



Marshall Plan help in Berlin, Germany, 1948



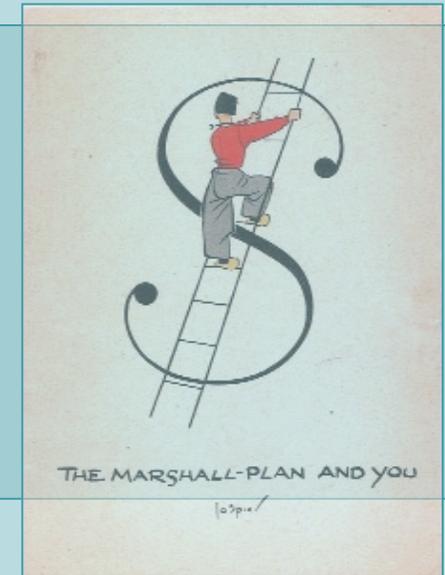
One of thousands of hungry European children



Marshall Plan: Vision of a Family of Nations

*An Exhibition of the
United States Diplomacy Center*

*United States
Department of State*



Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos. Its purpose should be the revival of a working economy

. . . to permit the emergence of political and social conditions in which free institutions can exist.

George C. Marshall, June 5, 1947

In the June 5, 1947 graduation speech at Harvard University, Secretary of State, George C. Marshall, announced his vision for rebuilding post-war Europe. Marshall's challenge was to create "some agreement among the countries of Europe as to the requirements of the situation and the part those countries themselves will take."

Sixty years after its creation, Marshall's vision is recognized as a triumph of 20th Century diplomacy that combined emergency aid, creative financing, exchange programs and persuasive diplomacy at home and abroad to create long-lasting peace.

The Marshall Plan: Vision of a Family of Nations exhibit tells the story of the Marshall Plan and how it transformed war-ravaged Europe to a continent of peaceful, prosperous nations. Produced by the United States Diplomacy Center in conjunction with the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations, the exhibit celebrates the restoration of the historic Hôtel de Talleyrand building in Paris, France, now part of the U.S. Embassy where the Marshall Plan housed its European offices.

A spirit of international cooperation fostered by the Marshall Plan endures in the modern day European Union and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) which evolved from the OEEC in 1961.

The exhibit is part of the United States Diplomacy Center's mission to highlight the history, practice and challenge of American diplomacy.



George C. Marshall in 1953, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize



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United States Diplomacy Center
2100 Pennsylvania Ave.,
NW Suite 535
Washington, DC 20037
usdc@state.gov



U.S. Navy personnel load food onto helicopters at Banda Aceh airport in northwest Indonesia for tsunami victims on January 4, 2005 through the United States Agency for International Development. USAID, the Department of State's chief foreign assistance program, had its origins in the Marshall Plan.