Recommendation 898 (1980)[1]

Memorials

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Reaffirming the continuing interest of the Assembly in the diversity of Europe's cultural heritage ;

2. Calling attention to the artistic or historical significance of the many memorials to individuals and to events throughout Europe that are not moveable objects and do not form a protected part of a building, ruin or archaeological site ;

3. Noting in particular the local relevance of many such memorials and the contribution they can make to the living community ;

4. Concerned that many memorials are disappearing without proper record or control as a result of redevelopment, vandalism or simple neglect ;

5. Believing that even where it is felt necessary to remove monuments set up by invaders or by a regime regarded as oppressive or hated, some consideration should be given to their conservation in a museum ;

6. Welcoming the interest in memorials shown by independent groups throughout Europe, and the efforts being made by religious authorities within the means available to them ;

7. Stressing the primary role of local authorities in this question and the importance of closer coordination with those also involved on national, religious or private levels in order to determine what memorials are of value and who is responsible for their protection,

8. Recommends that the Committee of Ministers associate the competent committee of governmental experts, together with the Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and non-governmental organisations, in a general study of memorials in member states which might lead to proposals on systematic recording, on protection against destruction, on responsibility for upkeep, and on informing the public of the existence and interest of memorials of local, as well as of national, value.

1. See .., report of the Committee on Culture and Education Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 3 July 1980.