

Document 30.

November 10, 1989, Prague – Statement by the Federal Ministry of the Interior press officer, on the number of East German citizens who emigrated through Czechoslovakia to the Federal Republic during November 4–10, 1989.

CTK (Czech Press Agency), Prague. Archival database, 11/10/1989.
Translation by Todd Hammond.

Statement by the Federal Interior Ministry, on travel by GDR citizens from the ČSSR.

Federal Ministry of the Interior press officer Jiří Bělohlávek told the Czechoslovak Press Agency today that on the basis of agreement between the governments of the GDR, FRG, and ČSSR, 62 500 citizens of the GDR traveled from Czechoslovakia to the Federal Republic of Germany during the period from November 4, 1989, until 12:00 on November 10. Processing on the Czechoslovak side has been going forward smoothly and without major delays. Only at the Pomezí border crossing, where more than 55 percent of all the GDR citizens were processed, have some longer lines of vehicles formed. Czechoslovak passport and customs personnel are doing all they can to speed the customs procedure for Czechoslovak citizens and other tourists.

The decision of the GDR Government to allow GDR citizens, effective immediately, to freely emigrate directly via the border crossings from the GDR to the FRG, or to West Berlin, has had no major visible effect as of 12:00 today on the border crossings between Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic of Germany.