

all efforts to prevent the creation of conditions under which advocates of the "positions of strength" policy could resort to the use of force against the socialist states. This means that in seeking unswervingly for a detente in international relations, the Warsaw Treaty states will in no degree whatsoever relax their concern for the security of their peoples. Let the governments of countries basing their policy on "positions of strength" and trying to balance on the "brink of war" always bear in mind that war against the socialist countries can only bring the aggressor to his doom.

The states represented at the conference declare that they will do their utmost to defend unremittingly the cause of peace and to struggle for the prevention of a new war. They consider that at the present time the governments of states do not and cannot have a more pressing and noble task than that of establishing lasting peace and ridding the peoples of the threat of a devastating nuclear war. They also consider that the governments should proceed in international affairs, not from what separates the countries, but from what draws them together, in order to ensure, by joint efforts, peace in Europe, and consequently throughout the world.

Wars have on many an occasion brought calamity and destruction to Europe. The many ruins of towns and villages in the countries of Europe which are to be seen even now bear witness to this. Many millions of crippled people are also a reminder of wars. The tens of millions of men, women and children devoured by the flames of the Second World War are still alive in memory. It is the duty of the governments of all states to prevent a new outbreak and to save Europe and mankind from a new and immeasurably graver tragedy. Europe, with its monuments of centuries-old culture and its numerous big industrial centres, must cease to be a battlefield. It can and must become a zone of peace, tranquillity and security.

War is not inevitable; war can be prevented. The joint efforts of the peoples can protect and strengthen peace.