

Compendium of the constitutional laws and principles of Nazi Ideology (“Weltanschauung”), date and place not stated

National Socialist Constitutional Principles

The constitutional principles governing and molding the entire national life, partly in written and partly in unwritten form, are the following:

1. The National Socialist ideology (Weltanschauung) is the philosophical basis of life, and thereby of the whole structure of the German Reich. “The National Socialist idea has its organizational headquarters in the party”. (Hitler)
2. The Reich is formed by the legally organized and politically trained people. The Nation is content and substance of the Reich. It is the object of all order. The people, created by God, is the only causative basis of all human action and of all national institutions as the only constant and permanent factor.
3. The Reich is a Socialist state: general welfare ... individual welfare. Right is that which benefits the community, wrong is that which is detrimental to it.
4. The Reich is a state on racial principles (voelkisor Staat): blood and soil are the spring of life ever rejuvenating the German people. The purity and the continued health of German blood is the prerequisite for the existence of the German people and the Reich. Only the German and his racial kin has a right to determine the future fate of the German people.
5. The Reich is a Fuehrerstate (Fuehrerstaat): Party, people, and Reich are led and administrated according to the Fuehrer principle a leader is achievements thoroughly convince his comrades of his value.
6. The Reich is a people’s state: The Reich itself and its leadership are based on the voluntary confidence and loyalty which the people shows the Fuehrer.
7. The Reich is a unified state: There is only one power in the Reich, one final authority: there are only German subjects and Reich citizens.

8. The Reich is One Party state: “The Party represents the political conscience, the political thought, and the political will of the nation” (Hitler). The party has made the state the champion of National Socialist ideology. The Party must set the high goal in all phases of life and must integrate public life with the duties pursuant to racial superiority. The Fuehrer is the Party and the Party is the Fuehrer. The Party has the final authority to control and decide.

9. It is the duty of the Party to select those elements of the nations which are qualified to lead the state, it must encourage them, and must finally release them to serve the state as leaders and followers. “The Party must act on the basic principle that every German must be philosophically educated to National Socialism, that furthermore the best National Socialists become Party Members, and finally that the best Party Members must take over the leadership of the state” (Hitler). It is the primary task of the party to supply the German state with leadership.

10. The Fuehrer of the Party is always the Head of the Reich and the Supreme Commander of the Wehrmacht.

11. Party and Wehrmacht are the two supporting pillars, inextricably bound to each other, upon which the people and the Reich are built, “The Party gives the Wehrmacht the people, the people gives the Wehrmacht the soldiers, but both together give to the German Reich the security of internal peace and the strength to maintain itself”. (Hitler).

These constitutional principles have, for the most part, already found their expression in the above-mentioned national organic laws.

The Law for Relieving the Need of People and Reich of 24 March 1933 invested the government of Adolf Hitler with the most extensive powers for reorganization of the entire public life. For all practical purposes, it unites legislative and executive branch in one hand. The government of the Reich has now assumed legislative powers.

The National Socialist Fuehrer State

Thus, and orderly process of legislation took the place of the dictatorial legislation procedure, based on Article 49 of the Weimer Constitution, which had been customary since 1930. Beyond that, several weeks after the

National Socialists have come to power, an important National Socialist principle of political thought had become constitutional reality:

Legislative and Executive Branches Became one in the National Socialist State Based on the Fuehrer Principle.

The law is no longer a vulnerable point in the government of the state, which it would most certainly be if the legislative power were vested in another branch of the government but in the executive Legislation has now become a real act of leadership in ... exercise the Fuehrer alone bears the responsibility and in which the Reich Cabinet advises him as a Fuehrer council. Thus, irresponsible leadership of a parliamentary body was superseded by the responsible leadership (Fuehrertum) of the Chancellor and his government.

As the second governing function there was still in the office of Reich President. It was, therefore, only a logicalation of the basic constitutional principle concerning the unity of government when, after the death of Reich President von Hindenburg the offices of Reich Chancellor and Reich President were united in one person by the Law concerning the Head of the State of 1 August 1934. The Fuehrer thereby not only unites in his person all the rights and obligations pertaining to him as Fuehrer of the Party, as Reich Chancellor and Reich President, but, in reality, the office of Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor goes far beyond the sphere of competency of the two ,, offices. By the evolution of national law, he has become the highest political leader of the people, the highest leader on ... authority, the highest judge of the people and the Commander of the armed forces. Today, legislative power also is ... in the Fuehrer alone. The Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor has actually an also by law – following the practice during the last years when it was unwritten law – become the source of our law. This National Socialist Fuehrer capacity of Hitler has no longer anything in common from a constitutional and legal point of view, with the office of the Reich President of the Weimer constitution and the parliamentary office of the Reich Chancellor. The state office of the Reich President was transformed into the highest political office of the people the guardian of the constitution was transformed to people's leader who alone is responsible for the weal and woe of the people.

Thus, the guiding principle of German national and popular life the Fuehrer principle, has become a constitutional reality.

The people's confidence in the Fuehrer is an essential of the National Socialist Fuehrer state, which is therefore simultaneously a people's state. The National Socialist basic principle, that authoritative leadership presupposes that it is deeply rooted in the people itself, has found legal expression already in the Law Concerning P... of 14 July 1933, on the strength of which the Of 19 August 1934 on the Law concerning the Head of the German Reich was held. The Fuehrer, therefore, is the real representative of the people's and the state's power in the best sense.

The Sovereign Powers of the Leader are Transferred to the Reich.

It follows logically from the application of the Fuehrer principle that the sovereign powers of the Leader which are in contrast to the uniform will of the Fuehrer shall be eliminated. Should the Fuehrer really be able to lead, then ... of the Reich must have power to give him. The Fuehrer state must be conceived as a unified state. Two co-existing wills are impossible in a Fuehrer state. The centralization of all political powers in the Reich is the national pro... for the creation of a unity of will and a political center of ...

The Law concerning the reorganization of the Reich brings into the unified state concrete existence with concise phraseology:

Popular representation of the Leader is abolished. The ... rights of the Leader are transferred to the Reich. The Leader Governments are subordinate to the Reich Government. The ... Reich Governor is responsible to the Reich Minister of the Interior. The Reich government is authorized to reorganize the constitution.

Thus, a constitutional principle of the greatest historic significance was led towards reality: One people, One Reich, One Fuehrer. After thousand years of disunity among the political powers harbored by the best Germans of all ages had come true: the unit of German people living in one unified state under one leader.

The second Decree concerning reorganization of 27 November 1934 and the Reich Governor Law guarantee the uniform administration throughout the whole Reich, Reich Governor and Prussian ..president are the representatives

of the Reich Government within their district". They both have special competencies with regard to the Reich administration, the Land Administration and the corporations under public law. This then is the basis for a uniform administrative structure on the intermediate level.

State, Party and Wehrmacht

The political guide and philosophical creative force of the unified people and Reich is the Party. The Party as already emphasized above, by being a pillar of the state and the people's union within the new Reich, a spiritual and philosophical center of power, a source of intellectual and psychological strength, and at the same time a very real instrument of power in the hands of the Fuehrer. It is the bearer of the National Socialist conception of the people and state and the moving force of state and people. From its ranks sprang to Fuehrer of the Reich and the supreme commander of the Wehrmacht. The Fuehrer is in command of the Party, the State and the Wehrmacht. Party, State and Wehrmacht are an indissoluble whole, without however being identical. They all are based upon the racial unity of the German people. The essence of the Fuehrer principle embodied in the supreme leader of the people, the Party, the Wehrmacht and the Reich, has thus become the central star of our entire political life. The primacy of the Party and the indissoluble union of Party and Reich have their roots in the Law for Safeguarding the unity of Party and State of 1 December 1933.

Beside the Party, which as embodiment of the National Socialist idea is the eternal and indestructible pillar of the German people and the Reich, there stands the Wehrmacht as the bearer of arms of the nation. Both institutions carry upon their shoulders the National Socialist state, the Third Reich. The "Law concerning the Structure of the Wehrmacht of 16 March 1935 and the "Defense Law" of 31 May 1935 give reality to the unity of the Reich within our territory:

"The Wehrmacht is the arms bearer and the soldierly training ground of the German people.... Military service is honorable service to the German people. Every male German has the duty to do military service. In a state of war, beyond actual military service, it is the duty of every German man and woman to render service to the fatherland".

Only he who belongs to the German or a kindred race may render military service, the honorable service to the German people. The National Socialist army is, therefore, a true people's army. It then no longer recognize Prussians, Bavarians, Saxonians,it only recognizes Germans. While formerly only service is the ... forces was recognized as military duty, the new Decree... this consent to include a general service to the people, which must be rendered by all brother Germans, under sacrifice of all their In time of war, irrespective of their sex or age.

The ... basis for Party, Reich and Wehrmacht is the German Party, Reich and Wehrmacht are only then able to fulfill their ... to reach the goal set by National Socialism, when the people stands behind its leaders with faith and confidence, and when the people has mentally assimilated the feeling of belonging together, the spirit of the community, and the National Socialist philosophy and way of thought.

Two factors must thereby function together: The education of Germans to the National Socialist way of communal thought and the formative organization of the entire living conditions by an organic integration of the individual into the community.

The Nurnberg Laws

The Reich Citizen Law and the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor of 15 September 1935 contain the basic legal regulations of the race problem. Both laws set apart the perpetuator of German or kindred blood, the first law by according to him alone the full political rights and obligations, and the other by prohibiting and intermingling of Jewish blood with that of Germanic or kindred races. These two laws are the basis for the realization of the summary phrase: Germany for the Germans. They are the fundamental racial laws of the German people.

The Reich Citizen Law assigns the future fate of the German nation to the representatives of the best Germanic genetic characteristics and German spirit. It provides that only subjects of German or kindred race can become Reich Citizens, and must again and again prove by their conduct that they are willing and worthy to serve the German people and Reich faithfully. Reich citizenship therefore, is no longer be obtained by birth only, by an ordinary

administrative act, nor by the payment of a sum of money, as was possible in the past, when one could obtain citizenship as, for instance, membership in an association. According to the will of the Fuehrer German Reich Citizenship is the highest right, and the Reich Citizenship Paper the most precious document a German can obtain during his whole life: for only the Reich Citizen is holder of the full political rights provided for in the laws.

Only the Reich Citizen can take part in the elections to the Reichstag and can be elected to be a member of it, only he can take part in Only he pay hold honorary offices in state and community, and he to be a functionary or an honorary official. In future, therefore, no Jew may hold such public office.

Since considerable time will pass before the final Reich Citizenship and Reich Citizenship Papers will be given out due to the great number of applicants, Article 1 of the Decree Supplementing the Reich Citizen Law provides for a temporary exercise of political rights by stating that temporary Reich Citizenship is conferred generally to all subjects of German or kindred race who were eligible to take parts in the Reichstag elections at the time the Reich Citizen Law become valid, that is to say on 30 September 1935.

Since not only German citizens can obtain Reich Citizenship but also those of kindred race, Reich Citizenship can also be obtained by the German minorities, as Poles, Danes etc., insofar as they as well as all other Citizens, fulfill the basic requirements of ... will and ability to serve the German Reich as loyal citizens. by law, beside the Reich Citizens there are the Reich Subjects. The Reich Subject belongs to the protecting unit of the German Reich and has therefore special obligations towards the Reich (Part 1 of the Reich Citizen Law); that is, he is permitted to use all the institutions which serve the public within the limit of legal provisions governing such use; he may, insofar on there is no legal restriction, enter the business world and is protected by state institutions. On the other hand, he is obliged to take upon himself all public burdens and must, if necessary, sacrifice all he owns and even himself for the existence of the state. He does not, however, possess political rights.

The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor protects the purity of German blood, which is the necessary For the continued existence of the German people. It prohibits marriages between Jews and subjects of German or kindred race and declares marriages concluded after the law was in force as..... Even though they might have been concluded abroad in order to circumvent this law. Extramarital sexual intercourse is also prohibited between Jews and citizens of German or kindred race.

Another basic law in the new Reich is the German Community ,,,, of 30 January 1935 which is discussed below.

Thus, the evolving reorganization of disunited political ... which had continued as such for thousand years is meant to create Which should guarantee the national unity of the German people for the future. Above this Reich based on the eternal values of Germanism, founded on the community of all racial Germans and led by its Fuehrer, Adolf Hitler, the victorious Swastika flag is flying since the Reichspartitag of freedom as the only Reich and National flag. It is the symbol of the deep change which was effected in the German people and the Reich by the national Socialist Revolution.

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