

November 7, 1989

Minutes No. 49 of the Meeting of the SED Politburo

Citation:

"Minutes No. 49 of the Meeting of the SED Politburo", November 7, 1989, Wilson Center Digital Archive, SAPMO-BA, DY 30/J IV 2/2/2358. Translated for CWIHP by Howard Sargeant. <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/113041>

Summary:

Minutes No. 49 of the Meeting of the SED Politburo concerning situation regarding GDR citizens leaving the country. The Politburo decides a new travel law will be developed in order to placate some of the popular demands.

Original Language:

German

Contents:

Translation - English

[EXCERPTS]

Information by Comrade O. Fischer on the situation regarding GDR citizens departing via the -SSR.

Report compiled by:
O. Fischer

1. Comrade O. Fischer will make a suggestion, in agreement with Comrades F. Dickel and E. Mielke, for the SED Central Committee which allows for this part of the travel law that deals with permanent exit to be put into effect immediately through an executive order [Durchführungsbestimmung].

2. Comrade O. Fischer will inform the USSR's Ambassador to the GDR Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Comrade V[yacheslav I.] Kochemassov, and the Czechoslovaks about the proposal and the Politburo's position. At the same time, consultations with the FRG are to be carried out.

3. The mass media should use their influence to help that GDR citizens do not leave their country. They should inform about people who have returned. Responsible: Comrade G. Schabowski.

4. Comrade G. Schabowski is assigned to discuss this problem with the representatives of the bloc parties [Christian Democrats, Liberal Democrats] in order to reach a joint position.