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#### **Special German Issue**

This special issue on German politics was planned about a year and a half ago. The editors believed that the forthcoming federal election in December 1987 would furnish an appropriate occasion for reflection on the current and future condition of the West German polity. They proceeded with their plans amid speculation that the forthcoming election would solidify current tendencies in West German politics and at the same time suggest major undercurrents of change with respect to the Federal Republic's role as a principal actor in the conflict between East and West. We originally planned to publish an issue organized exclusively around the 1987 election. Instead, we chose five articles that deal with various aspects of contemporary German politics. We tended to choose broadly interpretive essays or highly informative ones drawing attention to new forces in Germany or neglected aspects of its political system. In addition, we commissioned eleven scholars to review sixteen different books on Germany. Finally, the editors would like to thank the Conference Group on German Politics for its help in expanding the competition for articles earmarked for this special issue. We also wish to acknowledge the assistance of George Romoser in its early planning.

The Editors

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All manuscripts should be submitted in QUADRUPLICATE to *The Review of Politics*, Box B, Notre Dame, IN 46556. If the return of the manuscript is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope should be enclosed. All typewritten material should be double-spaced. including notes and quotations; photocopies of a good quality are acceptable *The Review* follows the *Chicago Manual of Style* for standards of citation, punctuation and other editorial considerations. The normal length of manuscripts published is 25–30 pages. Longer manuscripts will be evaluated in light of the limited printing space available. Since manuscripts are evaluated anonymously they should not bear the author's name or institutional affiliation. Submissions should be sent with an ABSTRACT of 100–150 words. All correspondence regarding book reviews should be sent to Mr. Walter Nicgorski at the above address.