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**Die SPD und Mitteleuropa im 20. Jahrhundert.
Der Einfluss der altösterreichischen Traditionen auf die SPD.**

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Abstract

This PhD analysis the theoretical and political position of the German social-democratic party (SPD) towards the “Mitteleuropa” idea in the 20th century in a comparative perspective with the German-speaking social-democratic parties originated from the Habsburg Monarchy. The first part questions the idea of Mitteleuropa and the conditions of a “Mitteleuropa dialogue” between these different parties until 1945. It brings forward the existence of two different geopolitical traditions, the “reichsdeutsch” and the “old-austrian” tradition. The second part analyses the special relationship between these two traditions resulting from the integration of the social-democratic Sudeten Germans in the SPD after the expulsion of the Germans from Czechoslovakia in the post-war years. This analysis demonstrates the existence of concurring geopolitical notions within the SPD and the impact of these different notions on the definition of the Foreign policy by the SPD until 1989.