

## Founding Weimar

### *Violence and the German Revolution of 1918–1919*

The German Revolution of 1918–19 was a transformative moment of modern European history. It was both the end of the German Empire and of the First World War, as well as the birth of the Weimar Republic, the short-lived democracy that preceded the establishment of the Nazi dictatorship. A time of great political drama, the revolution saw unprecedented levels of mass mobilization and political violence, including the ‘Spartacist Uprising’ of January 1919, the murders of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, and the violent suppression of strikes and the Munich Councils’ Republic. Drawing upon the historiography of the French Revolution, *Founding Weimar* is the first study to place crowds and the politics of the streets at the heart of the revolution’s history. Carefully argued and meticulously researched, it will appeal to anyone with an interest in the relationship between violence, revolution, and state formation, as well as in the history of modern Germany.

MARK JONES is an Irish Research Council Marie Curie Fellow at University College Dublin and at the Free University of Berlin. He has contributed to several volumes such as *Political Violence and Democracy in Western Europe, 1918–1945* (eds. Millington & Passmore, 2015), *Germany 1916–1923: A Revolution in Context* (eds. Weinbauer, McElligott and Heinsohn, 2015) and *Maritime History and Identity: The Sea and Culture in the Modern World* (ed. Redford, 2013).

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*Violence and the German Revolution of  
1918–1919*

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Mark Jones

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In memory of my parents

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## Abbreviations

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AA	Evening edition
<i>Adjutant</i>	<i>Adjutant im Preussischen Kriegsministerium Juni 1918 bis Oktober 1919. Aufzeichnungen des Hauptmanns Gustav Böhm</i> , edited by Heinz Hürten and Georg Meyer (Stuttgart, 1977)
<i>Archivalische Forschung</i>	<i>Die Auswirkungen der Großen Sozialistischen Oktoberrevolution auf Deutschland. Archivalische Forschungen zur Geschichte der deutschen Arbeiterbewegung</i> , vol. 4, part IV, edited by Leo Stern (Berlin, 1959)
<i>Amtliche Urkunden</i>	<i>Vorgeschichte des Waffenstillstandes. Amtliche Urkunden</i> (Berlin, 1919)
BArch-Berlin	German Federal Archives, Berlin Lichterfelde
BArch-Berlin-SAPMO	German Federal Archives, Foundation Archives of Parties and Mass Organizations of the GDR in the Federal Archives
BArch-MA	German Federal Archives, Military Archive, Freiburg im Breisgau
BBC	<i>Berliner Börsen-Courier</i>
BLA	<i>Berliner Lokal-Anzeiger</i>
<i>Blücher Diary</i>	Eveline Blücher, <i>An English Wife in Berlin. A Private Memoir of Events, Politics and Daily Life in Germany throughout the War and the Social Revolution</i> (London, 1920)
BM	<i>Berliner Morgenpost</i>
BNN	<i>Berliner Neueste Nachrichten</i>
BT	<i>Berliner Tageblatt</i>

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<i>BSZ</i>	<i>Bayerische Staatszeitung</i>
<i>BVZ</i>	<i>Berliner Volkszeitung</i>
<i>BZaM</i>	<i>Berliner Zeitung am Mittag</i>
<i>CZ</i>	<i>Coburger Zeitung</i>
<i>Darstellung</i> , vol. 4	(Bearb. Und hrsg. von der <i>Forschungsanstalt für Kriegs- und      Heeresgeschichte Berlin, Darstellung aus      den Nachkriegskämpfen Deutscher      Truppen und Freikorps</i> , vol. 4, <i>Die      Niederwerfung der Räteherrschaft in      Bayern 1919</i> (Berlin, 1939)
<i>Darstellung</i> , vol. 6	(Bearb. Und hrsg. von der <i>Forschungsanstalt für Kriegs- und      Heeresgeschichte Berlin, Darstellung aus      den Nachkriegskämpfen Deutscher Truppen      und Freikorps</i> , vol. 6, <i>Die Wirren in der      Reichshauptstadt und im nördlichen      Deutschland</i> (Berlin, 1940)
<i>DLA</i>	Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach
<i>Dokumente und Materialien</i>	<i>Dokumente und Materialien zur      Geschichte der deutschen      Arbeiterbewegung</i> , edited by the Institut für Marxismus-Leninismus beim Zentralkomitee der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands, 3 vols. (East-Berlin, 1958)
<i>DTZ</i>	<i>Deutsche Tageszeitung</i>
<i>DZ</i>	<i>Deutsche Zeitung</i>
<i>FZ</i>	<i>Frankfurter Zeitung</i>
<i>Freiheit</i>	<i>Die Freiheit</i>
<i>FrZ</i>	<i>Freiburger Zeitung</i>
<i>GH</i>	<i>German History</i>
<i>GG</i>	<i>Geschichte und Gesellschaft</i>
<i>GLA</i>	Generallandesarchiv Karlsruhe
<i>GSR</i>	<i>German Studies Review</i>
<i>GStA PK</i>	<i>Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preußischer      Kulturbesitz</i>
<i>Hampe Diaries</i>	<i>Karl Hampe, Kriegstagebuch      1914–1919. Deutsche Geschichtsquellen des      19. und 20. Jahrhunderts</i> , vol. 63, edited by Folker Reichert and Eike Wolgast (Munich, 2007)

## Abbreviations

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<i>HE</i>	<i>Hamburger Echo</i>
<i>HN</i>	<i>Hamburger Nachrichten</i>
Hofmiller Diary	Josef Hofmiller, <i>Revolutionstagebuch 1918/19. Aus den Tagen der Münchner Revolution</i> (Leipzig, 1939)
HStAS	Hauptstaatsarchiv Stuttgart
<i>JCH</i>	<i>Journal of Contemporary History</i>
<i>JMH</i>	<i>Journal of Modern History</i>
<i>JMEH</i>	<i>Journal of Modern European History</i>
KAM	Bayerisches Hauptstaatsarchiv, Abteilung IV, Kriegsarchiv München
Karl Radek in Berlin	Otto-Ernst Schüddekopf, 'Karl Radek in Berlin. Ein Kapitel deutsch-russischer Beziehungen im Jahre 1919', <i>Archiv für Sozialgeschichte</i> , vol. 2 (1962), 87–166
<i>Kessler Diaries</i>	<i>The Diaries of a Cosmopolitan 1918–1937</i> , Count Harry Kessler, translated and edited by Charles Kessler (London, 1999)
<i>Klemperer Diaries</i>	Victor Klemperer, <i>Tagebücher 1918–1919</i> , edited by Walter Nowojski (Berlin, 2000)
<i>KNN</i>	<i>Kieler Neueste Nachrichten</i>
<i>KLGRS</i>	Karl Liebknecht. <i>Gesammelte Reden und Schriften</i> , vol. 9: <i>Mai 1916 bis 15. Januar 1919</i> (East-Berlin, 1968)
<i>KrZ</i>	<i>Kreuz-Zeitung (Neue Preußische Zeitung)</i>
<i>KZ</i>	<i>Kieler Zeitung</i>
LAB	Landesarchiv Berlin
<i>Ledebour Prozeß</i>	<i>Der Ledebour Prozeß</i> , introduced by Georg Ledebour (Berlin, 1919)
<i>LVZ</i>	<i>Leipziger Volkszeitung</i>
<i>MA</i>	<i>Morning edition</i>
<i>Mann Diaries</i>	<i>Thomas Mann Tagebücher 1918–1921</i> , edited by Peter de Mendelssohn (Frankfurt, 2003)
<i>Mayer Diaries</i>	Gustav Mayer, <i>Als deutsch-jüdischer Historiker in Krieg und Revolution 1914–1920. Tagebücher, Aufzeichnungen, Briefe. Deutsche Geschichtsquellen des 19. und 20.</i>

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	<i>Jahrhunderts</i> , vol. 65, edited by Gottfried Niedhart (Munich, 2009)
<i>MLS</i>	<i>Mein lieber Schatz! Briefe von Admiral Reinhard Scheer an seine Ehefrau August bis November 1918</i> , edited by Michael Epkenhans (Bochum, 2006)
<i>MM</i>	<i>Militärgeschichtliche Mitteilungen</i>
<i>MNN</i>	<i>Münchener Neueste Nachrichten</i>
<i>MP</i>	<i>Münchener Post</i>
Müller, <i>Geschichte</i>	Richard Müller, <i>Eine Geschichte der November Revolution</i> , 3 vols.: vol. 1: <i>Vom Kaiserreich zur Republik</i> ; vol. 2: <i>Die November Revolution</i> ; vol. 3: <i>Der Bürgerkrieg in Deutschland</i> (Berlin, 1924 & 25, 2011 reprint)
<i>MZ</i>	<i>Münchner Zeitung</i>
<i>NAZ</i>	<i>Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung</i>
<i>NHZ</i>	<i>Neue Hamburger Zeitung</i>
<i>PP</i>	<i>Past and Present</i>
<i>Post</i>	<i>Die Post</i>
Priv. Tel.	Private Telegraph
<i>Prussian Parliament A</i>	<i>Bericht des Untersuchungsausschusses über die Januar-Unruhen 1919 in Berlin. Drucksachen 4121 (Parts A–D), 7669–8192. Part A Bericht des Untersuchungsausschusses (report of the parliamentary committee of inquiry) in: Sammlung der Drucksachen der verfassunggebenden Preußischen Landesversammlung (Anlagen zu den Sitzungs-Berichten) Tagung 1919/1921. 15. Band Drucksachen Nr. 4094 bis 4154, pp. 7611–8262 (Berlin, 1921)</i>
<i>Prussian Parliament B</i>	<i>Bericht des Untersuchungsausschusses über die Januar-Unruhen 1919 in Berlin. Drucksachen 4121. (A–D), pp. 7669–8192. Part B Niederschriftenband (minutes of the inquiry meetings) in: Sammlung der Drucksachen der verfassunggebenden Preußischen Landesversammlung</i>



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 Tagung 1919/1921. 15. Band  
 Drucksachen Nr. 4094 bis 4154, pp.  
 7611–8262 (Berlin, 1921)*
- Prussian Parliament C* *Bericht des Untersuchungsausschusses über  
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 Drucksachen 4121. (Parts A–D), pp.  
 7669–8192. Part C Urkundenband  
 (documents pertaining to the inquiry)  
 in: Sammlung der Drucksachen der  
 verfassunggebenden Preußischen  
 Landesversammlung (Anlagen zu den  
 Sitzungs-Berichten) Tagung 1919/1921.  
 15. Band Drucksachen Nr. 4094 bis  
 4154, pp. 7611 to 8262 (Berlin, 1921)*
- QPM *Die Regierung des Prinzen Max von  
 Baden, Quellen zur Geschichte des  
 Parlamentarismus und der politischen  
 Parteien, bearbeitet von Erich  
 Matthias und Rudolf Morsey  
 (Düsseldorf, 1962)*
- RDV *Die Regierung der Volksbeauftragten  
 1918/19, eingeleitet von Erich  
 Matthias, bearbeitet von Susanne  
 Miller unter Mitwirkung von Heinrich  
 Potthoff (Düsseldorf, 1969), 2 vols.*
- RF *Die Rote Fahne*
- RLGW *Rosa Luxemburg Gesammelte Werke  
 vol. 4 August 1914–Jan. 1919  
 (Berlin-East, 1974)*
- SHV *Schleswig-Holsteinische Volkszeitung*
- SH *Social History*
- StAM StA *Staatsarchiv München*
- SüdDZ *Süddeutsche Zeitung*
- TR *Tägliche Rundschau*
- Urkunden der OHL* *Erich Ludendorff (ed.), Urkunden der  
 Obersten Heeresleitung über ihre Tätigkeit  
 1916–1918 (Berlin, 1920)*
- Van den Bergh Diary* *Aus den Geburtsstunden der Weimarer  
 Republik. Das Tagebuch des Obersten Ernst  
 van den Bergh, edited by Wolfram Wette  
 (Düsseldorf, 1991)*

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VJZ	<i>Vierteljahrshefte für Zeitgeschichte</i>
Völkstimme	<i>Völkstimme. Sozialdemokratisches Organ für den Regierungsbezirk Magdeburg</i>
VZ	<i>Vösische Zeitung</i>
WTB	Wolff's Telegraph Bureau
Wölff Diaries	<i>Theodor Wölff, Tagebücher 1914–1919: der Erste Weltkrieg und die Entstehung der Weimarer Republik in Tagebüchern, Leitartikeln und Briefen des Chefredakteurs am "Berliner Tageblatt" und Mitbegründers der "Deutschen Demokratischen Partei,"</i> edited by Bernd Söseman, 2 vols. (Boppard am Rhein, 1984)
WUA	<i>Das Werk des Untersuchungsausschusses der Verfassungegebenden Deutschen Nationalversammlung und des Deutschen Reichstages; Reihe 4, 5 : Abt. 2, Der innere Zusammenbruch: Die Ursachen des Deutschen Zusammenbruches im Jahre 1918. . . Teil 2 (1928)</i>
ZfM	<i>Zeitschrift für Militärgeschichte</i>