Statistics:

Industrial, coal and steel production peaked during 1924-29

All three peaked in 1929, and was rising 1924-1929

Foreign loans > reparations, as reparations were reduced by Young plan, and foreign loan increased by Dawes plan

Although there was a balance of payments deficit every year, the value of exports was constantly increasing, showing economic recovery.
**Reaction against Modernism:**

Rise of cinema and radio loosened people’s ties to traditional cultural environment

**Right wing opposition:**

- Believed that it by foreign and Jewish influence.
- Nazis believed Avant-garde should be destroyed
- New order needed to ensure victory of German Kultur over Americanisation
- Tougher censorship
  - Reichstag bill: protect youth from pulp fiction and pornography.
    - A list of publications which were not to be sold to <18
- Various groups made to protect authentic German culture
  - Germany’s traditional self-image of Kulturnation (nation of culture)

“militant league for German culture”- defend Germanic values

Created by Nazi Alfred Rosenberg

**Left-wing opposition**

- Many SPDs were inclined towards traditional culture rather than Avant-garde
- Communist cultural organisations
- Concern over impact of pulp-fiction on youthful minds.
- Example: communist Friedrich Wolf pamphlet “Art is a Weapon!”
  - Wanted artists to actively involve themselves in society

**Conclusion:**

- 1920s were of cultural division, just like politics. Decadence
- More and more Germans blamed economic collapse and unemployment on cultural degeneration of their nation
- National socialism wanted to bring back traditional Kultur Attack on traditional values threatening their way of life
- Against establishing democratic order- progressive social legislation, rationalisation of the economy