

## **Abstract**

After the end of the Second World War, a new power stratification emerged on the ravaged European continent, which soon proved to be antagonistic to the extent that it threatened the very foundations of the freedom of Europe. Defeated Germany was placed under the control and administration of the victorious powers – the United States of America, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, and France, which divided the country into four occupation zones. Increasing disagreements over the future development of Germany gradually led to the merger of the three western zones in the so-called Trizonia, which was meant to create the preconditions for the economic recovery of the war-torn country.

This bachelor thesis deals with the topic of the post-war development in these three German western occupation zones in 1945–1949. Within this framework, the paper focuses on the work of the future Federal Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, which led to the constitution of the West German state and its pro-western orientation with regard to international developments. West Germany began to have a major impact on the Cold War and fears of the growing contradiction between Soviet Russia and the Western Bloc materialised in the form of the Berlin crisis.

Pragmatic thinking, devotion to Christian ideals and to the idea of European unity led Konrad Adenauer to a realistic assessment of the situation and to the irreversible belief that Germany's future lies in the orientation towards the Western Bloc and in the country's integration into the Western European spiritual and economic space. At the same time, he had to consider the sensitive issue of losing national unity from the standpoint of the aforementioned and only possible way of building the foundations of a modern prosperous democratic state, with the hope that it would include all Germans someday.