Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 583 (1970)[1]

Suppression of and guaranteeing against unjustifiable discrimination

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Abhorring allformsof unfair discrimination, whether by reason of race, religion, sex,colour,language, birth or other circumstances which distinguish betweenpeople;

2. Deploring all manifestation of hostility and prejudicetowardsminority groups, whether native or immigrant, as being clearly atvariance withthe principles enshrined in the European Convention for theProtection of HumanRights and Fundamental Freedoms and other internationalagreements to a likeeffect ;

3. Considering that a number ofinternational instrumentsdesigned to prevent discrimination have been concludedin recent years by theUnited Nations, the Specialised Agencies and the Councilof Europe, but that,nevertheless, their provisions are not yet fully respectedin practice ;

4. Recalling its Recommendation 453 (1966) "on measuresto be taken againstincitement to racial, national and religious hatred" andResolution (68) 30 ofthe Committee of Ministers on the same subject ;

5. Having regardfurther to its Resolution 356 (1967) and its Recommendation504 (1967) on thepolitical, social and civic position of women inEurope,

6. Urgesthose states which have not yet done so to ratify oraccede to theInternational Convention on the Elimination of all Forms ofRacialDiscrimination and other conventions directed against discriminationinemployment and education and relating to the political, social and civicrightsof women ;

7. Recommends that the Committee of Ministersinvitemember governments :

a. to re-examinetheirlegislation and practices with a view to tightening up and improvingtheirsystems for the suppression of discriminatory practices, particularly inthefields of political rights (including the ages at which political capacityisacquired), civil rights, employment and housing, and to repealing anynationallaws which have discriminatory effects ;

b. toundertake orintensify campaigns of public education designed to combatdiscrimination andmake sociological studies of its causes and remedies;

c. totake particular account of the particular interests ofminorities within theirborders and to the special needs of immigrants andmigrant workers ;

d. to speed up the process of providing fairand equal treatment forwomen workers, including equal pay, and securing thepolitical rights of women;

e. to ensure thatgovernment-controlled and nationalisedindustries and public authorities set aspecial example in avoidingdiscrimination and promoting the integration ofminority groups ; and

f. to report regularly to the SecretaryGeneral on the actiontaken on the foregoing matters ;

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1. Assembly debate on 23January 1970 (18th Sitting) (seeDoc.2703, report of the Legal AffairsCommittee). Text adopted by the Assemblyon 23 January 1970 (18thSitting).

8. 8. Recommendsthat the Committee of Ministers :

a. instruct theCommittee of Experts on Human Rights to draft anadditional Protocol to theEuropean Convention on Human Rights which wouldsecure the equal treatment ofpersons in the enforcement of the law and prohibitdiscrimination in theexercise of the following rights :

1. the rightto participate with equal votingrights in national and local elections basedon the fair delineation ofelectoral boundaries ;
2. the rightof access to employment,particularly in central and local government services,in state and semi-statecompanies and public bodies financed wholly or partlyout of central or localgovernment funds, and in private industries partlyfinanced or subsidised bystate or local bodies ;
3. the rightto the equitableallocation of dwellings and of resources required to providedwellings wholly orpartly financed out of public funds ;
4. the right of accessto the publicservice

b. submit the draftProtocol to theAssembly for its opinion before signature by membergovernments.