

## **Communiqué of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee Conference<sup>1</sup>**

On 7-8 July 1989 a conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the member-states of the Warsaw Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance was held in Bucharest. Taking part in it were:

From the People's Republic of Bulgaria: Todor Zhivkov, Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee General Secretary and People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of State Chairman, the head of the delegation; Georgi Antasov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of Ministers chairman; Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and People's Republic of Bulgaria minister of national defense; Petur Mladenov, BCP Central Committee politburo member and People's Republic of Bulgaria minister of foreign affairs; Dimitur Stanishev, BCP Central Committee secretary;

From the Hungarian People's Republic: Rezső Nyers, Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] chairman, the head of the delegation; Miklos Nemeth, Hungarian People's Republic Council of Ministers chairman; Gyula Horn, Hungarian People's Republic minister of foreign affairs; Ferenc Karpati, Hungarian People's Republic minister of defense;

For the German Democratic Republic: Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee, chairman of the GDR Council of State and head of the delegation; Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Hermann Axen, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the SED Central Committee; Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, GDR minister of national defense; Egon Krenz, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the SED Central Committee, deputy chairman of the GDR council of state; Guenter Mittag, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the SED Central Committee, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of State; Oskar Fischer, member of the SED Central Committee, GDR minister of foreign affairs.

For the Polish People's Republic [PPR]: Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party [PZPR] Central Committee, chairman of the PPR Council of State, head of the delegation; Mieczyslaw Rakowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the PPR council of ministers; Jozef Czyrek, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee; Czeslaw Kiszczak, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, PPR minister of internal affairs; Florian Siwicki, member of the PZPR Central Committee politburo, PPR minister of national defense; Tadeusz Olechowski, PPR minister of foreign affairs.

From the Socialist Republic of Romania: Nicolae Ceaușescu, Romanian Communist Party [RCP] general secretary, Socialist Republic of Romania president, head of the delegation; Constantin Dascalescu, RCP Central Committee Political Executive

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Foreign Broadcast Information Service, *Daily Report, Soviet Union*, 10 July 1989, Communist Relations, pp. 12-15. Translation from Moscow *Pravda*, 9 July 1989 Second Edition, pp. 1-2.

Committee [PEC] member, Socialist Republic of Romania prime minister; Ion Stoian, RCP Central Committee PEC candidate member, RCP Central Committee secretary; Vasile Milea, RCP Central Committee PEC candidate member, Socialist Republic of Romania minister of national defense; Ioan Totu, RCP Central Committee PEC candidate member, Socialist Republic of Romania minister of foreign affairs;

From the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics – M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, head of the delegation; N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs; A.N. Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Defense Minister;

From the ČSSR – Miloš Jakeš, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, head of the delegation; Gustav Husák, member of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; Ladislav Adamec, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and premier of the ČSSR government; Jozef Lenart, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee, secretary of the CPCZ central committee; Jaromir Johanes, ČSSR Minister of Foreign Affairs; Milan Vaclávek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and ČSSR Minister of National Defense. Also taking part in the work of the conference were Army General P.G. Lushev, Supreme Commander of the Unified Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact states, and Constantin Oancea, general secretary of the political consultative committee and Romanian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Those taking part in the conference exchanged views of the developing international situation and discussed the main directions of the cooperation of the allied states in the interests of peace and stability in Europe, disarmament, and deepening international dialogue and cooperation.

It was pointed out that, thanks to the active policy of the socialist states and the actions of all peace-loving forces of a realistic turn of mind, it has been possible to achieve certain positive shifts in international affairs, to reduce tension and confrontation, enhance trust, develop political dialogue, and intensify contacts between states at various levels. The first steps have been taken in the sphere of disarmament, and a mechanism of verification has been set up and is working effectively. The start of the Vienna negotiations is encouraging. Cooperation is expanding in the economic and scientific and technical spheres, and in the sphere of human rights. Progress has been achieved in political settlement of regional conflicts. There is growing readiness on the part of the world community to interact in the sphere of security and solution of global problems. At the same time, the situation in the world remains complex and contradictory, and favorable processes have not yet become irreversible. The growth and modernization of weapons are not ceasing. Nuclear tests and work aimed at militarization of space are continuing. The concepts of confrontation and reliance on force which were established in the years of the Cold War are being surmounted with difficulty. The strategy of nuclear deterrence which was confirmed afresh at the recent session of the NATO Council

remains a dangerous anachronism which is at variance with the interests of universal security. There are instances of the practice of interference in the internal affairs of other states, and attempts to destabilize them, and of violation of human rights.

Those taking part in the conference confirmed their states' adherence to the ideal of ridding mankind of the threat of war by eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons and by radically cutting conventional weapons. They consider disarmament to be the current cardinal issue, a decisive factor for strengthening peace, security, and trust and for deepening detente, developing broad international cooperation, and for resolving global problems.

The Warsaw Pact participant states accord paramount importance to developing the all-European process in all areas, to bringing the continent to a new level of security and cooperation, and to moving forward along the road of building an indivisible Europe of stable peace and cooperation, a common European home with a diversity of social and state systems in the countries, with respect for the territorial and political realities which have taken shape, the inviolable nature of existing borders, the sovereignty, and the right of every people to freely determine their own destiny. Determination was expressed to do the utmost to promote the implementation of the accords reached at the Vienna meeting to strengthen peace and security in Europe and to improve mutual understanding and cooperation on the continent.

The standpoint of the allied states on matters relating to securing European and general security and to continuing the disarmament process is set out in a statement adopted at the conference, "For a stable and secure Europe, free from nuclear and chemical weapons, for a substantial reduction in armed forces, armaments, and military expenditure."

The participants in the conference spoke in favor of transferring relations between the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic alliance to an avenue of non-confrontation, setting up a constructive dialogue between them through political and military channels, and turning, it into a factor of security and cooperation on the continent. The principled position of the Warsaw Pact member-states of liberating Europe from military blocs, on the simultaneous dissolution of both alliances, and, as a first step, on the elimination of their military organizations, thereby remains in force.

The states represented at the conference spoke resolutely in favor of settling, by peaceful means, regional conflicts in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Central America. Life has confirmed that the path of negotiations is fruitful and that there is no sensible alternative to it. They will continue to actively promote the political resolution of crisis situations in the world and to further enhance the UN's role in this.

In this context the Warsaw Pact member-states have come out in favor of holding an international conference as soon as possible on the Middle East under the UN aegis, with the participation of all the interested parties, including the PLO. They favor an all-embracing Middle East settlement on the basis of the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self determination, to the existence of an independent Palestinian state, just the same as the right to independence, sovereignty, and integrity of all the states of the region, including Israel.

Those taking part in the conference came out in support of the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan, for a just settlement of the situation in the country on the basis

of national reconciliation, for a united, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan, whose people have the right to determine their own fate without any sort of interference from outside.

Expressing their concern in connection with the serious economic problems mankind faces, the deepening rift between the developed and developing countries, the constant growth of foreign debt and the national resources intended to meet it, the states represented at the conference came out in favor of uniting all countries' efforts to solve these problems on a just and equal basis with the active participation of the United Nations. The states favor establishing a new international economic order. The conference stressed the need to eliminate the still existing discriminatory restrictions on the development of equal trade, economic and scientific and technical links, and access to modern technology. Economic relations must not be held back by political or other conditions.

In discussing questions of cooperation in the field of preserving and restoring the environment, the conference participants confirmed the position of their countries as laid out in the document of the Warsaw Conference of the Political Consultative Committee (1988), "The consequences of the arms race for the environment and other aspects of ecological security." They expressed their readiness to work actively along with other countries on both a multilateral and a bilateral basis to tackle ecological problems and to contribute to a successful meeting in Sofia on the protection of the environment this autumn so that it might be an important step in strengthening international cooperation in this domain. They expressed their readiness to prepare for the UN conference on the environment and development, which is planned for 1992.

Noting the important role of the Nonaligned Movement in international life, the conference participants expressed their hope that the coming nonaligned summit would facilitate an increased contribution by the movement to the solution of key issues of modern times and an enhancement of its prestige and influence. The states represented at the conference attach great significance to the further development of relations with the nonaligned countries and to cooperation with them in international affairs.

The Warsaw Pact participant states will assist in all ways possible the fullest disclosure of the peacemaking potential of the United Nations with the participation of all countries, irrespective of their size or social structure, in solving world problems. They are in favor of enhancing the UN's effectiveness and of making wider use of that organization's operations to maintain peace. The importance of actively attaching the UN to efforts to prevent international crisis was stressed.

The conference participants informed one another of the internal development in their own countries, of the course and the problems of socialist construction. They noted the growing interconnection between domestic and foreign policy. They stressed the strength of the influence of socialist ideas, the importance of the transformations being implemented in the allied states and directed toward improving and renewing socialist society, imparting a constant dynamism to its political and economic systems, developing democracy, enhancing people's well-being, improving the quality of life, revealing the capabilities of each individual, and safeguarding basic liberties and human rights. They proceed from the premise that no universal socialist models exist and that no one has a monopoly on truth. The construction of a new society is a creative process, which is

being implemented in each country in accordance with its conditions, traditions, and requirements.

The conference reaffirmed the common desire to act in the interests of socialism, to improve cooperation among the allied states and to make reliable provision for their security. Confidence was expressed in the ability of the socialist states and of the leading forces of society to solve the problems that have arisen at the current stage of their development. Emphasis was also placed on the need to develop relations among them on a basis of equality, independence, and the right of each to develop independently its own political line, strategy and tactics without outside interference.

The conference participants were unanimous that the Warsaw Pact is reliably serving to provide for the security of its member-states and is an important factor for peace and stability in Europe and in the entire World.

The constructive actions of the allied countries, both individual and collective, are having a positive influence upon world processes and are stimulating the development of international relations on democratic principles, in the spirit of the new political thinking. A shared opinion was expressed in favor of strengthening the solidarity and interaction of the allied states and of further developing their many-sided cooperation on a basis of equal rights and mutual respect for the benefit of the fraternal peoples and in the interests of world peace.

It was decided to continue efforts to strengthen the Warsaw Pact's political nature and to further improve the cooperation mechanism within it on a democratic basis.

A positive assessment was made of the work of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Committee of Ministers of Defense. Their further tasks were defined.

The Political Consultative Committee adopted a decision on the report of the commander in chief of the joint armed forces of the states participating in the Warsaw Pact.

As the country hosting the conference, the Socialist Republic of Romania is to ensure that conference documents are circulated among other states and international organizations.

USSR representative I.P. Aboimov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, was appointed general secretary of the Political Consultative Committee for the next term.

The conference took place in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation.

The next conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the states participating in the Warsaw Pact will be held in Moscow.