Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Principles of European Policy

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Mr Henri ROLIN and other members of the Assembly

1. The Consultative Assembly calls upon Western Europe to make a supreme effort to put an end to the present international tension and the armaments race with its attendant risks.

2. It hopes that favourable conditions and appropriate dates for the negotiations may be fixed by a personal meeting of the Heads of State or of the Governments of the principal members of the United Nations.

3. The Consultative Assembly does not believe, however, that the pursuit of these efforts at present justifies a halt in the fullscale rearmament programme of the Western world, nor in the arrangements for improved co-ordination of its forces, with the participation of Germany.

4. There can be no agreement on the reduction of armaments, however desirable this may be, except on a reciprocal basis and subject to effective supervision. Disarmament implies confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the machinery of control; it presupposes a reinforcement of the authority of the United Nations, of which there is no immediate prospect; it must be carried out progressively and step by step with the implementation of other agreements.

5. Any modification of agreements at present in force or contemplated, or the evacuation of Germany by all or part of the occupying forces, would require the establishment of a system of guarantees no less effective—and accepted as satisfactory by all the Powers concerned.

6. No permanent régime can be imposed upon Germany; consequently, it is useless to elaborate such a régime without consulting that country. The primary objective of negotiations must be the holding of free elections throughout Germany with a view to the formation of a universally recognised representative government of united Germany.

7. The end of the occupation of Germany should, logically, be the subject of later negotiations, which should be preceded or accompanied by discussions on the evacuation of Austria.

8. In any event, Western Europe will stand firm by its intention to offer united resistance to aggression against any of its members or against non-European States party to the North Atlantic Treaty.

9. This solidarity does not imply that the European States may not make their voices heard independently in the deliberations of the United Nations, since subordination to the instructions of a given Power would inevitably impair the functioning of this international organisation.

10.Respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is considered by European nations as being indispensable for the establishment of mutual confidence and fraternal cooperation between peoples. The persistence of totalitarian régimes does not, however, justify any form of intervention. Totalitarianism will be best brought to an end in various countries on both sides of the Iron Curtain by the consolidation of peace and by the creation in the democratic States of exemplary conditions of freedom, prosperity and social justice.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

ROLIN Henri, Belgium, SOC

1. SOC: Socialist Group