



Recommendation 63 (1954)¹

Efforts to be made by Western Europe to put its trade with the East on a normal basis

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

Determined, to spare no effort to promote the peaceful co-existence of all the nations of the world ;

Believing that the development of East-West trade may contribute to that end ;

Noting with satisfaction the work done within the Economic Commission for Europe with a view to promoting trade relations between East and West ;

Taking into account the action of COCOM ;

Desirous of increasing co-operation between member countries for the purpose of promoting trade with the East ;

With the intention, in particular, to assure that the West is not placed at a disadvantage in trade negotiations with Eastern monopoly concerns ;

Recalling the points of view set out in the Interim Report ([Doc. 258](#)) concerning this question,

1. to adopt certain principles :
 - a. the conduct of East-West trade should be considered as part of the general policy of the West towards the Eastern bloc ;
 - b. having regard to the nature of Soviet policy, the political effects of such trade must be taken into account in addition to its economic advantages ;
 - c. subject to the foregoing considerations, Member States should encourage and develop such trade ;
 - d. no such development can take place on a basis satisfactory to the Western Powers unless they co-ordinate the conduct of their policy with regard to it ;
2. to instruct experts to consider how such co-ordination could most practically be implemented, with particular regard to the possibility of establishing a central organisation through which East-West trade would be co-ordinated and which would be open to the membership of all States of the West, whether Members of the Council of Europe or not.

1. (see [Doc. 290](#), Report of the Committee on Economic Questions). This Recommendation was adopted by the Assembly at its 26th Sitting, on 22nd September, 1954

