

*Dragan Bogetic*

*The break of diplomatic relations between Yugoslavia and the FR of Germany*

*Summary*

The complexity of the international position of Yugoslavia in the late fifties was especially emphasized in relations with the two German states, created in the Cold War atmosphere, dictated by super powers of the East and the West following the end of World War II. Adjusting its non-bloc policy to the anachronistic solutions of the biplicit international community, Yugoslavia had to take its stand concerning the further legal status of these states and the issue of their possible unification.

Aware that no compromise solution existed regarding this issue that would simultaneously satisfy both the West and the East, the Yugoslav leadership adjusted its policy to current relations with the super powers, as well as to its own pragmatic development imperatives. This was feasible during the first post-war years. At that time Yugoslavia was at the beginning strictly linked to clusters of socialist states, and later on to Western powers, receiving from them significant financial support. However, when the time of normalization of relations between the two confronting sides came, the situation became complicated.

In attempts to maintain a middle position, that would be accepted both by Moscow (DR Germany's sponsor) and Washington (FR Germany's sponsor), Tito and his associates opted for cooperation with both German states. The effects of such an international strategy were ruinous. Yugoslavia's acknowledgement of the DR of Germany did not improve relations with the socialist bloc and to a large extent worsened relations with the Western powers. Yugoslavia was once again threatened with international isolation, as was the case ten years earlier during the time of confrontation with the Kominform. Seeking an exit from this dangerous situation once again the Belgrade authorities opted for the policy of moving closer to the West.