Exercise 3: Remembering In East And West

Working With Historical Sources In Groups

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Introduction:

Using a historical map

Material in Genially

the teacher recapitulates the division of Germany, which continued to manifest itself in the immediate post-war period until 1949.

Step 1: Division into groups - introduction to group work
The class is divided into two groups. One group will deal with the culture of remembrance in the Federal Republic of Germany, the other with the memory of the end of the war in the GDR. The material for the source work is stored on the interactive map, as are the corresponding work assignments/questions. The individual materials have different levels of difficulty so that the large groups can also be further differentiated in terms of pupil level.

Step 2: Working with the historical sources
The groups work on the source material - in whole or in part - and record their results in a two-column table.

Step 3: Presentation to the class
The different groups take it in turns to present their findings to the class. They supplement their documents with the results of the other group.

Step 4: Discussion in class/deepening
The class discusses the overall results together.
Key questions:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Poland
Co-funded by the European Union

Which aspects of the end of the war are more important in each of the two regimes: 'defeat' or 'liberation'?
How can the different culture of remembrance in East and West be explained?
What significance did the speech of 8 May 1945 have for the culture of remembrance in West Germany and later in the unified Germany?