



Recommendation 1293 (1996)¹

European Youth Centre in Budapest

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The European Youth Centre in Budapest came into operation (in December 1995) as an additional base for the expanding youth activities of the Council of Europe carried out so far in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg.
2. The building in Budapest has been generously made available by the Hungarian authorities. It is centrally located, with residential meeting facilities renovated to Council of Europe specifications.
3. This is the first institutional step the Council of Europe has taken into the new democratic countries of central and eastern Europe.
4. In addition to the usual co-managed youth activities, the Budapest Centre might also offer possibilities for wider cultural and political Council of Europe activities.
5. A management group has been set up by the Governing Board of the European youth centres to monitor developments and the Assembly is associated with this group.
6. There are many ways in which the Assembly might make use of the facilities of the centre, in particular through such activities as hearings or conferences related to young people.
7. There will inevitably be at the outset a number of practical problems. These must be progressively but resolutely overcome. In particular, full use of the premises must be secured as soon as possible as the economic viability of the centre depends on this.
8. It is important that this exciting new initiative succeed. The support of all member states is highly desirable.
9. For these reasons the Assembly recommends that the Committee of Ministers:
 - 9.1. release the full budgetary allocation for the Budapest Centre in 1996 and establish an appropriate budgetary mechanism for the future;
 - 9.2. establish a secretariat suitable for running the centre at full occupancy, taking account both of European and of current local employment conditions, and relate the administration of the centre to local market practice;
 - 9.3. invite the European Union to enter into a formal agreement for the holding of joint activities in the centre.

1. See [Doc. 7501](#), report of the Committee on Culture and Education, rapporteur: Sir Russell Johnston Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 20 March 1996.

