



Resolution 549 (1973)¹

Meeting on the national systems of "Ombudsman" and their possible extension to the European level

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Recalling its [Resolution 505 \(1972\)](#), on the results of the Parliamentary Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna in October 1971 ;
2. Recalling its [Recommendation 683 \(1972\)](#), containing a short and medium-term programme in the field of human rights ;
3. Having considered the proposal for the appointment of an Ombudsman or Commissioner for Human Rights at the European level, tabled by Mr. Wiklund and others in January 1972 ([Doc. 3092](#)) ; 4. Noting that the institution of the Ombudsman
4. Noting that the institution of the Ombudsman or Parliamentary Commissioner at national level has witnessed a remarkable extension in Europe in recent years ;
5. Considering, however, that by accepting the obligations of the European Convention on Human Rights and by setting up the European Commission and Court of Human Rights, member States of the Council of Europe have created efficient and effective judicial machinery for the protection of human rights, and that therefore the proposal to appoint an Ombudsman or a Commissioner for Human Rights at the European level should be examined in the light of these achievements ;
6. Convinced that it would be useful, as a first step, to organise a meeting of the persons already discharging the functions of Ombudsman or Parliamentary Commissioner in member States of the Council of Europe, together with a few other qualified persons, including representatives of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights, in order to exchange information and experience on the different national systems and advise on the desirability of extending the system to the European level,
7. Decides :
 - a. to convene a meeting of persons discharging the functions of Ombudsman or Parliamentary Commissioner in member States of the Council of Europe, together with other qualified persons, including representatives of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights, for the purposes indicated above ;
 - b. to instruct its Legal Affairs Committee to organise such a meeting and submit a further report on these questions in the light of the information and advice thus obtained

1. See [Doc. 3313](#), report of the Legal Affairs Committee. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 3 July 1973

