

Budapest Declaration of the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly (5 July 1992)

Caption: The inaugural session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) is held in Budapest on 5 July 1992.

Source: Budapest Declaration of the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 5 July 1992. [ON-LINE]. [s.l.]: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, [13.08.2003]. Available on http://www.osce.org/pa/annual_session/budapest/budapest_declaration_english.pdf.

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URL: http://www.cvce.eu/obj/budapest_declaration_of_the_csce_parliamentary_assembly_5_july_1992-en-d03b65fb-0a68-4135-bdd7-9a43427371d8.html

Publication date: 23/10/2012

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The CSCE Assembly acknowledges and expresses its appreciation for the work of the Parliaments of Hungary and Spain as well as of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the North Atlantic Assembly which have provided invaluable assistance for the preparation and the running of this inaugural session in Budapest.

Resolution of the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly

With a view to stop the bloody flow from the Dniester banks, the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly

- 1.) Requires urgent cease-fire between the parties involved in the conflict from the Eastern part of the Republic of Moldova;
- 2.) Asks immediate measures in the respect to obtaining the neutrality of the 14th Army of Russia, which is placed with no legal status on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, independent and sovereign state, member of United Nations, with a view to obtain, as soon as possible, its complete withdrawal.
- 3.) Requires from the Council of Ministers of the CSCE to adopt proper measures in order to fulfill the above.

We, parliamentary representatives of the CSCE participating states met in Budapest on July 3-5, 1992, as the parliamentary forum of the Charter of Paris to offer our advice to CSCE Ministers.

We welcome the representatives of the new CSCE participating States, sharing our principles and values.

We recognize that the management of change can only be successful if pluralist parliamentary democracy, respect for human rights, including minority rights, the rule of law, economic freedom and social justice gain deep roots in our countries and respect for these values is translated into everyday practice.

Aggressive nationalism, violation of minority rights, uncontrolled armed forces and the enormous difficulties accompanying the transition to market economy threaten the stability in the CSCE area and our objective to bring peace, democracy and prosperity to it.

The CSCE has returned to Helsinki after two decades to embark upon a new path full of opportunities and challenges. The CSCE Parliamentary Assembly wishes all success to the Meeting of Heads of Governments of the CSCE participating States to be held on July 9-10, 1992 and brings to their attention the following declarations and recommendations adopted by the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

Chapter I — Security questions

The CSCE and European Security

1. Security and stability in today's Europe are dependent on political, economic and environmental, as well as military factors. The major sources of instability are the deteriorating economic and social conditions in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) as well as political and nationalist (ethnic) disputes which have resulted in several violent and bloody armed conflicts. Europe must find the means to deal with this endemic instability. The most urgent task is to assist the political and economic reforms now under way in CEE. The failure to improve social conditions will ultimately undermine public support for democracy with serious consequences for the whole of Europe.
2. The deepening of democratic processes represents an essential factor in the reinforcement of European security. Human rights compliance represents an integral element of the European security system. There can be no secure system in any region where there is the violation of essential human rights, including those of national minorities.

3. The CSCE is the only European and transatlantic organisation both in terms of membership and mandate that is able to address the multiple sources of instability in Europe. However, the institutional structures and procedures of the CSCE must be further strengthened. In particular the CSCE must be given the procedures and means to act effectively in preventing and resolving conflict situations both within and between states. These means should include the ability to mandate clearly and precisely peace-keeping activities.
4. As the only institution that embraces all European and North American countries, and with its comprehensive mandate, the CSCE must represent the hope and the future as the framework in which Europe's security concerns can be addressed effectively. At the same time, the CSCE should make use of the organisational capabilities, experience, and infrastructure of regional organisations, such as the WEU, NATO, the EC, and the Peacekeeping Mechanism of the CIS.
5. Armed forces will continue to perform an important function in all countries. In view of the existing tension in many parts of Europe the size, structure and deployment of these forces could be a potential source of friction. It is understood, and in compliance with the CSCE principles and aims, that peace and security are established among all CSCE member states; therefore, it is necessary to withdraw without delay any troops or forces of any CSCE country which are stationed or occupy illegally part of another CSCE country, thus terminating such situation that may exist. Arms control has a key role to play in minimizing misunderstanding and encouraging mutual confidence. The new Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) should build on the CFE Treaty and the existing CSBMs to further reduce and constrain the levels and types of armaments, increase security dialogue and develop cooperative measures that emphasize transparency and openness of military forces and activities.
6. Nuclear weapons are still kept but with roles that are now much more difficult to define; the traditional concept of nuclear deterrence is substantially diminished. All efforts must now be directed at preventing proliferation and ensuring that such weapons are at the lowest possible levels. A new and sensitive approach to the management, reduction, destruction, and elimination of nuclear weapons is an all-CSCE concern.
7. Constraining the proliferation of weapons and weapons technology demands more creative and cooperative action within a CSCE frame work. With regard to nuclear and chemical weapons, cautious optimism is in order, though continued vigilance is essential. However, on the question of the proliferation of conventional weapons and technologies, serious dialogue must begin within the CSCE. The establishment of a Working Group of the FSC is recommended.
8. The reduction and restructuring of armed forces and the consequent contraction of defence industry are causing economic and social problems in all countries. These problems are particularly severe in countries in CEE. Western cooperation and assistance is urgently needed. In particular Western nations should give serious consideration to providing special assistance to the CIS countries in order to facilitate the speedy withdrawal of the former USSR forces from the Central and East European countries. In this context, the withdrawal of former USSR troops still remaining on the territories of the Baltic states without their consent has to be completed in the shortest terms and under international observation provided by the assisting countries. It must be also taken into account that a timely solution of the social and economic problems of military personnel is a necessary condition for maintaining stability during the withdrawal of military forces.
9. Democracy is the best guarantor of peace. It is essential that armed forces in all countries are subordinate to democratic civilian governments. Elected parliaments must have the ultimate authority and responsibility for the activities of the military forces.
10. The Parliamentary Assembly states that the present evolution of the situation regarding security in Europe demands a new examination of the objectives and procedures of the CSCE. It considers that it is necessary to go beyond the Charter of Paris and to envisage a security structure more coherent and more binding.

The Parliamentary Assembly wishes to transform the CSCE into a regional security organization as provided

for in Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter and to give it a legal base.

11. The deep-going political transformations in Central and Eastern Europe should in no way weaken the already achieved success of the CSCE process that has led to increased military security in Europe. Countries of the CSCE that have not yet ratified the CFE Treaty are urged to do so as soon as possible and fully implement it. Levels of military personnel (including paramilitary units) should be declared by all member states.

12. Parliaments and parliamentarians of the CSCE should participate more actively in the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts. When regional tensions arise, multilateral meetings of parliamentarians of countries concerned should be arranged to foster democratic and peaceful solutions. In this task, the assistance of the CPC in Vienna and ODIHR in Warsaw could be useful.

13. Prevention and containment of conflicts should continue to be the permanent task of the CSCE processes and structures. The idea of mandatory conciliation and arbitration should be encouraged, including the possibility of establishing a special forum or chamber for the purpose.

14. We wish that the CSCE continues its efforts in order to settle peacefully conflicts and establishes a convention which reinforces the conciliation and arbitration procedures.

15. The Committee acknowledges and appreciates the work of the North Atlantic Assembly in the preparation and functioning of the meeting of the Committee. The Committee looks forward to a continuation of this cooperation.

The presence of the former Soviet army in the Baltic countries

The CSCE parliamentary assembly:

1. Aware of the legitimate desire of the Baltic nations to live within sovereign states, and the incompatibility existing between this desire and the presence of foreign armed forces on their national territory;
2. Having in particular taken note of the results of the referendum as a result of which a great majority of Lithuanians declared themselves in favour of a withdrawal of ex-Soviet forces from their national territory;
3. Noting that some 130,000 ex-Soviet army soldiers are still stationed on the territories of the Lithuanian Republic, Estonia and Latvia;
4. Fearing that this situation could, with time, create tension between states of a nature to jeopardize peace and security in this part of Europe;
5. Having taken note of President Yeltsin's commitment to accelerate negotiations around the timing of retreat;
6. Aware of the internal economic and social problems caused within the Community of Independent States by a return to their home country of ex Soviet armed forces, particularly with regard to housing;
7. Supporting the idea of a European political order within which all human rights and those of national minorities in these states are fully respected in accordance with the provisions of the UN Charter on Human Rights and all CSCE documents in this field.

Invites : - the Russian government to finalize as soon as possible the return home of all ex-Soviet army forces present on the territories of the Baltic States;

- the governments of the member states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to adopt

all necessary measures with a view to granting financial assistance for the return home of these armed forces, and to negotiate the conditions with all concerned parties.

New mechanisms for CSCE peacekeeping

The CSCE parliamentary assembly:

1. Deplores the continuing violence and conflicts that are unfortunately occurring between members of the CSCE
2. Considers that the CSCE must give priority to developing effective mechanisms for initiating peacekeeping operations capable of preventing conflict
3. Recognising that the CSCE currently lacks the means to undertake such peacekeeping missions itself
4. Urges the Council of Ministers to address urgently making collaboration arrangements with other multilateral organisations and individual member countries which have the means to undertake peacekeeping missions and which could respond to calls from the CSCE and establish the mechanism to begin working on the planning and coordination of peacekeeping efforts

CSCE and environmental cooperation

The CSCE parliamentary assembly:

1. Considering that security means more than military security and that security has an environmental aspect;
2. Aware of the interdependence between the military and the environmental sectors and that military resources could be used in the fight for a better environment;
3. Referring to the report presented by the UN Secretary General to the UNCED Invites member countries and defence organizations to study the possibilities of - within the framework of the CSCE - integrating military-related resources into environmental strategies, using military means to strengthen the quick response capabilities for dealing with environmental emergencies, and using military means for environmental impact-assessment and decision-making.

Chapter II — Economic questions

Economic cooperation

1. We, the parliamentarians, assembled together from the CSCE participating States, representing our citizens, both men and women, and conscious of our many cultural, political, national - and economical diversities, are committed to advance the interests of our peoples by democratic means and international cooperation. As elected parliamentarians we recognise the fundamental importance of soundly based economic systems which will enable individuals freely to pursue their own interests.
2. We feel that a market economy, democracy and government by rule of law are elements that belong together and are inseparable values. We understand that the essential elements of a market economy are private ownership, contractual freedom, free competition, free trade unions, free formation of prices. Such a free and social market economy means an appropriate mix of public and private instruments and must respect social justice and take into account the ecological and welfare needs of the human being, working towards full employment.

3. We recognise in particular that the Europe under the CSCE must demand without delay the construction of an economic framework that will rapidly provide the essentials of democratic economic development. 4. Due to the growing interdependence of the national economies, it is more and more important to create the basic conditions for the reinforcement of European security, through the achievement of non-inflationary and environmentally-friendly economic growth, full employment and the dismantling of protectionist obstacles to the movement of capital, goods, people and ideas among CSCE participating states. In this context it is vital that the GATT negotiations should conclude rapidly with significant and positive results.
5. The recent efforts of the European Community and the EFTA member countries to create an European Economic Area constitute an important step towards the future integration of the new Central and Eastern European democracies. It is also essential that the CSCE participating States mutually open up their markets.
6. It is evident that the transition from a planned and controlled economic system to a free and social market economy is complex and is connected with considerable risks and dangers. Therefore it is essential to proceed in a responsible and balanced manner in order to avoid irreparable economic, social and ecological distortions.
7. Although we admit that the economic gap between the EC member states and the economies in transition of Central and Eastern Europe and the countries of the CIS is still very wide - making their accession to the EC in the short term very difficult - we consider it essential that new association agreements with the Community be concluded and that existing ones be improved so as to institutionalise stronger European economic cooperation; it is urgent to eliminate the wide economic disparities between nations with very strong historic bonds on each side of Europe, though they have been apart in most of this century for ideological reasons.
8. On the other hand, the CSCE should make full use of the experience and competence of such institutions as the Council of Europe, the North Atlantic Assembly, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Economic Commission for Europe of the United States and the Commission of the European Communities with a view to introducing or strengthening market economies in Central and Eastern Europe and the countries of the CIS and to creating the instruments for cooperation and development.
9. In order to make relations between all CSCE participating states more effective and transparent, we invite the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the - Commission of the European Communities and other international and national bodies concerns (e.g. ECE-UN, OECD, IMF, World Bank, Chambers of Commerce) to present regular reports on plans and projects concerning cooperation with the CSCE economies in transition, wishing to develop free market economy without jeopardizing for too long the well-being of their populations. In order to increase the effectiveness of international aid and cooperation, the countries and organisations concerned should better coordinate their various assistance programmes.
10. Although the economic conjuncture is not very encouraging, since there are no firm signs yet of an economic upturn in the industrialised countries, we believe that the next G7 Summit to be held in Munich in July 1992 should decide on the various ways of helping Central and Eastern Europe and the countries of the CIS, notably with regard to practical measures (e.g. business and management courses, legal cooperation, privatisation, stock-markets, venture capital, investment guarantees, triangular forms of cooperation).
11. In order to promote balanced development in the CSCE countries in transition greater attention should be paid to setting up new forms of cooperation designed to improve the infrastructure - notably with regard to communications and increase these countries' capabilities in the field of public and private research. In this respect CSCE member governments should consider the conclusion of cooperation agreements.
12. Furthermore, we believe that the universities and technological institutes of EC and EFTA countries and the USA and Canada should set up joint cooperation programs with similar institutions in the countries of

Central and Eastern Europe and of the CIS.

13. We congratulate the Council of the CSCE on the setting up of an Economic Forum in the framework of the Committee of Senior Civil Servants and request to be associated with its work as the representatives of the parliaments of the CSCE member States.

14. We believe that the transition towards political and economic liberalisation in the CSCE countries in transition should be backed by special programmes in order to reduce the high risks of pollution they have to face, as a result of bad infrastructures and inadequate energy and industrial policies.

15. Finally, we invite each national parliament to devote every year a session or a debate to the state of progress in CSCE cooperation.

Chapter III — Human Dimension questions

The Human Dimension

A. The CSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

1. Stresses the importance of the parliamentary dimension of CSCE and the need for parliaments to follow the work more closely;

2. Expresses its concern that existing CSCE mechanisms such as the improved Moscow Mechanism on the Human Dimension are not sufficiently used;

3. Stresses the need to avoid unnecessary duplication and to make full use of the experience of existing organizations, and especially the Council of Europe;

4. Recognizes the valuable contribution of the Women's CSCE Seminar in Helsinki, held on 4-5 June 1992 and stresses the importance of the active participation of women in the work of the CSCE, including in its institutions;

5. Recognizes the important contribution to the Human Dimension made by NGOs;

6. Believes that the current situation in Europe urgently demands the strengthening of the CSCE Conflict Prevention Mechanism;

7. Urges the Council of Ministers to focus on concrete action and results by implementing existing provisions and making full use of existing mechanisms, ahead of the creation of new ones;

8. Requests the Council of Ministers to authorize the office on Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to organize seminars on the development of democratic institutions, migration and the role of women in the political process.

B. The CSCE Parliamentary Assembly

1. Considers that the problems of minorities are the heart of the questions of human rights which concern all States and that in many regions of Europe conflicts concerning minorities are simmering, the eruption of which could seriously threaten peace in Europe;

2. Recognizes that in any case since the meeting of experts on national minorities in Geneva (1991), intervention to help national minorities is no longer considered an interference in the internal affairs of the State in question;

3. Welcomes the existing proposals for the establishment of an office of a High Commissioner on National

Minorities;

4. Believes that CSCE observer missions could form an efficient and appropriate means to give minorities a feeling of protection and alert the authorities of the countries concerned to their responsibilities towards minorities;

5. Recommends that the CSCE send observers, including parliamentarians active in CSCE matters, to Kosovo and Vojvodina and other threatened regions to monitor the protection of minorities. The CSCE should send observers before conflict erupts.

Chapter IV — Declaration on Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia

The CSCE Parliamentary Assembly

A.

1. Strongly condemns continuing violence in the former Yugoslavia, in particular in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Although blame attaches to all parties, the greatest share falls to the leadership of Serbia and the Bosnian Serbs;

2. Condemns the continued violation of CSCE commitments by the authorities of Serbia and the denial of fundamental rights and freedoms of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, and of Hungarian, Muslim and other minorities on the territory of Serbia, especially in Vojvodina, and of Montenegro.

3. Furthermore condemns the attacks on convoys and personnel of international humanitarian organisations trying to bring relief to the afflicted population in Sarajevo and other places in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and demands that violators of humanitarian law be held personally accountable for these violations;

4. Endorses Resolution 757 adopted by the UN Security Council on 30 May 1992 imposing sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

5. Estimates that the members of CSCE have to make all possible efforts to ensure that the United Nation's embargo against Serbia and Montenegro is respected and in order to bring their support to democratic forces in Serbia opposing the policy of the Government;

6. Estimates that in case these measures are not sufficient to obtain a ceasefire, further actions will have to be considered and carried out in order to have international law, human rights, and the rights of minorities respected; and in order to protect the cultural heritage of humankind;

7. Endorses efforts of the Conference under Lord Carrington's chairmanship and expresses the desire that political negotiations be speeded up so as to solve the remaining legal questions;

8. Expresses support for all UN Security Council measures, including the deployment of Peace-keeping forces, for effective delivery of humanitarian assistance and dismayed at continuing hindrance of humanitarian aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina;

9. Supports calls for Croatia and Serbia, as well as Croatian and Serbian militia to withdraw their armed forces to positions held prior to the outbreak of hostilities in 1991 and to cease hostile activities within or adjacent to UN protected areas;

10. Calls for the simultaneous withdrawal of all military units and paramilitary troops from all non-UNPA areas (so-called "pink areas"), occupied by Serbian forces; 11. Calls for the withdrawal of all occupation forces from the Dubrovnik area;

12. Calls on the UN peace-keeping forces (UNPROFOR) immediately to take control in the UNPA (United Nations Protected Areas) to enable the return of refugees to their homes;
13. Urges all parties and others concerned to honour their commitments to effect a complete cessation of hostilities and to implement the United Nations peace-keeping plan;
14. Expresses concern over the intolerable situation of the large number of displaced persons in the region;
15. Notes that the claim of Serbia and Montenegro to retain the status of the State of former Yugoslavia has not been accepted and should be resolved according to international law, in particular the Vienna Convention on State Succession;
16. Calls for the short-term recognition of all the former Yugoslavian Republics which correspond to the criteria of international law;
17. Urges all states to support relief efforts and to contribute generously to the planning and reconstruction of industries, farms and towns destroyed during the hostilities;
18. Calls upon CSCE Ministers to consider all necessary action to end the clear violations of the Paris Charter.

B.

1. Expresses its deep astonishment and grave concern over the forceful displacement of the population of non-Serbian ethnic origin from Bosnia-Herzegovina forcing them to emigrate to neighbouring countries.
2. Recommends that an independent team of observers should be dispatched to the regions of armed conflicts in order to monitor the situation concerning refugee problems and in particular the information received about the forced displacement of non-Serbian ethnic minorities;
3. Invites the ODIHR (Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights) to monitor respect for the rights of persons in Croatia belonging to national minorities;
4. Invites all States and international organisations concerned to expand their humanitarian assistance to the neighbouring States of the former Yugoslavia which are the receiving countries of the ever-increasing number of refugees.
5. Urges the taking of concrete action that would permit the resettlement of Bosnian refugees, such as the establishment of safe havens within Bosnia-Herzegovina.