STORIES FROM COLD WAR HOTSPOTS

The project

Stories from Cold War Hotspots is an international project that aims to collect stories, memories and reflections on the Cold War. The project looks towards the public to share their reflections on a historical past that has affected us all in unique ways, and that has shaped both us and the societies we live in. In order to better understand what the Cold War means to all of us, we now invite you to help us shape our understanding of the Cold War by sharing your personal stories and reflections.

The project is a co-operation between museums in Norway, Estonia, Germany, Denmark and Scotland, and will use your contributions to further research into how the Cold War has shaped Europe, both in the past and how it continues to shape the presence.

Introduction

The history of the three Western Powers in West Berlin from 1945 to 1994 is a tale filled with tension and drama. You find yourself at a former US Military compound, located in close proximity to the US Headquarters in Berlin. This museum serves as a tribute to the presence of the United States, Great Britain, and France in Berlin for nearly five decades.

During this time, Berlin was a Cold War hotspot, as evidenced by the Berlin Blockade of 1948-1949, the Khrushchev Ultimatum of 1958, and the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961. The original Berlin Spy Tunnel and Checkpoint Charlie bear witness to these events. West Berlin, completely surrounded by East German territory, remained an "Outpost of Freedom" for the Western Powers. Following German reunification in 1990, this museum serves as a reminder of the Cold War era and of Berlin's significance as one of its focal points.

- Have you heard about/of the Cold War?
- Have the Cold War impacted your life, or the life of anyone you know?
- Do you imagine the "new" Cold War can affect you or anyone you know in the future?

Please freely share your thoughts on the Cold War.

