



Resolution 499 (1971)¹

European co-operation in the field of culture and education

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Having regard to the work of the 7th Conference of European Ministers of Education, held in Brussels from 8-10 June 1971, and noting with satisfaction the resolutions adopted by that Conference ([Doc. 2994](#)) ;
2. Expressing its satisfaction with the broad agreement reached by the Ministers on subjects so fundamental as policy and planning in post-secondary education, the mobility of students and teachers and research workers in higher education, and with the attention which they gave to the pressing problem of the education of emigrants ;
3. Noting with special satisfaction that, in accordance with the spirit of Assembly [Recommendation 567 \(1969\)](#), the Conference adopted a permanent statute, thus fulfilling one of the conditions essential to enable it to play to the full its role at the head of a system of European co-operation in urgent need of reform ;
4. Fully approving the decisions taken by the Conference which, with a view to ensuring the continuity of its work, extended the terms of reference of its Committee of Senior Officials whose task in future will consist not merely in the preparation of future conferences, but in observing the development of the situation in Europe in the field of education, in maintaining closer contact with the international organisations concerned and in the practical implementation of resolutions of the Conference, thus in fact making this committee an organ capable of taking technical decisions ;
5. Noting with satisfaction that the Conference played a useful role in coordinating the activities of the various international organisations concerned with educational problems ;
6. Again emphasising that it places great hopes in the Conference, and believing in this connection that it is essential, if the Conference is to retain its capacity to make political decisions, that the Ministers take part personally in its work ,
7. Encourages the Conference of European Ministers of Education to exercise all those responsibilities which it alone is capable of assuming at the head of co-operation in the educational field, and calls upon it to appoint to its Committee of Senior Officials, by virtue of the new terms of reference it has itself conferred on this committee, persons of a rank at least equivalent to Ministers' Deputies or heads of departments in the national Ministries of Education ;
8. Instructs its Committee on Culture and Education to establish close contact with the Conference of European Ministers of Education, and in particular its Committee of Senior Officials ;
9. Calls on its members to take all necessary steps to ensure that the Ministers of Education will be present in person at forthcoming conferences or are represented by other Ministers, and in all cases by political personages capable of undertaking responsibilities on behalf of their governments.

1. Assembly debate on 6 October 1971 (12th Sitting) (see [Doc. 3017](#), report of the Committee on Culture and Education). Text adopted by the Assembly on 6 October 1971 (12th Sitting).

