

## **PREAMBLE TO THE WEST GERMAN CONSTITUTION**

Conscious of its responsibility before God and Mankind, filled with the resolve to preserve its national and political unity and to serve world peace as an equal partner in a united Europe, the German people in the Länder Baden, Bavaria, Bremen, Hamburg, Hesse, Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, Schleswig-Holstein, Württemberg-Baden and Württemberg-Hohenzollern, has, by virtue of its constituent power, enacted this basic law of the Federal Republic of Germany to give a new order to political life for a transitional period. It acted also on behalf of those Germans to whom participation was denied. The entire German people is called upon to accomplish, by free self-determination, the unity and freedom of Germany.

### **Art 146**

This Basic Law shall become invalid on the day when a Constitution adopted in a free decision by the German people comes into force.