

# Demonstration against the National Democratic Party of Germany in Essen (December 5, 1970)

## Abstract

---

In December 1970, West Germany and Poland signed the Warsaw Treaty guaranteeing the diplomatic recognition of both states and assuring the inviolability of the Polish-German border (Oder-Neisse line) established by the Potsdam Conference in 1945. The treaty was part of the West German *Ostpolitik* of “change through rapprochement,” which also aimed to establish closer relations with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and the GDR. In December of 1970, a group of NPD members formed an autocade in the West German city of Essen to protest the treaty. This led to confrontations with young counter-protestors, whose slogan “Nazis raus” [“Nazis out!”] clearly identifies the National Democratic Party of Germany [*Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands* or NPD] as a right-wing organization.

## Source

---



Source: On December 5, 1970, clashes broke out in Essen during the passage of a car convoy protesting the signing of the Warsaw Treaty. The clashes involved members of the far-right NPD and “Aktion Widerstand,” on the one side, and more than 300 young counter-demonstrators on the other. December 5, 1970. picture-alliance / dpa | Fritz Reiss. Media no. 2056824.

© picture-alliance / dpa | Fritz Reiss

Recommended Citation: Demonstration against the National Democratic Party of Germany in Essen

---

(December 5, 1970), published in: German History in Documents and Images,  
<<https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/two-germanies-1961-1989/ghdi:image-5047>> [May 05, 2024].