

## Warsaw Pact States' Declaration<sup>1</sup>

The top representatives of the Warsaw Pact member states who attended the Political Consultative Committee conference in Moscow 7 June 1990, state:

Modern development in Europe creates conditions for overcoming a bloc security model and the division of the continent. This development is becoming irreversible. It meets the interests of nations wishing to live in mutual harmony, without artificial barriers and ideological hostility. Participants in the meeting favor the formation of a new, all-European security system and the creation of a single Europe of peace and cooperation.

The states represented at the meeting are taking an active part in this dynamic process. This is why they find it necessary to reconsider the character and functions of the Warsaw Treaty. They are sure that only in this case the Warsaw Treaty will be able to reach new topical targets during the transition period, dealing with disarmament and the creation of an all-European security system.

Participants in the meeting are unanimous in their opinion that the ideological enemy image has been largely overcome by mutual efforts of the East and the West, while the East and West notions are again acquiring their purely geographical meaning. They believe that danger could come only from those who would threaten the security of countries in any form, including the threat or use of force, no matter who resorts to it. Confrontation elements contained in documents of the Warsaw Treaty and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, that were adopted in the past, are no longer in line with the spirit of the time.

In this new situation the states represented at the meeting will begin to review the character, functions and activities of the Warsaw Treaty, and will start its transformation into a treaty of sovereign states with equal rights, formed on a democratic basis. With this in view they created a provisional commission of government representatives, which will present to the Political Consultative Committee the corresponding concrete proposals on this subject before the end of next October. The proposals will be examined by the Political Consultative Committee before the end of November. Warsaw Treaty member states want to contribute in this way to the consolidation of peace, security and stability in Europe and to the development of the Helsinki process.

The meeting reiterated the readiness for constructive cooperation with the North Atlantic Alliance, its member states, neutral and non-aligned countries of the continent on a bilateral and multilateral basis in the interests of European stability and disarmament, confidence-building and the firm establishment of the defense sufficiency principle. Participants in the meeting believe that consistent and all-round institutionalization of the Helsinki process is an important stage of these developments. This is the purpose of proposals submitted recently by some countries – participants in the conference on security and cooperation in Europe. Participants in the meeting expect the first important

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<sup>1</sup> Foreign Broadcast Information Service, *Daily Report: Soviet Union*, 8 June 1990, Communist Relations, pp. 10-11. Translated from Moscow *Pravda*, 8 June 1990, Second Edition, p. 1a.

decisions on this problem to be taken at the forthcoming summit of European countries, the United States and Canada.

Warsaw Treaty member states positively assess some of the steps taken recently by NATO. They expect the new trend of changes in NATO to be accelerated and deepened and to be matched by corresponding changes in the activities of this alliance.

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Warsaw Treaty member states went on record in favor of a successful termination of the Vienna talks on conventional armed forces and on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe, so that corresponding agreements could be signed at a meeting of leaders of the states – participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe late in 1990.

So far as external aspects of Germany's unification are concerned, they expressed their common conviction that it should be carried out in the context of the all-European process and on the basis of its principles, should stimulate and deepen its development, take into consideration lawful security interests of Germany's neighbors and all other states and ensure firm guarantees of the inviolability of European borders.

The states represented at the meeting will actively promote the creation of a European economic and legal space, as well as full implementation of the basic human rights and freedoms.

Participants in the meeting pointed out that the agreements reached at the Soviet-American summit promote a further advance towards disarmament and the improvement of the international situation.

Warsaw Treaty member states express their conviction that all the states – participants in the Helsinki process fully realize their responsibility that the history-making chance to create Europe without blocs and hostility not to be missed.