

The main aim of the thesis is to compare (by diachronic historical comparison) the basic aspects of political, economic and social development of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), between the years 1958 and 1963 with the overlap to the year 1968. The milestone between the two periods is the building of the Berlin wall in 1961. In this context, the thesis examines to what extent the inner development in the GDR after 1961 can be seen as (non)continual. In other words, the questions asked are, whether we can see the change of the political regime and socio-economic realities in the development of the country after 1961 as a natural continuation of the previous development, even while changing its means and reformulating its goals, but retaining its original character and focus, or if we need to approach the change of the political regime as a diversion from the previous development and as such to approach it as a qualitatively different regime.