

The Transition Agreement

After the unification of Germany, the "Deutschland-Vertrag" was cancelled through a final settlement called the "Transition Agreement".

The obligation of the Federal Government to provide for the continued existence of the ITS was thus called in question. This, *nota bene*, at a time when the ITS registered the largest number of incoming inquiries for years.

In a Note of September 1990, the Undersecretary of State of the Foreign Office in Bonn confirmed for the Ambassadors of France, of the United States and of Great Britain that Chapter 7, Article 1 of the Convention on the Settlement of Matters Arising out of the War and the Occupation is still completely valid:

Displaced persons and refugees

The Federal Republic of Germany assumes the obligation:

(d) to guarantee the continuation of the work that is presently being carried out by the International Tracing Service.

Thus, the continued existence of the ITS in a form that has not been changed since 1955 is ensured.