## Draft reply to Recommendation 374 of the WEU Assembly prepared by the French delegation on the reappraisal of global dangers to western peace and security (London, 5 February 1982)

**Caption:** On 5 February 1982, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates a draft reply prepared by the French delegation to WEU Assembly Recommendation 374 on the reappraisal of global dangers to western peace and security. The WEU Council emphasises that it is paying particular attention to the development of relations between East and West and notes that the WEU Member States are in favour of any political consultation mechanisms that would enable a common assessment to be made of crisis situations endangering international peace. The Council believes that it is impossible to dissociate the security of the areas covered by the North Atlantic Treaty from that of other parts of the world. The Council's final reply reproduces the French proposal in its entirety (C (82) 46).

**Source:** Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General's note. Recommendation 374 on the reappraisal of global dangers to western peace and security London: 05.02.1982. WPM (82) 8. 4 p. Archives nationales de Luxembourg (ANLux).http://www.anlux.lu. Western European Union Archives. Secretariat-General/Council's Archives. 1954-1987. Organs of the Western European Union. Year: 1982, 01/12/1982-30/10/1982. File 202.413.29. Volume 1/1.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft\_reply\_to\_recommendation\_374\_of\_the\_weu\_assembl y\_prepared\_by\_the\_french\_delegation\_on\_the\_reappraisal\_of\_global\_dangers\_to\_western\_peace\_and\_security\_london\_5\_february\_1982-en-9be832ce-7695-454e-a44f-695939d36bda.html



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# WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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Original: French

WPM (82) 8

5th February, 1982

#### SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Recommendation 374 on the reappraisal of global dangers to western peace and security (C (81) 161)

The Secretary-General circulates herewith a draft reply, prepared by the French delegation, to Recommendation 374 on the reappraisal of global dangers to western peace and security.

This draft will be considered at a forthcoming meeting of the working group.

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## Draft reply to Recommendation 374 prepared by the French delegation

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The Council intend to act in order to maintain the global balance of forces, which is the condition for ensuring peace, if possible at the lowest level. In this spirit, the W.E.U. member countries support the holding of megotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union concerning their respective nuclear arsenals and designed to lead to significant and verifiable reductions and limitations.

The Council, however, are clearly aware of the considerable and continuous growth of Soviet military power and offensive potential which today is evident, in particular, in the sphere of the medium-range weapons directly threatening western Europe. This is especially true in as much as this new element in the Soviet arsenal, which may affect the strategic balance between East and West, adds to the Soviet Union's increasing ability to deploy its potential on a global scale. The W.E.U. member countries are therefore determined to maintain their deterrent potential at the required level.

/The Council, ...

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The Council, at the appropriate moment, will examine in depth and with the aim of efficiency, the action to be taken on the study conducted by the Standing Armaments Committee on the "Armaments Sector of Industry in the W.E.U. member countries". This study, in fact, should enable the governments of the W.E.U. member countries to move towards greater cooperation in their programmes and military investment expenditure.

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The Council of W.E.U., which, under the terms of Article VIII of the modified Brussels Treaty, are the political decision-reaching body, wish to point out that they have always endeavoured to carry out fully and rigorously the tasks devolving upon them. In this spirit, they pay particularly close attention to the various aspects of the development of East-West relations and in this connection examine the possible sources of tension or crisis and the means of remedying them. This is also true of the North Atlantic Council. It is impossible to dissociate the security and welfare of the peoples living within the zone covered by the North Atlantic Treaty from events occurring in other parts of the world. The W.E.U. member countries, therefore, support any machinery for concerted

/political action ...

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political action which would enable a common assessment to be made of crisis situations endangering international peace, whenever they consider it necessary. They point out, however, that it is up to each member country to define the contribution that it can make to establish a more stable and just international order, thereby avoiding the extension of the rivalry between the Great Powers to the Third World.

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