

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Le Monde

Coverage of the Maastricht Summit in German and French Newspapers



Outline



1. Coverage in German newspapers: Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
2. Coverage in German newspapers: Süddeutsche Zeitung
3. Coverage in French newspapers: Le Monde

FAZ: Discourse Analysis



- Number of articles related to the Maastricht summit per topic in the coverage from 6th December to 12th December 1991:
 - Economic and Monetary Union: 5
 - German reunification: 1
 - Common Foreign and Security Policy: 3

FAZ: Economic and Monetary Union



France tries to subdue the dominance of Germany and the Deutsche Mark → Germany accepts this



Francois Mitterrand could not await the “collectivization” of the Deutsche Mark

France and Germany both had the intention to make the defense policy part of the European Union

FAZ: German Reunification



- France's urging: political superstructure accomplished the European Union after the German reunification → *aim* was to bind Germany stronger to the European Union
- German integration in the European Union can cause European control over Germany with gradually integration process



FAZ: Common Foreign and Security Policy



- common statement of safety policy
- Germany and France: political union and common defence
- but common defence was not implemented
- PARADOX: Brussels and Paris: strength of Germany, Bonn: no balanced union, defeat

Süddeutsche Zeitung: Discourse Analysis

Süddeutsche
Zeitung

- Number of articles related to the Maastricht summit per topic in the coverage from 6th December to 12th December 1991:
 - Economic and Monetary Union: 18
 - German reunification: 4
 - Common Foreign and Security Policy: 2

SZ: Economic and Monetary Union

Süddeutsche
Zeitung

- focus of articles published in Süddeutsche Zeitung
- critique and scepticism towards EMU
- main interpretation: with EMU, France gets what it wants
- the German government should have been more strong-willed in the negotiations
- Deutschmark as a symbol of prestige, not just a currency
- yet: not participating in EMU is not an option
- critique of the timing: economies not ready, citizens left behind



Erpreßt wird, wer erpreßbar ist

Kommt die Währungsunion bestimmt oder nur vielleicht, das war die Frage in Maastricht



SZ: German Reunification

Süddeutsche
Zeitung

new impetus
for EMU (and
for political
union)

triggers a
sacrifice
Germany did
not want to
make



SZ: Common Foreign and Security Policy

Süddeutsche
Zeitung

- only marginally covered
- evaluation: only small steps achieved

Auch der Einstieg in eine gemeinsame Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik erfolgt in so kleinen Schritten, daß John Major erklären konnte, die Außenpolitik werde nach wie vor hauptsächlich mit einstimmigen Entscheidungen gesteuert werden.

Le Monde: Discourse Analysis



- Number of articles related to the Maastricht summit per topic in the coverage from 6th December to 12th December 1991:
 - Economic and Monetary Union: 25
 - German reunification: 9
 - Common Foreign and Security Policy: 5

Le Monde: Economic and Monetary Union



- The biggest number of related articles - most extensively covered topic of the Maastricht summit
- “Difficult plan loaded with hopes” = emphasis on all related problems and challenges; very critical; the will manifested (only) by heads of states
- Emphasis on the role of foreign actors/ importance of the context: UK, Denmark, Croatia, USSR, CEE...

L'union européenne, tout l'union mais rien que l'union : la formule synthétise le programme du sommet de Maastricht, tel qu'il ressort d'un communiqué diffusé, vendredi 9 décembre, par les services du premier ministre néerlandais M. Drost.

REVUE DE PRESSE D'Artagnan
est mort à Maastricht
LE MONDE | 10.12.1991 à 00h00

Le Monde: German Reunification



- Topic not extensively covered (majority of articles found under this keyword covered 'reunification' of Moldova and Romania...)
- Still, only one night before the summit, there was a 'special report' about fascist manifestation in Germany (= reference to German history very much alive...) and at the issue, the other article discussed the importance of development on German market, which is "incited by the success of French market"
- General message from relevant articles related to the topic of reunification: Last 40 years of European unification seen negatively, as "psychodrame", but chance that perspective small steps might bring positive results in the future

Vers un réveil du marché allemand ?

**ENVOYÉ SPÉCIAL : A 2, 20 h 50 "
Wahrheit macht frei ! "**

LE MONDE | 08.12.1991 à 00h00

Le Monde: Common Foreign and Security Policy



- Emphasis on the role of UK
- Establishment of political union seen as more controversial than the economic and monetary union
- 7.12.1992: CSDP provoked sharp debates between pro-europeans lead by Paris and american-atlantists from UK, the Netherlands and Portugal, however, the virulence is gone... “Idea that defence is one of Union’s objectives is now broadly accepted”

Assurer la sécurité et la défense

LE MONDE | 07.12.1991 à 00h00 • Mis à jour le 07.12.1991 à 00h00

Sources

- FAZ 09.12.1991 “Nach Dublin ist manches Vorhaben auf der Strecke geblieben“
- FAZ 10.12.1991, “Wiederbelebtes Phantom“
- FAZ 11.12.91 “Westminster als Provinzlandtag“
- FAZ 12.12.1991, “Die D- Mark über den Tisch gezogen“
- FAZ 12.12.1991, “Die künftigen Aufgaben der WEU“
- SZ 6.12.1991: „Spätestens 1999 wird die D- Mark abgeschafft“
- SZ 7.12.1991: “Keine Mark für Maastricht”
- SZ 12.12.1991: “Kohl: Durchbruch zur Europäischen Union”
- <http://www.lemonde.fr/recherche/>



Thank You For Your Attention!

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Süddeutsche Zeitung

HOMER
Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

Le Monde