

Statement by the Council of the EEC (Brussels, 26 October 1965)

Caption: On 26 October 1965, the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community (EEC) issues a statement in which the Six reaffirm their desire to pursue the process of European integration with due regard to the Treaties and the Community institutions and in which the Six invite France to take its seat in the Council once again.

Source: Western European Union Assembly-General Affairs Committee: A retrospective view of the political year in Europe 1965. March 1966. Paris: Western European Union Assembly-General Affairs Committee.

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URL: http://www.cvce.eu/obj/statement_by_the_council_of_the_eec_brussels_26_october_1965-en-1179a150-124e-4b8f-892f-553624906f52.html

Publication date: 23/10/2012

Communiqué issued after the meeting of the EEC Council of Ministers (Brussels, 26th October 1965)

I. During the meeting of the Council of Ministers which was held at Brussels on 25th and 26th October, a thorough exchange of views took place on the contents of the memorandum submitted by the Commission on 22nd July 1965, and on the general situation of the Community since the Council meeting of 30th June.

II. The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands solemnly reaffirm the necessity of continuing to implement the Treaties of Paris and Rome in accordance with the principles contained therein, in order to achieve the progressive merger of their national economies in both the industrial and agricultural sectors. This is the only policy which can enable Europe to develop, to raise the standard of living of its population and to guarantee its influence in the world. The Governments consider that the solution of the problems confronting the Communities must be found within the framework of the treaties and of their institutions.

They are convinced that the negotiations interrupted on 30th June must be resumed as quickly as possible. To this end, the delegations examined the suggestions contained in the two parts of the Commission's memorandum. They noted their agreement on the fundamental principles which, in their opinion, should enable negotiations among the Six to succeed. They instructed the President of the Council to inform the French Government of this and to appeal urgently to it to resume its place in the Community's institutions. They are convinced that it will then be possible, following the Community procedures, to adopt the regulations required in order to complete the common agricultural policy within the harmonious development of the Community.

III. Taking into account the statements made by the President of the French Republic on 9th September and by the French Minister for Foreign Affairs on 20th October, the delegations also instructed the President of the Council to invite the French Government, within the framework of the Treaty of Rome, to join them in a special meeting of the Council of Ministers at Brussels. As an exception to the usual practice, this meeting could be held with only the Ministers present, as provided for by the Council's Rules of Procedure. The agenda should be restricted to an examination of the general situation of the Communities.

It would be highly desirable that this meeting should be held as soon as possible.