

Reply by the WEU Council to written question 230 put by a member of the WEU Assembly (London, 27 October 1982)

Caption: On 27 October 1982, the WEU Council replies to written question 230 from the Assembly on possible consultations between the European members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) concerning the negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union for limiting nuclear weapons, and on whether consultations should be held within WEU. The Council emphasises that close consultations have been held with the NATO Member States on this matter via a Special Consultative Group (SCG), which associates these countries with the negotiations. The Council therefore considers that there is no need for recourse to other bodies for such consultations.

Source: Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General's note. Written question 230 put to the Council by a member of the Assembly. London: 27.10.1982. C (82) 111. 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: 1982, 01/12/1982-30/10/1982. File 202.413.29. Volume 1/1.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/reply_by_the_weu_council_to_written_question_230_put_by_a_member_of_the_weu_assembly_london_27_october_1982-en-deb1ac67-712e-4660-956d-c601fboea91c.html



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WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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C (82) 111

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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Written question 230 put to the Council
by a member of the Assembly

The Secretary-General circulates herewith the Council's reply to written question 230 put to the Council by Dr. Müller, a member of the Assembly (cf. C (82) 77).

This reply, approved by all delegations, has been forwarded to the Assembly.

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London, S.W.1.

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Text of written question 230

Do the Council consider that possible consultations in the framework of NATO on the negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union for limiting nuclear weapons allow the European members of the Atlantic Alliance to give due prominence to their views on this question? Do they consider that consultations between European powers, in W.E.U. for instance, would further this aim?

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Reply by the Council

Consultations on the issue of nuclear arms limitation negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union have indeed taken place within the framework of NATO ever since this issue became valid.

Accordingly, the I.N.F. negotiating position of the United States and in particular the 'zero option' proposal, aiming at a total renunciation of longer range I.N.F. missiles by the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., were established in close consultation and with the active contribution of other NATO partners who are parties to the decision of 12th December, 1979, on the modernisation of longer range I.N.F. and on negotiations aiming at the reductions of such weapons. A special forum, the Special Consultative Group (S.C.G.), was established in order to ensure a thorough and regular consultation between the United States and these countries, a consultation which in fact associates these countries to the negotiation. A suitable procedure of consultation on a regular basis has been established within the Alliance with regard to the negotiations on the reduction of strategic arms (START). For the above reasons there clearly exists no need to have recourse to other fora for this kind of consultation.