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Review
English reviews of the German edition "The efforts of Gerhard Hirschfeld, Gerd Krumeich, Irina Renz, and Markus Pohlmann to come up with an encyclopedia of the First World War must therefore be warmly welcomed, as the editors give an excellent overview of all relevant fields of research. The encyclopedia, which consists of a series of introductory essays, a dictionary of terms, and a short index, contains, however, much more than just an overview of the most recent findings on the First World War. The encyclopedia does not want to be just a reference book for the First World War. For its editors it is equally important that the different fields of research on the war that have drifted apart in recent years are brought back together. For them the different methods of research can yield beneficial results only if communication between the different fields of research remains intact, and the national and cultural barriers between researchers from different countries, which the editors still believe to be rather high, are overcome. Therefore the encyclopedia contains a series of introductory essays on the major belligerent countries, on society in war, on the course of the war, on the laws of war as well as the end of the war, and on the historiography of the war. the editors have to be thanked for their great work, which will for a long time be the first that a student will consult in order to get a thorough introduction to the First World War. Daniel Marc Segesser (University of Berne) in " War in History" 2006 13 (3). 405-6 "" The publication of the German-language "Encyclopaedia of the First World War" represents a major scholarly achievement. Richly illustrated with first-class maps and previously unpublished photos and propaganda material (from the archives of the Bibliothek fur Zeitgeschichte in Stuttgart) The dictionary in particular is a treasure trove. It provides solid information on international relations, domestic politics, military technology, and wartime propaganda as well as unexpected insights into aspects such as soldiers' humour or the nailing up of "war landmarks" at the home front. The selection of topics is by and large balanced. The new encyclopaedia is particularly strong on aspects an earlier generation of military historians would have considered trivial or irrelevant the cultural and social history of front and home front. The Enzyklopadie Erster Weltkrieg illustrates the paradigm shift that has occurred in military history over the last two decades the encyclopaedia also showcases the research undertaken by many internationally recognised historians. The list of contributors reads like the latest Who's Who of military history What truly distinguishes the German encyclopaedia from similar volumes is its international scope. The first part includes excellent essays on Germany, France, Belgium, Great Britain, Austria-Hungary, Russia, Italy, and the U.S.A. Yet differences in structure and emphasis between the national chapters hinder rather than facilitate comparisons." Stefan Goebel (University of Kent) in "The Journal of Military History," 2005 69 (2). 592-593 "an excellent compendium of current scholarship and an invaluable tool for those interested in the multifaceted history of World War I and the broad sweep of the new military history." Joe Perry (Georgia State University) in "German Studies Review," 2006 29 (1). 184-185"

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About the Author
Gerhard Hirschfeld is Director of the Library for Contemporary History (Bibliothek fur Zeitgeschichte) and Professor of Modern History at the University of Stuttgart. From 2000 to 2010, he was President of the International Committee for the History of the Second World War. **Gerd Krumeich** has been Professor of Modern History at the University of Freiburg and at the Heinrich Heine University of Dusseldorf. He is cofounder of the Historial de la Grande Guerre in Peronne and vice-chairman of the International Research Center of the Historial. **Irina Renz** is chief curator of the Archival Collections (including the World War I archive) of the Library for Contemporary History in Stuttgart. **James S. Corum** is Dean of the Baltic Defence College in Tartu, Estonia.

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