Bonn Demonstration against the Emergency Laws – I (May 11, 1968)

Abstract

At the end of May 1968, during the government of the Grand Coalition, the Bundestag passed the so-called Emergency Laws in the face of strong extra-parliamentary opposition. These laws curtailed some basic civic rights in order to expand the state's ability to act in crisis situations (natural catastrophes, revolts, war). Critics from unions, churches, and universities who opposed the measures saw the changes to the constitution as a threat to democracy. The days prior to the passage of the Emergency Laws saw numerous protests, including this one in Bonn on May 11, 1968. The banner in the background reads: "It is the obligation of every democrat to fight against the 'Emergency State.'" Photo by Kurt Rohwedder.

Source

Source: Demonstration against the Bundestag's planned passage of the Emergency Laws. Rally participants gather in the Hofgarten (Bonn). Photo: Kurt Rohwedder. Date: May 11, 1968. bpk-Bildagentur, image number 30008392. For rights inquiries, please contact Art Resource at requests@artres.com (North America) or bpk-Bildagentur at kontakt@bpk-bildagentur.de (for all other countries).

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