938 numbers

Comparisons with other European countries:

| | | | |
|---------------|------|-------------|------|
| Turks | 163% | Netherlands | 132% |
| Sweden | 158% | France | 120% |
| Ireland | 142% | Belgium | 110% |
| Great Britain | 142% | Austria | 109% |
| Norway | 131% | Italy | 108% |
| | | Greece | 96% |

Picture of Development of German Industrial Production 1947-1950

West German Counterpart Funds

1,187 million deutschmarks in counterpart funds are contributed
Illustration/figure of this money flowing to different parts of the economy
Image of West German reconstruction projects

Increasing exports is necessary

Illustration of export deficit (trade deficit)
Imports 3575 million dollars
Exports 1706 million dollars
Deficit 1869 million dollars

ERP helps German exports

Image of deliveries in France, Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Greece

Image of deliveries worth 80,629,000 dollars of ERP

“Art der gelieferten Güter” Coal, rolled metals, machines, vehicles, fertilizer, non-ferrous metals, chemicals, seeds, assorted industrial products.

VI. Berlin and the Marshall Plan

Berlin, represented, its symbolic bear, looking longingly at the West

ERP means work

Undertaking of repair and rebuilding of ERP means industrial rebuilding, relief works

Map of Berlin with Marshall-funding construction sites marked

Models made of ERP construction projects

Industry (Borsig)

Shops (Kadewe)

Energy plants

Housing

Open spaces (Humboldthain)

One machine purchased with ERP dollars allows raw materials to be processed.

“The Berlin Part of this exhibit continues...”

28 August 1950 Berlin.