By 1936 anger at the lack of progress in anti-Jewish legislation was becoming a prominent aspect in Nazi journals and there was a resurgence of unco-ordinated violence against Jews, most prominetly in Munich and Berlin during July and August.

More conservative forces within the Nazis, led by Schacht, were concerned that these anti-Jewish riots needed to be controlled, with the best recourse being legislation.

Hitler had ordered the end of the random attacks in August, but by the time of the Nuremberg rally of September 1935 there was still no clear direction on government policy.

He had originally planned to give a speech concerning foreign policy.

However, promoted by a speech by the Reich Doctors’ leader Gerhard Wagner on 12 Sept, which hinted that a new racial policy was imminent, Hitler decided to act.

He demanded that legislation be drawn up to restrict the Jews in Germany.

Four drafts were presented, with Hitler selecting the one that would form the basis for the Nuremberg laws alongside the hastily drawn up Reich Citizenship Law.

Thus, what became the basis of Nazi racial policy was created and announced in haste as Hitler reacted to the direction of his own party.

Hitler summoned the Reichstag to Nuremberg and the parliament met on 15th Sept to pass the law.

The Nuremberg Laws made it illegal for Germans and Jews to be married or have sexual relationships and barred Jews from employing German women as domestic servants.

Jews could not display the German flag.

Critically, Jews were no longer German citizens, instead being designated ‘subjects’.

Hitler did not set out who was to be classed as Jewish and who was not until November, when it was decided that any German would be classed as Jewish if they had either three Jewish grandparents, or two Jewish grandparents and were practicing Jewish, or had a Jewish husband or wife.

It meant that a German who did not believe in god and never went to the synagogue would still be deemed Jewish if they had three Jewish grandparents.

The restrictions relating to WW1 on removing Jews from the civil service were also now lifted, and Jewish First World War veterans were removed from all state employment.

Jews were legally second-class citizens living under legal repression.

This pleased all elements within the Nazi party: those who wanted strong action against the Jews and those who wanted to use legislation instead of random violence to control the Jewish population.

For the Jewish population, it was the first step in the process of increasing legal constraints and discrimination that would progressively grow in its radicalisation over the next seven years, culminating in the horrors of the ‘Final Solution’