

SPD Chairman Kurt Schumacher on the First Elections in the GDR (October 13, 1950)

Abstract

On October 15, 1950 - more than a year after the founding of the GDR - the first elections to the Volkskammer took place. In the Federal Republic, they are regarded as a farce. This is also the view of Kurt Schumacher, Chairman of the SPD and leader of the opposition in the West German Bundestag. Schumacher clearly positioned the SPD: When the SPD and KPD were forcibly merged to form the SED in the East, he sharply criticized this. His radio broadcast two days before the Volkskammer elections was correspondingly harsh.

Source

Source: SWR2 Archivradio

<https://www.swr.de/swr2/wissen/archivradio/erste-ddr-wahlen-ansprache-von-spd-chef-kurt-schumacher-1950-102.html>

Recommended Citation: SPD Chairman Kurt Schumacher on the First Elections in the GDR (October 13, 1950), published in: German History in Documents and Images, <<https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/occupation-and-the-emergence-of-two-states-1945-1961/ghdi:audio-5009>> [March 06, 2026].