

Economic Causes of Liberation from Soviet Rule in Poland

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The Soviet Union connected a significant number of countries but in the end, the form of government it used appeared to be ineffective, as it led to its demise. Notably, the sphere that appeared to be negatively affected by ineffective policy is the economic one, and the experience of Poland can be observed as an example of this phenomenon. In particular, under Soviet rule, the country faced significant economic issues and complications, and they played a considerable role in Poland's liberation from this system.

First of all, it is necessary to point out that the Soviet Union had a special economic system that was implemented in all countries that were its members. Notably, this approach has led to significant difficulties in managing the economic systems of countries because their peculiarities were not taken into consideration ("Poland - the Economy under Communism"). As a result, Poland in particular suffered from a lack of attention to its individual economy and the following low level of its economic development. To add more, the economic system of the Soviet Union was unified and managed in a way that country-members were dependent on the decisions and strategies of the central government and were provided with economic plans for a certain period that they had to follow ("Poland: Communist Era"). As it can be observed from the economic issues faced by members of the Soviet Union and this system in general, such an approach has a number of significant drawbacks that appear in the facts that the central regulation of the states' economies may not consider their peculiarities, not use the countries' strengths to their fullest potential, and not pay enough attention to their weak aspects. This ineffective organization affected the economy of Poland and became one of the significant reasons for the country's liberation from Soviet rule.

It is necessary to point out that the state of the Polish economy in the last years of the Soviet Union clearly displayed the significant weaknesses of the Soviet economic system. At the

end of the 1970s, the country faced a crucial economic crisis (Urban-Klaehn). In particular, the critical state of the country's economy appeared in the fact that the population suffered from an inadequate food supply and an extremely high level of the inflation. In fact, these problems had led to product exchange being used more often than money and the efforts to improve the situation by providing the community with governmental support and higher salaries (Urban-Klaehn). Nonetheless, these efforts were not effective due to the fact that the economy of the country was too weak to support the population, and this led to the worsening of the Polish economic and living conditions in general.

This situation continued getting even more critical in the 1980s. The crisis was not solved and the country's foreign debts were increasing (Dudek). The methods applied by the Soviet government appeared to be ineffective, as the Soviet approach to the economy did not suit the economic conditions of Poland. It was necessary to use other methods for strengthening the economy, and they include the privatization of small enterprises, the following transaction to the free-market economy, and as a result, a departure from the socialist economic model (Dudek).

As follows, one can distinguish several key reasons for the Polish economy becoming one of the main causes of the country's liberation from Soviet rule. These reasons include the ineffective socialist economic system, the lack of attention paid to the peculiarities and needs of the Polish economy, and the stronger inclination of the Polish economic system to the free-market economy than to the centrally planned one that was applied by the Soviet Union. In particular, the first mentioned factor appeared in the fact that the socialist economic system did not allow the members of the USSR to develop on their own and significantly limited their possibilities by introducing certain universal plans they had to follow; as a result, the Polish economy faced a crucial crisis. In addition, the lack of attention paid to the individual

peculiarities of the Polish economy can be considered to have had a significant impact on the country's departure from the Soviet Union. This ignorance did not allow the USSR to solve the economic crisis in Poland, as they used methods that did not correspond to the country's needs. In the end, the stronger relation of the Polish economy to the free-market system than to the centrally planned one appeared after the ineffectiveness of the Soviet methods of solving the country's economic crisis and the following privatization of enterprises; this approach displayed that Poland had to move toward the western way of managing economic systems.

All in all, one can conclude that economic pitfalls played a significant role in Poland's liberation from Soviet rule. In particular, there are three main economic factors led to the Polish departure from the USSR, and they are the ineffectiveness of the Soviet economic system that did not allow the Polish economy develop, the lack of attention paid to the peculiarities of the Polish economic system, and the stronger relation of the country's economy to the free-market economic system than to a centrally planned one.

References

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