

cooperation with the East on matters of European security.⁶⁰ Thus, public opinion in Western Europe broadly favours a productive Conference, which is also supported by "religious and pacifist circles, holders of liberal bourgeois views, trade union activists, social democrats," as well as a significant portion of the "ruling circles" and "bourgeois political parties."⁶¹ A "definite identity of standpoints" is being worked out with the socialist states on the need for all-European solutions to the security problem.⁶²

Up to this point we have been considering Soviet views of the situation to the West, as though they were an undifferentiated whole. When looked at more closely, the literature yields differences of emphasis between relatively militant neo-Stalinist and more moderate reform perceptions of Western behaviour. As might be expected, the "Atlanticist" trend and simultaneous contradictions between the United States and its allies are more salient in neo-Stalinist commentary, which is also inclined to limit to Western Europe the manifestation of interests in economic cooperation and "realistic" solutions to security problems. The neo-Stalinist thus defines the balance of forces in the West in a way that favours the exploitation of interimperialist contradictions, a weakening of NATO, and an effort to turn Western Europe politically and economically to the East by means of détente diplomacy and the manipulation of European public opinion.