

To what extent did everyday life change in Weimar Germany between 1924 and 1929?

In the 1920s, Berlin's bold cabaret clubs came to symbolise Weimar Germany's golden age. But how much did ordinary people's lives really change between 1924 and 1929? The biggest shift was an improved economy, helped by a new currency and the Dawes Plan.

The French army withdrew from the Ruhr, Germany's reparations were reduced and they were given access to American loans.

In 1924, after years of turbulence, inflation dropped and wages rose. This meant the government could invest in Germany's social safety net. They built new homes, increased pensions and expanded benefits, improving living standards.

But unemployment was still a problem. By 1926, there were 32 women in Reichstag. Some middle class urban women had shorter hairstyles, freer fashions, and often socialised independently.

More were doing office jobs than before too. But this new lifestyle was mainly concentrated in cities. On top of which, women in employment still earn less than men, didn't advance to senior roles and left work when married.

The end of censorship led to schools of art like Bauhaus. Drama and cinema thrived under creatives like Fritz Lang and a new culture of jazz and cabaret swept Berlin.

But much of this happened in the capital amongst the middle classes. Working class and rural Germans were often unaware or mistrustful of the changes.

But better living standards, social reforms and a flourishing art scene changed many people's lives between 1924 and 1929. But not everyone felt the benefits, and more conservative Germans were actively opposed.