

# Draft 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, 6 September 1974)


**Caption:** On 6 September 1974, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates the draft reply prepared by the Belgian delegation and amended by the French and United Kingdom delegations to question 146 put to the WEU Council by Sir John Rodgers, a member of the Assembly. The member asks whether the Council considers it desirable to establish permanent political consultations between Western Europe and the United States. The French emphasise 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. They refer 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 (NATO), which lays down the scope and spirit of these consultations. The British note 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). They therefore do not see the need to establish additional permanent political consultations.

**Source:** Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-general's note. Written question 146 put to the Council by a member of the Assembly. London: 06.09.1974. WPM (74) 21/1. Copy No 54. 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: 1974, 01/05/1974-30/10/1975. File 202.424.22. Volume 1/1.

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[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft\\_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\\_6\\_september\\_1974-en-aa48090d-939b-462f-9c45-74beadc38940.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft_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_6_september_1974-en-aa48090d-939b-462f-9c45-74beadc38940.html)

**Last updated:** 25/10/2016



# WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

W.E.U. CONFIDENTIAL

Original: English/French

WPM (74) 21/1

Copy No. 54


6th September, 1974

## SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

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

The Secretary-General circulates herewith a draft reply to written question 146.

This draft will be ~~re-examined~~ by the working group at its next meeting.

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

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Text of written question 146 put to the Council  
by Sir John Rodgers  
(C (74) 116)

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

Draft reply

Original Belgian version

The question of consultations 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. For that reason, the question has been discussed by the Nine with the United States. The basic objectives of this dialogue are set forth in paragraph 11

: of the Declaration on Atlantic relations, signed by the

: North Atlantic Council in Brussels on 26th June, 1974. In that document, the partners of the Alliance defined the scope and spirit of the consultation which both sides wish to maintain and which will mark their future relations.

The Cyprus crisis can be regarded as a positive illustration of these undertakings.

/OR: ...

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OR:

Original version amended by the French delegation

The question of consultations 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.

On the other hand, in their capacity as allies, the signatories of the Washington 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.

OR:

Version proposed by the United Kingdom delegation

Appropriate use is already made of existing multilateral channels for transatlantic consultation between western Europe and the United States, for example the Atlantic Alliance, frequent contacts in O.E.C.D., GATT and the I.M.F. etc. So far as the nine members of the Community are concerned, in addition to the existing links between the European Commission and the United States Government,

/they have agreed ...

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they have agreed on arrangements for political consultation with the United States on an informal, ad hoc basis. Satisfaction with these arrangements has been expressed from the American side. Provided all these opportunities for consultation, as well as bilateral contacts, which remain of great importance, continue to be used, there would seem no need to establish additional permanent political consultations.

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