Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 1180 (1992)[1]

Citizens' participation in politics

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Assembly is gratified by the opportunity it had to co-operate with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) holding consultative status with the Council of Europe in organising the conference on ‘‘Politics and Citizens" (Budapest, 15-17 May 1991).

2. It draws the attention of the Committee of Ministers to the conference's final declaration and to its own Resolution 980 (1992), which note an increasingly passive attitude on the part of European citizens towards political life and stress the need to recognise the important role of NGOs in developing participation by citizens.

3. It considers that co-operation between the Council of Europe and NGOs should help to enhance the role played by the latter in the operation of their countries' democratic institutions.

4. It notes that the resources made available to NGOs by the Council of Europe are inadequate, as are those allocated to the European Youth Centre, where organisations learn to shoulder their responsibilities towards society and the public authorities.

5. The Assembly therefore recommends that the Committee of Ministers consider increasing these resources in the next budget.

1. Assembly debate on 7 February 1992 (26th Sitting) (seeDoc. 6537, report of the Committee on Parliamentary and Public Relations, Rapporteur : Mrs Haglund). Text adopted by the Assembly on 7 February 1992 (26th Sitting).