

From Basel 1912 to Stockholm 1917. Socialism and internationalism before and during World War I as illustrated by the German-Austrian Social Democracy

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The closure of parliament in 1914 meant that the German-Austrian Social Democracy, one of the leading parties within the Second International, was spared a vote on the approval of war loans and the disruptive consequences experienced by other affiliated parties. Moreover, it created the impression that the party was uncompromised. This was by no means the case. One need only consider the lacking or very belated distancing from the annexation policy of the Habsburg government and the instrumentalisation of the peace efforts of the 1917 Second International, which took place in line with the agenda of the crown and the government.

The paper attempts to critically examine the international politics of the DSAPÖ (German Social Democratic Workers' Party in Austria) from the Basel congress to the 1917 Stockholm peace conference in the context of the International's pre-war debates.