With the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the countries of the Soviet bloc lost a)………… ‘tutor’ and were

suddenly free to decide where to go. For all of b)………., c)………. period was extremely complex,

painful and turbulent; however, the transition was mainly perceived as ‘internal affairs’, as the

countries’ borders did not change. The only two exceptions were Czechoslovakia, which decided to

disintegrate peacefully and consensually into two independent countries, and d)…………… German

Democratic Republic (East Germany), which was integrated in the same peaceful way into the

Bundesrepublik. Whereas a Third World War had been expected with great fear during the previous

decades, the story now seemed to have reached a happy end. In the mid-1990s these countries were

already associated with the EU and e)………… joined the EU in 2004.

**-the former , they, this, their, them-**