

Munich Demonstration for Freedom of the Press in Response to the *Spiegel* Affair (c. October/November 1962)

Abstract

The arrest of editor-in-chief Rudolf Augstein and other *Spiegel* employees on charges of treason was roundly condemned in the left-wing press and triggered student protests on behalf of freedom of the press, including this one at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. For some critical observers, the so-called *Spiegel* Affair was uncomfortably reminiscent of the *Weltbühne* trial in the Weimar Republic. Protests by the FDP against the actions of Defense Minister Franz-Josef Strauß (CSU) triggered a coalition crisis and ultimately also led to the resignation of Chancellor Konrad Adenauer. Photographer unknown. Some of the students' signs read: "Fällt die FDP wieder um?" ["Is the FDP falling over again?"], "Schützt die Pressefreiheit" ["Protect freedom of the press"], and "Eine Zensur findet nicht statt! Grundgesetz Artikel 5/1/3" ["There shall be no censorship. Basic Law, Paragraph 5/1/3"]. Photographer unknown.

Source



Source: Student protest in Munich. Date: c. October/November 1962. German Information Center.

Courtesy of the German Information Center

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