Transcription

And the SPD were very unhappy. They had been in this grand coalition for a long time, and they found that they were paying a huge price with their supporters. They were getting less and less of the vote for reasons we'll talk about later in the course, and they announced that they were not going to participate in a grand coalition again, and they were going to go into opposition and rebuild themselves. And so Angela Merkel then spent the next six months.

The alternative for Deutschland was were and still are seen as beyond the pale. Nobody will form a government with them.

So she spent the next six months trying to put together a coalition with the Green Environmentalist Party and the so-called Free Democrats. The Free Democrats would be what we would think of as kind of in this country as Rand Paul Libertarians. They have for small government, low regulation across the board, and so it's not surprising that.

She couldn't do it because the Greens want green regulation. They want environmental regulation. That's their raison d'etre, and the Free Democrats want no regulation or certainly less regulation. So they they stumbled along in and out of negotiations. But they weren't able to form a coalition.

However, over the course of that six months, all the opinion polls showed that the Afd, the alternative for Deutschland was actually rising in popularity, and so that the German president was very against having another election in in the face of the stalemate with the Social Democrats refusing to join in a grand coalition on the one hand, and miracles inability to construct a different coalition.

On the other, they all knew that if they went for another election, Afd would do even better. So finally, after much handwringing.

The.

The SPD was persuaded after extracting a very big.

Set of concessions, including six ministries and the Finance Ministry, they were persuaded to go back into a grand coalition.