

UK.

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There is no need to re-define ideology. We have all stated that we intend that the Alliance should continue and that we should not pay too much attention to the 1969 date.

2. Equally, we are all aware that changes have taken place since 1949 and since 1956, which have an effect on the subject of our discussion. For example, the reduction of tension between East and West has made the détente into one of the most important subjects of consultation between Allies. The question of the détente and of NATO's role in it will of course be dealt with in Sub Group I. But in Sub-Group II we can consider whether it gives rise to any new problems with regard to consultation generally or to any questions on which a European view should be formed.

3. Secondly, the growth of European organisations presents us with the problem of defining and comparing the scope of European consultation in these organisations and in NATO. To help qualify this question we could seek examples of European cooperation particularly relevant to NATO, e.g. in the military sphere cooperative or coordinated arms production and the question of European ABMs which another NATO organ is already discussing (while recognising that military questions more properly belong to Sub-Group III).

4. Thirdly, changes have occurred to meet changing circumstances in the way in which NATO organises its work, for example the principle of open-endedness, which renders possible the cooperation of members who wish to cooperate for certain purposes even though others do not. We can apply this principle not only to specific branches of our work but also to the methods of consultation in which we should recognise that not all members will wish to take part in the consultation process on all occasions.

This should not inhibit members from bringing as many subjects as possible to the Alliance for consultation nor should it mean that members should be permanently divided into separate groups according to the subjects in which they are interested.

5. In general we should concentrate on what unites the members of the Alliance rather than on what divides them.