## Reply by the WEU Council to question 146 put by a member of the Assembly on political consultations between Western Europe and the United States (London, 27 September 1974)

**Caption:** On 27 September 1974, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates the final reply by the WEU Council to question 146 put by John Rodgers, a member of the Assembly, to the WEU Council. The member asks whether the Council considers it desirable to establish permanent political consultations between Western Europe and the United States. The document incorporates most of the French and British proposals made in the draft reply (WPM(74)21/1). The Council emphasises that the question of consultations is an important point which has been discussed by the nine Member States of the European Communities in connection with their foreign policy cooperation. It refers to paragraph 11 of the Declaration on Atlantic Relations (the Ottawa Declaration), signed in June 1974 by the Member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, which lays down the scope and spirit of these consultations. The Council also notes that there are other existing multilateral channels for this type of consultation, for example the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It therefore does not see the need to introduce other permanent political consultations between the United States and Western Europe.

**Source:** Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-general's note. Written question 146 put to the Council by a member of the Assembly. C (74) 153. 2 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: 1974, 01/05/1974-30/10/1975. File 202.424.22. Volume 1/1.

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# WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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<u>C (74) 153</u> 27th September, 1974

Original: English/French

#### SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

## Written question 146 put to the Council by a member of the Assembly

The Secretary-General circulates herewith the Council's reply to written question 146 put to the Council by Sir John Rodgers (cf. C (74) 116).

This reply, which has now been approved by all delegations, has been transmitted to the Assembly.

9, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

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#### Text of written question 146

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Do the Council consider it desirable to establish permanent political consultations between western Europe and the United States?

#### Reply by the Council

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The question of consultation between western Europe and the United States is an important point on which the nine member countries of the European Communities have concerted their views as part of their co-operation in foreign policy matters. The question has been discussed by the Nine with the United States.

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On the other hand, in their capacity as allies, the signatories of the North Atlantic Treaty have defined the scope and spirit of this consultation, which both sides seek in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Declaration on Atlantic Relations.

Appropriate use is of course also made of other existing multilateral channels for transatlantic consultation between western Europe and the United States (for example frequent contacts in O.E.C.D., GATT and the I.M.F. etc.).

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