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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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No. 061 - Making votes in the Committee of Ministers a matter of public knowledge

Written question No. 61 to the Committee of Ministers
by Mr Lujo TONCIC-SORINJ, Austria

M. TONCIC to ask the Committee of Ministers :

1. whether, in view of their statement that the " fullest possible information on then-decisions " will be transmitted to the Assembly (paragraph 41 of the January Report of the Committee of Ministers, Doc. 924), the Committee of Ministers will explain in detail why they are unable to accept Recommendation 177, paragraph 1, which asked that " the Committee of Ministers should make a practice of informing the Assembly — as permitted by Article 21 (b) of the Statute — of the votes of each Member Government on the Assembly's recommendations, provided, however, that such information may be withheld or refused when special circumstances so require " ;

2. why the practice of the Security Council of the United Nations, where the vote of each Member is public, cannot be followed in the Council of Europe; and

3. why, if each Government may individually inform its own Parliament of its position (as stated in paragraph 41 of the Committee of Ministers' report), the Committee of Ministers cannot tabulate the information and make it available all together to the Consultative Assembly.