

## Statement issued by the European Movement in Paris (3 May 1965)

**Caption:** On 3 May 1965, in Paris, the European Movement expresses its determination to see Europe establish the defence and foreign policy institutions that it requires in order to play a greater role on the international stage.

**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\\_issued\\_by\\_the\\_european\\_movement\\_in\\_paris\\_3\\_may\\_1965-en-90a6de62-b65c-4d06-a0a4-8c722767647a.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/statement_issued_by_the_european_movement_in_paris_3_may_1965-en-90a6de62-b65c-4d06-a0a4-8c722767647a.html)

**Publication date:** 25/10/2012

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The European Movement, in the difficult conditions which confront Europe and the world today, and in the light of disappointing experience in the recent past :

- reaffirms its belief in the aims of its founders which remain the justification for its existence ;
- emphasises, in particular, the need to press on with the process of European political integration, with the object of establishing an effective community possessing the necessary supranational powers ;
- stresses that all the free countries of Europe must be entitled to participate on an equal footing in that Community, which must be based upon democratic institutions ;
- declares that participation in a European political Community must be based upon membership of the existing European Communities ;
- observes that the traditional methods of intergovernmental collaboration have proved inadequate to secure the unification of Europe, and appeals to all democratic forces to give active support to the European idea.

Within this framework and with these aims, the European Movement wishes to make the following declaration :

1. The European Movement was formed seventeen years ago with the aim of uniting Europe, economically and politically. In the interval, economic integration has been proceeding and must continue.
2. Although the process of economic integration does not automatically lead to political unity, it must be recognised that, in present circumstances, the European Economic Community constitutes, in itself and by reason of the political consequences of its decisions, the indispensable instrument for achieving the political unity of our continent. Consequently, the European Movement emphasises the need to strengthen, both politically and economically, the existing institutions of the Community and to enlarge its membership by the admission of other European countries.
3. Although many economic questions have political implications, the European Economic Community does not deal with the general problems of external relations, which are inextricably linked with the basic problem of Europe's defence, which in turn is linked with the defence of the western world as a whole. These are problems which must be tackled and resolved.
4. Only through political unity will Europe be able to play her full part and exercise an effective influence in world affairs. A European defence policy must take account both of this legitimate aspiration and of the fact of western interdependence. It should, therefore, have two main objectives :
  - (a) to maintain and further strengthen the Atlantic Alliance, upon which the security of both Europe and America depends ; and
  - (b) to transform the existing NATO coalition of fifteen nations into a dual partnership between North America and Europe, in which each would have an equal say.
5. This policy, which accords with President Kennedy's concept of an Atlantic Alliance resting upon two

pillars, presupposes that the European pillar, now in fragments, can be unified and that Europe will be able to speak with one voice.

6. To achieve this, there will have to be appropriate institutions, through which Europe can agree a common policy in regard to the problems of the Atlantic Alliance, both political and military, and can concert plans for the joint development and production of armaments, and can evolve a common attitude towards other aspects of external relations.

7. Experience in the European Economic Community has shown the value of maintaining a continuing "dialogue" between a ministerial council, representing the governments of the separate States, and an independent body charged with the duty of studying questions from the collective European standpoint and of formulating proposals. A similar structure should, therefore, be adopted in the sphere of defence.

8. *In conclusion*, the European Movement :

(a) While noting with satisfaction the progress made in recent years towards economic integration, stresses the importance of making advance in the political sphere ;

(b) Declares that the aim remains to create a United States of Europe, capable of taking its place as an equal partner of the United States of America in the Atlantic Alliance and of exercising an important influence in world affairs ;

(c) Emphasises that Europe's basic objectives in the field of defence cannot be achieved without the participation of Britain and consequently stresses the urgent need to enlarge the membership of the European Communities by the admission of Britain and other European countries ;

(d) Anxious, in the meantime, to avoid creating a new European Community for external affairs and defence, composed partly of members of the EEC and partly of non-members, considers that, for the time being, the existing machinery of Western European Union should be used to the maximum extent and that the provisions of the Treaty should be more faithfully carried out.

9. The European Movement is giving further study to the problem of defining the objectives of European policy in regard to external relations and defence and the constitutional machinery required.