

Recommendation 334 of the WEU Assembly on various aspects of cooperation between Europe and the United States (Paris, 21 June 1979)

Caption: On 21 June 1979, the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) adopts Recommendation 334 on various aspects of cooperation between Europe and the United States. The Assembly notes that European security, which is based on the Atlantic Alliance, requires improved consultations between European Member States and the United States and an analysis of the implications of the Soviet Union's deployment of new weapons. It also calls for the adoption of joint positions by the European members of the Atlantic Alliance and asserts that Western Europe should ensure the organisation of European cooperation in armaments production.

Source: Assembly of Western European Union. 'Recommendation 334 on various aspects of co-operation between Europe and the United States (Paris, seventh sitting, 21st June 1979)' in Proceedings: Twenty-fifth ordinary session: First Part, Vol. II, Minutes: Official Report of Debates. Paris: Assembly of WEU. June 1979, p. 47.

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RECOMMENDATION 334***on various aspects of co-operation between Europe and the United States***

The Assembly,

Noting the many statements in the United States in favour of closer consultations with Western Europe in many fields, but deploring that these statements have not always produced results ;

Also welcoming the fact that the United States Government continues to consider the development of a European union as a favourable factor in such co-operation ;

Considering that, in an unfavourable economic situation, recourse to protectionism would be a serious danger for Europe and noting with satisfaction that the United States, like Western Europe, has set itself the aim of progressively freeing international trade ;

Considering that the creation of the European monetary fund is a major step in the search for the balance necessary for developing trade ;

Considering that Europe's security, based on the Atlantic Alliance, requires improved consultations between European members and the United States on external policy matters ;

Considering that such consultations can be improved to the extent that Western Europe manages to define a joint foreign policy itself ;

Welcoming the success of the SALT II negotiations, but considering that the development of strategic arms limitation talks calls for the adoption of joint positions by the European members of the Atlantic Alliance and particularly with reference to the SALT III negotiations ;

Welcoming the United States' intention to organise a two-way street for trade in armaments but concerned lest such a trend should inhibit European co-operation in this field,

RECOMMENDS THAT THE COUNCIL

1. Ensure that consultations between the European members of the Atlantic Alliance allow them, in the presence of their American partners, to uphold an external policy worked out by all the member countries of WEU in accordance with their goals of security and freedom of their peoples ;
2. Study in particular the implications for Europe's defence policy of the Soviet Union's deployment of new weapons ;
3. At regular intervals, make a critical appraisal of the strategic concepts adopted by NATO ;
4. Ensure that the organisation of European co-operation in armaments production is not hampered by bilateral agreements concluded between the United States and several European members of the Atlantic Alliance ;
5. Consider in view of more recent developments the need for closer consultation on energy problems between the United States and the European countries.