



**Resolution 531 (1972)<sup>1</sup>**

## **Freedom of expression and the role of the artist in society**

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Emphasising that freedom of expression is an inalienable right in every truly democratic society ;
2. Considering that the rapid development of the communications media lends a new dimension to the artist's role, and thus responsibility, vis-à-vis society ;
3. Believing that cultural policy must guarantee the artist's freedom of expression and protect his independence ;
4. Believing that the artist is an essential element in the framing and application of any cultural policy ;
5. Desirous of paying particular attention to the problems raised by artistic creativity in the member States,
6. Decides :
  - a. to direct its Committee on Culture and Education to organise a symposium on freedom of expression and the role of the artist in European society ;
  - b. to invite to this symposium leading figures from the world of the arts, literature and culture in general, as well as government officials responsible for cultural affairs.

---

1. Assembly debate on 20 October 1972 (13th Sitting) (see [Doc. 3185](#), report of the Committee on Culture and Education). Text adopted by the Assembly on 20 October 1972 (13th Sitting).

