

A future you never thought possible
Born from a past you never knew



RED EUROPE

Format: Event TV movie, 90 minutes

Comparable to: Fatherland

Author: Torsten Dewi (c) 2005

Pitch

History is random. It's influenced by coincidences, flights of fancy – sometimes even the weather. Small things can have big consequences. "Alternative History" is the science of "what if?" – what if Hitler had won the war? What if Alexander the Great hadn't died at 32? What if Christopher Columbus had not been able to finance his voyage to "India"?

"Red Europe" is alternative history in a fiction format. It poses a very simple question: What if the Soviet Union had won the Cold War? And it comes up with some *very* frightening answers...

Mixing dramatizations with fake news reports and a vivid portrayal of a communist Germany, "Red Europe" will be as thought provoking as it will be entertaining. It gives a tantalizing glimpse into a past that never was – but could have been...

Backstory

In 1948, one of the first American "Rosinenbomber" trying to reach Berlin is shot down. President Truman decides that he is not going to risk American lives to protect one half of a city located deep in enemy territory. After three months of starvation, mayor Reuter has no choice but give control over West Berlin to the Soviet authorities.

The consequences snowball: The spirit of the Germans broken, their trust in the US gone, they agree to a "Re-Unification" proposal from Stalin. Truman, knowing that this would forever guarantee communist dominance in Europe, has no choice: he uses force to prevent the re-unification.

All over Europe, the Americans are losing friends fast. Based on a new doctrine, Truman decides to concentrate American trade relations on the Pacific territories.

Over the next 30 years, communism spreads throughout most of Europe. Some countries are taken by force, others by socialist parties from within. The remaining American forces in West Germany can do little but watch – even the British Queen is threatened by an anti-monarchist movement.

In 1989, the unthinkable happens: The German Democratic Republic tears down the wall between East and West Germany, paving the way for re-unification. East absorbs West, and the “Vereinigte Deutsche Demokratische Republik” (VDDR) is founded...

Story

In 2010, Germany prepares for the 20th anniversary of the re-unification. As usual, the police state will celebrate with military parades and massive propaganda. Nikolai Wassiliev, Soviet Head of State, is expected to visit Berlin. StaSi agents are everywhere.

Petra Bernhard is a young journalist from Hannover. She wants to cover the visit of Wassiliev. But she stumbles onto something bigger – a plot to assassinate all members of “Group One”, a secret organization that may have blackmailed Truman into giving up Berlin in 1948.

The more Petra investigates, the more dangerous her stay in Berlin becomes. StaSi agents, Americans, and Soviet intelligence are out to silence her – at any cost. The only person she can trust is Frank, her fiancé. It comes as a shock when she discovers that he works for the StaSi, too.

The authorities kidnap Petra's little sister to keep her from interfering with the festivities. The young woman is close to giving up, when unexpected help arrives in the form of a former French general.

Petra is determined to uncover what changed history in 1948, and if Wassiliev was truly a key figure in the events – back when he was a young Red Army officer in Berlin.

But in the end – does it matter? America is weak, Europe under communist rule, and even if the traitors are exposed – who will care?

But every big change begins with a small step.

And Petra is about to take that step...