

Resolution of the Executive Committee of 'La Fédération' (15 November 1949)

Caption: On 15 November 1949, concerned at the slow progress of the European integration process, the Executive Committee of 'La Fédération', a founder member of the Union of European Federalists, sets three major priorities with a view to the constitution of a federal Europe.

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Resolution of the Executive Committee of “LA FEDERATION” (15 November 1949)

The Executive Committee of “LA FEDERATION”, meeting at its headquarters, 9 rue Auber, in Paris, on 15th November, 1949:

Recalls that “LA FEDERATION”, founded in October, 1944, to work for the establishment of a more just and free society, played an active part in 1946 in the foundation of the European Union of Federalists, the first international organisation of this nature, and has always assisted to its fullest extent in the development of the great European movement;

Notes that the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, whose conclusions, in spite of their timidity, laid down the general lines of a constructive agreement, stressed the need to establish a European political authority;

Makes vigorous protest against the recent decisions of the Committee of Ministers, which referred the Recommendations of the Consultative Assembly for study to non-European organisations, which are not fully qualified to accomplish this task;

Desires that M. SPAAK and his colleagues on the Standing Committee of the Consultative Assembly should increase the prestige and strengthen the powers of this Assembly to prevent the recurrence of such decisions;

Affirms that the speedy conclusion of a political and economic union of Europe, and of its overseas territories, was never more necessary for the prosperity of the peoples concerned and the safeguarding of the peace of the world.

To this end, the Executive of “LA FEDERATION” draws the attention of Governments, Parliaments and all citizens, to the urgency of three essential tasks:—

(a) to define the relations between the European Union and Great Britain, bound by its special relations with the Commonwealth; consequently, to establish carefully-balanced methods of agreement, which will respect legitimate interests and traditions;

(b) to integrate Federal Germany in a Federal Europe as the sole means of ensuring the security of the Continent; in this field, it is particularly for France to take the necessary initiative;

(c) to establish the basis for a true European Federation through a Federal Pact, setting up the first institutions of a political authority of limited scope but having real powers, a supreme Court of Justice, a stable Executive, a popular Assembly, a Council of States, territorial, economic and social, and cultural councils.