

Recommendation 293 of the WEU Assembly on European union and WEU (Paris, 29 November 1976)

Caption: On 29 November 1976, the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) adopts Recommendation 293 on European union and WEU, asking the WEU Council to examine the new tasks of the Standing Armaments Committee (SAC) and to oversee the coordination and transmission of information between the SAC and the independent European Programme Group (IEPG), an ad hoc group set up in 1976 by the European countries in the Atlantic Alliance.

Source: Assembly of Western European Union. 'Recommendation 293 on European union and WEU (Paris, seventh sitting, 29th November 1976)' in Proceedings: Twenty-second ordinary session: Second Part, Vol. IV, Minutes: Official Report of Debates. Paris: Assembly of WEU. November 1976, p. 21.

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Last updated: 25/10/2016

RECOMMENDATION 293
on European union and WEU

The Assembly,

Welcoming the decision taken by the European Council to elect the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage as from 1978 ;

Regretting the European Council's slowness in considering and implementing the Tindemans report ;

Recalling its Resolution 59 ;

Considering that the decision taken by the WEU Council on 31st May 1976 can help to develop the activities of the future European union in the field of armaments industries ;

Noting that this undertaking requires close co-operation between WEU and the European programme group ;

Considering that the co-ordination of European armaments industries can produce satisfactory results for the European economy and for the common defence in the framework of the Atlantic Alliance only if started without delay,

RECOMMENDS THAT THE COUNCIL

1. Study at an early date the outline programme which is to be submitted to it by the Standing Armaments Committee in order to be able to determine that body's new tasks as soon as possible and at the latest at its ministerial meeting in 1977 ;
2. Pay close attention to co-ordinating this undertaking with the work of the European programme group and have the latter's decisions communicated to it or be kept informed, through the international secretariat of the SAC, of the activities of that body in matters affecting the mandate of the SAC ;
3. Report to the Assembly in the appropriate manner on the results of the studies conducted by the Standing Armaments Committee and the decisions it takes in pursuit thereof ;
4. Invite the signatory countries of the North Atlantic Treaty who are members of the EEC or associated with it under Article 238 of the Rome Treaty to take part in the study to be undertaken by the Standing Armaments Committee.