

Political and Societal Leadership in Encouraging Reconciliation
A Comparison of Japanese and German Foreign Policies in their Neighborhoods

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**Young leaders in processes of reconciliation
and friendship politics: socio-historical
lessons from the Franco-German case**

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Background

➤ **Franco-German reconciliation is a central process in the EU History**

- It has ensured the building of the European Communities
- It has been a driving force behind European integration
- It has ensured the Franco-German Border after 1955

➤ **Franco-German reconciliation is a long-standing process**

- Post-war reconciliation took nearly 20 years (1945-1963)
- Friendship building has been achieved:
 - through bilateral institutions
 - through city twinnings
 - through civil society initiatives (teachers, trade-unions, Bars, Chambers of Commerce, etc.)

➤ **Franco-German friendship remains fragile**

- Leaders have got older and transmission is sometimes difficult
- The decrease of linguistic abilities fragilizes relations by making them more banal
- Nationalism is back in the context of the Euro crisis

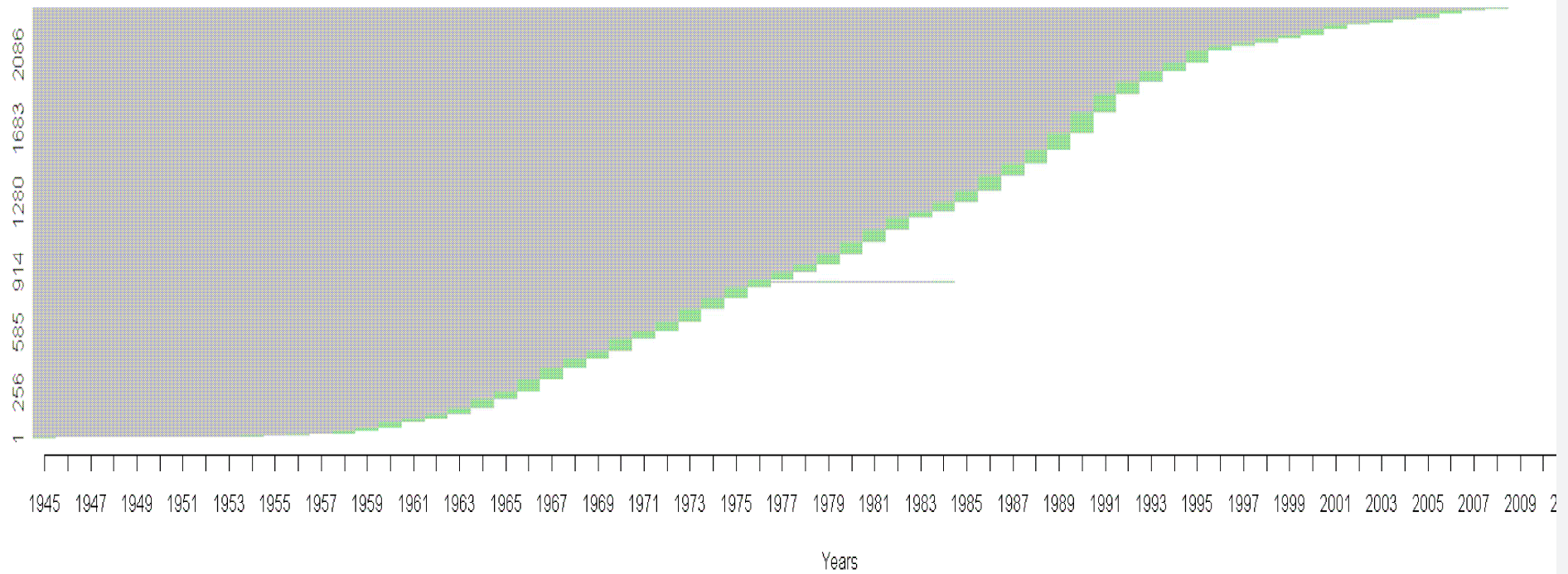
Leadership. Three assumptions

- **History matters.** Leadership emerges in social contexts which determine its orientation and its type.
 - *European context.* Free cities were melting pots of modern rights at the end of the Middle Age (Weber). The European Council of Communes made use of the past => city twinnings
 - *Post WWII context.* Cold War clivages pushed for a democratic process of reconciliation. This was achieved through cultural diplomacy (Defrance), including the Congress for Cultural Freedom (Grémion)
- **Generations matter.** Leadership is mentored: it is framed into generations (Mannheim) and intergenerational relations
 - e.g. new young mayors in German cities in the 1950s (role of the International Union of Mayors for Reconciliation/Swiss intellectuals)
 - Young journalists and intellectuals influenced by people like Joseph Rovin, Margaret Buber-Neumann, Raymond Aron, etc.
- **Memory matters.** Leadership is sensitive to the social framing of memory (Halbwachs), which has to be examined closely at each period (new agenda in Historical Research)

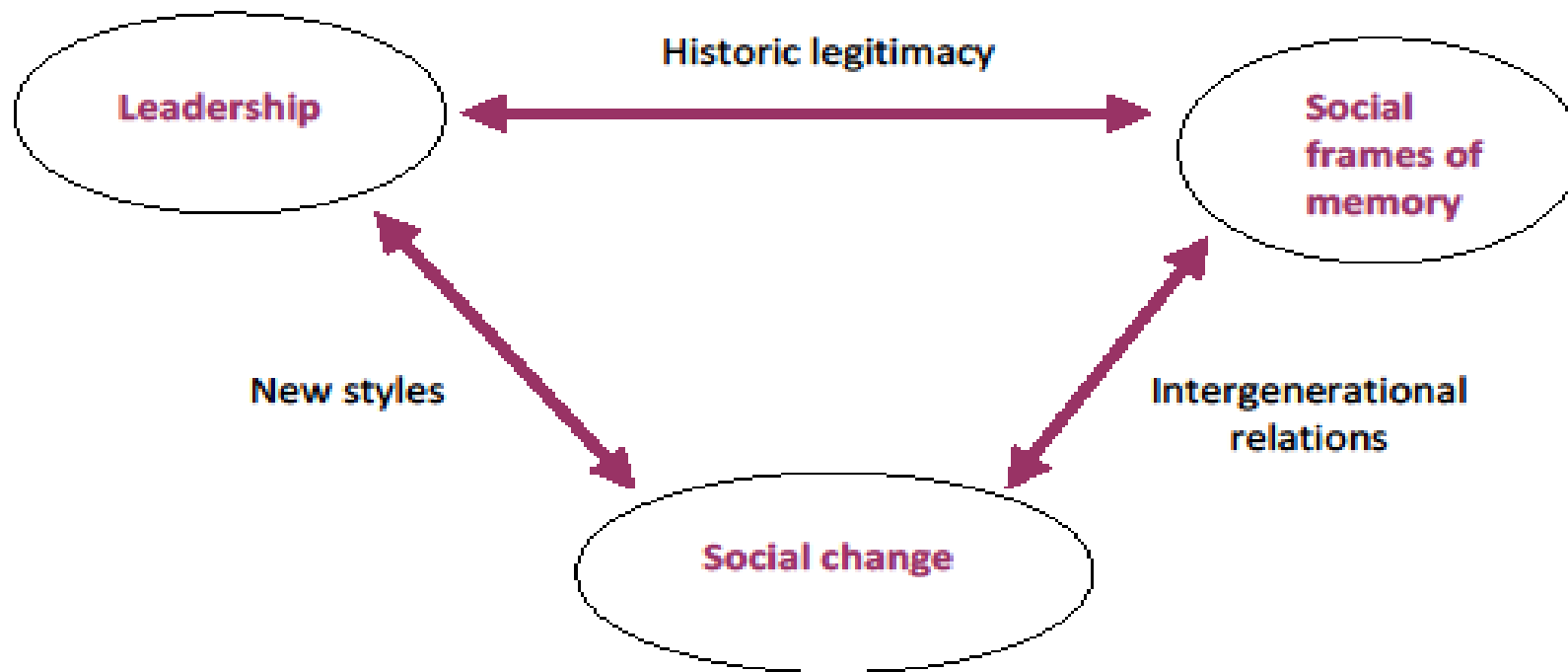
➤ Bilateral institutions matter

Year	Name	Domain
1945	BILD	Youth and popular culture
1948	Ludwigsburg Institute	Culture
1949	Internationaler Bund	Social work – Training
1958	Franco-German Research Institute of Saint-Louis	Research in Science and Defence
1963	Franco-German Youth Office	Youth
1968	Troup Exchange	Military cooperation
1972	Abibac	Education
1978	ISFATES Sarreguemines	Higher Education
1981	Entente franco-allemande	Reparation of Alsacians' forced work and mutual understanding
1986	PROCOPE	Research (all domains)
1987	Franco-German College for Higher Education	Higher Education
1988	Defence and Security Council	Military Cooperation
1988	Cultural High Council	Culture
1988	De Gaulle-Adenauer Prize	Mutual Understanding
1989	French-German Council for Environment	Ecology
1989	Franco-German Brigade	Military Cooperation
1992	Marc Bloch Center	Research in Humanities
1997	Franco-German University	Higher Education
2001	French-German Film Academy	Film Production

Chronology of Franco-German City-twinning agreements



➡ **German reunification also matters**



Societal conditions of leadership renewal

Historic legitimacy of leading Friendship initiatives

- French-German Friendship today has a strong historic legitimacy from an institutional perspective.
- But there is a difference between benefitters of bilateral and European youth policies and the rise of new young leaders
- We need to understand changes in intergenerational relations and the need for new styles of leadership

Born in	1930-1950	1950-1970	1970-1990	1990-2010	2010-2030	2030-2050
1910	Inherited Nationalism	Peace-building	Active Europeanism			
1930		Inherited peace-building	Managing European integration with a democratic and anti-communist background	Managing European enlargement with an optimistic background		
1950			Inherited Europeanism	Managing European enlargement with a strong corporatist background	Getting back to national selfishness when retiring ?	
1970				Experimenting the distortion between political values and economic realms of the enlarged EU	Exit-Voice-Loyalty dilemmas ?	
1990					Experimenting work migrations in the context of the crisis ?	

➡ Generations of leaders and intergenerational issues

New styles and social frames of memory

➤ Young leaders who emerge:

- 1/ Have been poorly mentored by the 1970 generation who has itself been poorly mentored, as it has been conceived as a generation of policy-users
- 2/ Have to face the growing skepticism towards the EU (which reframes the memory of reconciliation)
- 3/ Have to think of how not to throw the baby of Franco-German friendship with the bath water of the European crisis
- 4/ Have to face the question of work migration
- 5/ Have to invent new forms of trust-building and new styles of community-building

Conclusion: 4 lessons of Franco-German Friendship

- Franco-German reconciliation has somehow succeeded on the basis of active commitment and inter-generational support to it => Main lesson for today's Europe
- Franco-German Friendship is a non-linear process
- Uncertainties may affect the level of trust and friendship but not the security community brought out from the reconciliation process
- Security concerns imply strong commitment in Friendship initiatives