

AT THE LIMITS OF A MASS MOVEMENT:
THE CASE OF THE SUDETEN GERMAN PARTY 1933—1938

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Examines the internal development of the Henlein movement into a political mass movement in a small country, and the influence exerted on it by the *Reichs-deutsch* NSDAP. The analysis reveals that the strong growth of membership in the spring of 1935 resulted primarily from disappointment over the failures of Sudeten German activism in the solution of economic and national problems. Only in the second strong surge of membership, beginning in the spring of 1938, did international developments, especially the Austrian *Anschluss*, also come to play a role alongside domestic factors. It is shown that the Sudeten German party could be misused by Hitler for his own goals mainly because this Sudeten German mass movement lacked any dynamic coordinator who could have given this pluralistic movement a weight of its own.