

Gerhard Colm Papers
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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
1996

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm83031518>

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Prepared by Donna Ellis

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Revised 2010 April

Collection Summary

Title: Gerhard Colm Papers

Span Dates: 1953-1968

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1940-1968)

ID No.: MSS31518

Creator: Colm, Gerhard, 1897-1968

Extent: 9,100 items

Extent: 26 containers

Extent: 10.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm83031518>

Summary: Economist. Correspondence, articles, congressional testimony, reports, lectures, speeches, conference papers, book reviews, notes, course outlines, bibliographies, background material, and newspaper clippings documenting Colm's career as an economic policy advisor and professor of economics at the New School for Social Research, New York, N.Y., and George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Colm, Gerhard, 1897-1968.

Organizations

George Washington University--Faculty.

New School for Social Research (New York, N.Y. : 1919-1997)--Faculty.

United States. Congress. House. Committee on Ways and Means.

United States. Congress. Joint Economic Committee.

United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on Finance.

Subjects

Economics--Study and teaching--New York (State)--New York.

Economics--Study and teaching--Washington (D.C.)

Economics.

Money--Germany.

Places

Germany--Economic policy--1945-1990.

United States--Economic policy.

Occupations

Economists.

Provenance

The papers of Gerhard Colm, economist, were given to the Library of Congress by the National Planning Association in 1970.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Gerhard Colm is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Gerhard Colm are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Gerhard Colm Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1897, June 30	Born, Hanover, Germany
1921	Doctor of Political Science, University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
1921-1927	Statistician, Federal Statistical Bureau, Berlin, Germany
1922	Married Hanna Nicolassen
1927-1933	Professor and director of research, Institute for World Economics, Kiel University, Kiel, Germany
1933	Immigrated to the United States
1933-1939	Professor of economics, New School for Social Research, New York, N.Y.
1939	Naturalized as a United States citizen
1939-1940	Fiscal advisor, Commerce Department, Washington, D.C.
1940-1946	Fiscal analyst, Fiscal Division, Bureau of the Budget, Washington, D.C.
1940-1962	Professorial lecturer, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
1946	Advisor, American military government financial reform mission to Germany
1946-1952	Chief economist, Council of Economic Advisors, Executive Office of the President, Washington, D.C.
1952-1968	Chief economist, National Planning Association
1964	Awarded Bernhard Harms Prize, Institute for World Economy, Kiel University, Kiel, Germany
1968, Dec. 25	Died, Chevy Chase, Md.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Gerhard Colm (1897-1968) span the years 1935-1968, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period 1940-1968. The collection documents Colm's career as an economic policy advisor and educator. Included are correspondence, articles, congressional testimony, reports, and speeches. The material is organized in three series: [General Correspondence](#), [Speeches and Writings](#), and [Subject File](#).

The [General Correspondence](#) series consists primarily of copies of Colm's outgoing correspondence, but there are some incoming letters as well. Topics include publication endeavors, participation in conferences and symposia, and discussions of economic theories by Colm with his colleagues.

The [Speeches and Writings](#) series contains articles, book reviews, conference papers, speeches, and lectures by Colm. Also included are Colm's testimony on economic subjects before congressional committees such as the House Ways and Means Committee, the Joint Economic Committee, and the Senate Committee on Finance.

The [Subject File](#) includes material pertaining to the organizations, conferences, and task forces in which Colm participated. His contribution to the German currency reform program following World War II is well documented. Colm's teaching career at George Washington University and the New School for Social Research is represented by course outlines, bibliographies, notes, and background material.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in three series:

- [General Correspondence, 1939-1968](#)
- [Speeches and Writings File, 1939-1968](#)
- [Subject File, 1935-1966](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-12	<p><u>General Correspondence, 1939-1968</u></p> <p>Correspondence, including attachments and enclosures, between Colm and his colleagues. Arranged chronologically by year and reverse chronological order therein.</p>
BOX 12-19	<p><u>Speeches and Writings, 1939-1968</u></p> <p>Published and unpublished texts of articles, book reviews, congressional testimony, speeches, lectures, and conference papers with related correspondence and notes. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 20-26	<p><u>Subject File, 1935-1966</u></p> <p>Correspondence, reports, notes, newspaper clippings, and teaching material. Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of organization.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-12	General Correspondence, 1939-1968 Correspondence, including attachments and enclosures, between Colm and his colleagues. Arranged chronologically by year and reverse chronological order therein.
BOX 1	Nov. 1939-Apr. 1950 (7 folders)
BOX 2	May 1950-Oct. 1951 (8 folders)
BOX 3	Nov. 1951-Sept. 1953 (9 folders)
BOX 4	Oct. 1953-Sept. 1955 (9 folders)
BOX 5	Oct. 1955-Mar. 1958 (11 folders)
BOX 6	Apr. 1958-Dec. 1960 (11 folders)
BOX 7	Jan. 1961-Apr. 1963 (12 folders)
BOX 8	May 1963-Dec. 1964 (11 folders)
BOX 9	Jan.-Sept. 1965 (9 folders)
BOX 10	Oct. 1965-Oct. 1966 (10 folders)
BOX 11	Nov. 1966-Jan. 1968 (10 folders)
BOX 12	Feb.-Dec. 1968, undated (6 folders)
BOX 12-19	Speeches and Writings, 1939-1968 Published and unpublished texts of articles, book reviews, congressional testimony, speeches, lectures, and conference papers with related correspondence and notes. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 12	Articles 1939-1954 (3 folders)
BOX 13	1955-1963 (8 folders)
BOX 14	1964-1968, undated (7 folders) Book reviews, 1944-1968 (3 folders)

Speeches and Writings, 1939-1968

Container	Contents
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BOX 18	June 1960-Feb. 1964 (8 folders)
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BOX 20-26	Subject File, 1935-1966 Correspondence, reports, notes, newspaper clippings, and teaching material. Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of organization.
BOX 20	American Assembly, 1959 American Economic Association, 1947-1954, 1961 (3 folders) American Management Association, 1958-1959 American Society for Public Administration, 1959 American Statistical Association, 1963 Amos Tuck School of Business Administration, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 1956 B'nai B'rith Women, 1960 Buchanan, James M., meeting with, 1960-1961 Commerce Department, 1956 Commission on Money and Credit Jan. 1958-Sept. 1959 (3 folders)
BOX 21	Oct. 1959-Dec. 1965, undated (7 folders) Committee for Economic Development, 1960 Committee on the Volume of International Comparisons 1940-1947 (2 folders)
BOX 22	1948-1950, undated (2 folders) Conference on Economic Planning, 1963 Conference on Policies to Combat Depression, 1953, undated Conference on the Economic Outlook and Its Fiscal Implications, 1949 Federal Reserve System, 1960-1964 Foreign Service Institute, 1963, undated George Washington University, Washington, D.C., 1943-1959 (4 folders) Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., 1958 German currency reform mission

Subject File, 1935-1966

Container

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	1946-1954 (2 folders)
BOX 23	1955-1956, undated (2 folders) Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, D.C., 1960 Inflation and growth in Latin America, 1960-1962, undated Institute for Economic Research (IFO), Munich, Germany, 1960-1964 Institute for World Economics, Kiel, Germany, 1960-1961 Interagency meeting on economic projections, 1948 Interior Department, 1948 International Affairs Seminars of Washington, D.C., 1958 International Association for Research in Income and Wealth, 1948-1950, undated Japan trip, 1960 Joint Council on Education, 1958-1959, 1964 Korea, economic stabilization, 1953 Labor Institute, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn., 1948 League of Women Voters of the United States, 1958-1966 Mackinac Island, Mich., economic conference, 1959 National Association of Tax Administrators, 1948, 1962
BOX 24	National Bureau of Economic Research, 1957-1964 (2 folders) National Citizens' Committee for a Strong America, 1958 National Conference on International Economic and Social Development, 1960 National Planning Association Correspondence and reports, 1935, 1945-1951, undated Discussion notes, 1945-1946 Schedule of meetings, visitors, and speeches, 1947-1950 National Tax Association, 1944-1950, undated (2 folders) National Transportation Policy Symposium, 1964 New Perspectives in Economics for Top Management, 1953 New School for Social Research, New York, N.Y. 1939-1949
BOX 25	1950-1963, undated (3 folders) Newspaper clippings, 1952-1961 Organization for European Economic Cooperation, 1960 Organization of American States, 1960-1965 (4 folders)
BOX 26	Pittsburgh, Pa., trip, 1946-1947 President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training, 1947 President's Science Advisory Committee, 1965 President's Scientific Research Board, 1946-1947 Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., 1953, 1959-1960 Public works as an anti-recession device, undated Reconstruction and Supply Department, Ottawa, Canada, 1947-1948 Research and the Community Symposium, 1961

Subject File, 1935-1966

Container

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 Long term economic projections questionnaire, 1960
 World economic situation, 1952
United States Navy, comptrollership development program, 1959
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich., social security conference, 1960-1961, undated
Warsaw, Poland, conference on economic projections, 1961