**“Integrate us first!”: Integration and Diversity Development in Re-Unified Germany**

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In October 1990, the Federal and the Democratic Republic of Germany formally re-united after 40 years of separated post-war development. This date was the start of a structural adaptation process, which basically meant the transfer of West German structures and regulations to the Eastern part. Facing a collapsing economy and a population exodus to West Germany, the focus was on a rapid approximation of living conditions in East and West. Thirty years later, we can look at areas of success, but also on continuing challenges, which particularly affect the process of societal harmonisation. The book title “Integrate us first!”, written by an East German integration minister, points to an alienation of East German society from German mainstream discourses, such as on integration and diversity development. This feeling strongly increased in the context of the so-called “refugee crisis” in 2015 due to the overwhelming welcome in mostly West German cities and concomitant state investment for asylum seekers, which raised sentiments of relative deprivation in parts of the East German society. Furthermore, the lacking familiarity with ethnic diversity constitute a fundamental social divide between East and West Germany, and issues such as integration, diversity or the defeat of racism have to be partially renegotiated. This ongoing story of reunification makes Germany an interesting case study for questions of integration, diversity and of how to find a common path into the future.