



## **Rethinking security? Concepts of security in the church-related peace movement of the Federal Republic of Germany (1977-1983)**

The NATO “Double-Track” Decision on Theatre Nuclear Forces in December 1979 caused far reaching political and social debates in Western Europe, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany. The genesis of a new peace movement can thereby be understood as an expression of a crisis of modernity, which was perceived in global environment protection, in questions of nuclear energy and - not least - nuclear weapons.

The term “security” played a key role during the discussions on the NATO “Double-Track” Decision. According to the new peace movements’ concepts of security significant differences appear compared to traditional positions of the Federal Government and the NATO. An analysis of these differences, which are mainly based on disparate judgments of the East-West conflict and the role of nuclear weapons, may deliver scientific findings concerning the connections between sociocultural processes of change in the Federal Republic of Germany during the 1970s and 1980s and the mass protests for peace. The research focuses on the church-related part, which represents one of the most important elements of the new peace movement in the Federal Republic.

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