

Declaration of Paris

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WE, THE CITIZENS DELEGATES to the Atlantic Convention of NATO nations, meeting in Paris, January 8 - 20, 1962, are convinced that our survival as free men, and the possibility of progress for all men, demand the creation of a true Atlantic Community within the next decade, and therefore submit this declaration of our convictions:

Preamble

The Atlantic peoples are heir to a magnificent civilization whose origins include the early achievements of the Near East, the classical beauty of Greece, the juridical sagacity of Rome, the spiritual power of our religious traditions and the humanism of the Renaissance. Its latest flowering, the discoveries of modern science, allow an extraordinary mastery of the forces of nature.

While our history has too many pages of tragedy and error, it has also evolved principles transcending the vicissitudes of history, such as the supremacy of law, respect for individual rights, social justice and the duty of generosity.

Thanks to that civilization and to the common characteristics with which it stamps the development of the peoples participating in it, the nations of the West do in fact constitute a powerful cultural and moral community.

But the time has now come when the Atlantic countries must close their ranks, if they wish to guarantee the security against the Communist menace and ensure that their unlimited potentialities shall develop to the advantage of all men of good will.

A true Atlantic Community must extend to the political, military, economic, moral and cultural fields. The evolution we contemplate will contribute to the diversity of achievements and aspirations which constitute the cultural splendor and intellectual wealth of our peoples.

The Atlantic Convention, keeping this ideal constantly in view, recommends the following measures which, in its opinion, would foster the necessary cohesion of the West, would bring the final objective closer and should be adopted forthwith by the governments concerned.

Summary of Recommendations

To define the principles on which our common civilization is based and to consult about ways of ensuring respect for these principles.

To create, as an indispensable feature of a true Atlantic Community, a permanent High Council at the highest political level, to concert and plan, and in agreed cases to decide policy on matters

of concern to the Community as a whole. Pending the establishment of the Council be strengthened through the delegation of additional responsibilities.

To develop the NATO Parliamentarians' Conference into a consultative Assembly which would review the work of all Atlantic institutions and make recommendations to them.

To establish an Atlantic High Court of Justice, to decide specified legal controversies which may arise under the Treaties.

To harmonize political, military and economic policy on matters affecting the Community as a whole.

That the North Atlantic Council treat the development of an agreed NATO policy with respect to nuclear weapons as a matter of urgency.

That it welcomes the development, progress and prospective expansion of the European economic institutions, and the spirit of President Kennedy's statement that a trade partnership be formed between the United States and the European Economic Community, the basis of an Atlantic Economic Community, open to other nations of the free world.

That the Atlantic nations, acknowledging the right of every people to freedom, independence and pursuit of happiness, co-operate on a larger scale with the developing nations in their economic programs, through direct and multilateral programs, through the acceleration of investments; and especially through measures which would increase both the volume and value of their exports, including special tariff concessions for their exports.

That the Atlantic Community take steps to help improve all their economies, so that the proportionate economic and social potential of all will be less unequal.

That the Atlantic nations, noting the destruction of the national independence and the human rights of many peoples in Eastern Central Europe, reaffirms its belief that the problem of these captive nations should be resolved in accordance with the principles of both individual liberty and national self-determination.

To create an Atlantic Council for youth, education and culture in order to draw up Atlantic plans for exchanges of young people, students and teachers and for the purposes of scientific and cultural collaboration.

That the NATO Governments promptly establish a Special Governmental Commission to draw up plans within two years for the creation of a true Atlantic Community, suitably organized to meet the political, military and economic challenges of this era.

Part II – Declaration of Paris: Cultural and Moral Questions

A. The Atlantic Convention of NATO nations

Declares that the basic moral and spiritual principles upon which the lives and acts of the nations forming the Atlantic Community are based are as follows:

The purpose of political and economic institutions is the protection and promotion of the rights, liberties and duties which enable every human being to fulfill his or her spiritual vocation;

Liberty is inseparable from responsibility, which implies recognition of a moral law to which men, as individuals and in groups, are subject;

Liberty is inseparable from the duties of men toward one another, which implies the obligation to ensure that all men gradually attain physical and moral well-being;

Liberty is inseparable from tolerance, which recognizes the right to free discussion of all opinions, which are not in violation of the very principles of civilization;

That there can be no freedom without variety, the natural result of the different peoples in all fields. But this variety should not entail disunity. On the contrary, retaining the common factors, it should become the permanent force impelling the peoples of our Western civilization to unite;

Freedom is inseparable from the spirit of objective truth, which must restore to words the exact meaning they have in the Free World.

And therefore *invites* member countries:

To defend and promote the values and principles of civilization by means of education, publications, lectures, radio, the cinema and television;

To uphold in their conduct with all nations the ethics and values of Western civilization and by their example to impress on others that discord and disunity result when they are not observed;

To defend these values and principles against intellectual and moral subversion within the Community;

To try to establish an atmosphere of mutual understanding between the members of the Atlantic Community, appreciating to the full the riches of their diversity;

To demonstrate to all peoples that respect for these values and principles can alone make a technical civilization and instrument of improving the physical and moral well-being of mankind;

Reconstruction of the Acropolis: To decide that the Acropolis shall become the symbol of our culture and the shrine of our Alliance and to call upon governments to consider how this resolution might be given concrete form.