

*Declaration of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty*  
24 May 1958 \*

GUIDED by the interests of ensuring peace in Europe and developing peaceful co-operation among states, which is the basic task of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, the governments of the People's Republic of Albania, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Rumanian People's Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic convened in Moscow on May 24, 1958, a conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty countries so as to examine the existing international situation and work out new joint measures to ease international tension.

The exchange of views, in which an observer from the Chinese People's Republic also took part, confirmed the unanimity of the governments represented at the conference, both in their estimate of the international situation and with regard to the ways of strengthening peace.

The state of affairs in the world is being influenced to an ever greater extent by the unceasing struggle of the countries of the socialist camp for the development of international co-operation on the basis of the peaceful co-existence of states with different social structures, for the settlement of disputed questions by means of negotiations between

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states, for the ending of the arms race and the removal of the threat of atomic war.

The participants in the conference note with satisfaction that today it is not only the socialist countries that are directing their efforts towards strengthening peace but also most of the countries of Asia and Africa that have freed themselves from age-old colonial dependence.

Peace is also supported by the masses of the people and influential public circles, by many parties and trade unions that heed the demands of the workers, by scientists and workers in the cultural field, by clergymen, by people of different political outlooks in the countries of Western Europe, America and other continents. States pursuing a policy of neutrality are also making a positive contribution to the struggle for peace.

The development of international events is again and again giving proof of the fact that the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, signed three years ago by eight socialist states, not only reliably safeguards the security and independence of the peoples of these states but also constitutes a mighty deterrent to the activities of the military groupings of the western powers and, first and foremost, of the North Atlantic bloc, which are hostile to the cause of peace.

Those circles of the western powers and, in the first place, of the United States, who have closely linked their policy with the continuance of the "cold war" and international tension are, as hitherto, seeking to pursue a "positions of strength" policy, and to hinder the peoples from shaping their lives according to their own will. They bear the responsibility for the unceasing arms race which is acquiring an especially dangerous nature in connection with the expanding production and stockpiling of nuclear means of mass destruction. An unbearably heavy burden of military expenditure has been heaped upon the peoples of the NATO countries. Judging only by official NATO figures, the military expenditures of the member-countries of this bloc in 1957 were three times as great as in 1950. In all, during the period from 1950 to 1957, the NATO countries spent more than 400,000 million dollars on war preparations.

At the present time the NATO military bodies are working out new plans to increase the armed forces and military expenditure of those countries, while the NATO War Ministers' conference in April this year discussed the question of doubling the size of the armed forces placed at the disposal of the American Supreme Commander of NATO. It is, moreover, well known that on May 1 this year,

the permanent Council of NATO took a decision providing for the atomic arming of those participants in the North Atlantic bloc who do not at present possess such weapons. The governments of a number of NATO countries, such as Britain, France, Italy, Turkey, and others, have, in spite of resolute protests by the population, submitted the territories of their countries for use as American launching sites for rockets bearing nuclear warheads and as storehouses for atomic weapons.

The war preparations in the Federal Republic of Germany, whose Bundestag has taken a decision empowering the Federal government to arm the West German armed forces with nuclear and rocket weapons, are coming to be of a particularly dangerous character. Thus the most dangerous types of weapons are falling into the hands of militarist and revenge-seeking circles who are raising territorial claims against other states.

The United States government, in lending its support to the policy of arming the Federal Republic of Germany and taking upon itself the task of supplying Western Germany with nuclear and rocket weapons, is, as a matter of fact, encouraging these circles to pursue a policy fraught with danger to peace and disastrous consequences for the German people themselves. Measures are being taken, at the same time, to involve Western Germany in manufacturing and perfecting new types of weapons, this purpose being served by the disclosed tripartite agreement between France, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany, on co-operation in the sphere of military research and the manufacture of armaments.

These military preparations are giving rise to grave fears in Western Germany itself and are meeting with ever-increasing opposition from the West German population.

The present situation is being worsened in an extremely dangerous way by the practice, unheard of in time of peace, of flights by United States air force planes with atomic and hydrogen bombs over the Arctic areas towards the Soviet Union. As is well known, flights of American bombers with atomic and hydrogen bombs are also carried out over the territories of many West European countries under the pretext of patrolling the air space. These actions by the United States government border on direct provocation and if they are not stopped, mankind may any day find itself engulfed in the hurricane of a rocket and atomic war.

One cannot fail to note with satisfaction the fact that certain NATO member-states, aware of the direction in which the policy of

preparing for an atomic war and juggling with atomic weapons pursued by the major powers of this grouping is leading, are adopting a saner attitude — a circumstance which cannot fail to constitute a definite positive contribution to the relaxation of international tension, particularly in Europe. This is one of the examples showing that, even when there exist aggressive military groupings and commitments imposed by their sponsors upon the other participants in those groupings, there still remain unused possibilities for a detente in the European situation and for reducing international tension.

A heavy blow at the hopes of the peoples for lessening the danger of war and curtailing the atomic arms race has been dealt by the governments of the United States and Britain, who have carried out new nuclear test explosions in the Pacific even after the Soviet Union has unilaterally ceased tests of all types of hydrogen and atomic weapons. These explosions show what little concern to the governments of the United States and Britain are the interests of the peoples demanding that an end be put to the preparations for atomic war and that real steps be taken to remove the threat of such a war.

The participants in the conference express serious concern in connection with the unceasing attempts of the governments of the United States, Britain, France and other colonial powers to interfere in the internal affairs of the countries of Asia and Africa, to impose upon them régimes and governments that are alien to the peoples and are ready once again to sell out to the colonialists their countries, which have recently taken the path of national independence. If in Indonesia, Algeria, Lebanon, Yemen and Oman guns are firing and the blood of patriots is being shed, the blame for this rests with those same imperialist circles whose policy is being pursued by NATO, the Baghdad Pact organization and S.E.A.T.O., and who, by means of pressure and flagrant interference in the internal affairs of other states, are seeking to lay their hands on the natural resources of these countries and to strangle the national liberation movement of the peoples of Asia and Africa. Just as last summer the clouds gathered over Syria, so today dangerous schemes are being carried out against Lebanon, and this time the United States, falling back on the notorious "Dulles-Eisenhower doctrine," which has been rejected by the Arab peoples, is making ready to set its armed forces in action against a state which wants nothing more than to be master in its own house and to be free from foreign dictation.

It would not be out of place to pose the question of who gave any state the right to impose various doctrines on other countries.



Indeed, the time has long since passed when force and arbitrary behaviour could disregard law and even be presented as law. The Dulles-Eisenhower doctrine has clearly pursued the aim of meddling in the affairs of other states, and its authors have not scrupled to declare this openly. And all this is taking place before the eyes of the United Nations, which, so it would seem, should react to deeds constituting interference in the internal life of the countries of the East, inasmuch as this is a breach of international law and is condemned by the United Nations Charter. The United Nations, however, owing to the position of certain western powers, remains paralysed and is taking no steps to safeguard the independence of Lebanon or of other states either, which are being subjected to the schemes of imperialist circles.

There exists the opportunity for the United Nations to become a genuinely international organization and an effective instrument in the struggle for peace, provided all its member-states are guided, not by their narrow interests, but by the interests of peace and the security of nations.

The Warsaw Treaty countries have directed, and will continue to direct their actions towards enabling the United Nations to accomplish successfully the tasks entrusted to it by the Charter.

The states parties to the Warsaw Treaty are convinced that the denial to the Chinese People's Republic of the possibility of occupying its lawful place in the United Nations is doing serious harm to the activities of the United Nations. They are also profoundly convinced that the participation of People's China in the activities of the United Nations would be of great positive significance for the maintenance of peace in the Far East, and also for the cause of peace throughout the world.

For a number of years France has been waging a bloody war against the people of Algeria, who are fighting for self-determination and independence. The war in Algeria not only constitutes a monstrous injustice against the freedom-loving Algerian people but also creates a dangerous hotbed of international tensions and conflicts in that part of the world.

The sponsors of NATO and the other blocs of the western powers associated with it are striving to conceal the war preparations being carried out by them on an ever-increasing scale and their interference in the internal affairs of other countries by false references to the "danger of international communism." Whether it is a question of equipping the Bundeswehr with atomic weapons or of preparing armed intervention in the affairs of Lebanon, of deploying American rocket installations in foreign countries or of increasing budget allocations