Recommendation 9 (1951)[1]

Establishment of a Postal Union between the Member States of the Council of Europe

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

Noting that, in the course of its examination of the question of the European Postage Stamp, the Committee on Economic Questions emphasized the importance of considering a reduction in postal charges as between the Members of the Council of Europe,

Recognising that, apart from the considerable psychological effect which might be expected, the reduction of charges to the lowest possible figure, the speedy conveyance of mail by the widespread use of air transport free from surtax, the improvement of the postal and telecommunication services and the introduction of new facilities for users, would be measures of incalculable value to intra-European trade,

Having noted that a Postal Union with an internal scale of charges exists already between two Member States of the Council, viz., France and Italy,

1. Invites the Secretariat-General to pursue without delay its examination of the problem as a whole, with the aim of assembling the fullest possible documentation on the subject and of combining the results in the form of a memorandum,

2. Recommends that the Committee of Ministers :

a. Should take all possible measures to bring about the prompt establishment of a Postal Union between all the Member States identical with that already in existence between France and Italy :

b. Should extend to telephonic communications the facilities envisaged with regard to postal communications, account being taken only of distances and not of the frontiers separating the various countries :

c. Should call for a Conference of European Postal and Telecommunication Services with instructions to achieve the above aims on the basis of the preparatory work done by the Secretariat-General.

1. This Recommendation was adopted by the Assembly at its Thirty-second Sitting, 5th December, 1951 (see Doc. 54, Report of the Committee on Economic Questions)