

D O S S I E R D E P R E S S E

Conseil Européen de Luxembourg
(2 - 3 décembre 1985)

Commission papers for the Conference of
the Governments of the Member States

- Internal Market
 - Increasing the cohesion of the Community
 - Social policy
 - Research and technological development
 - Monetary provisions
 - Parliament's powers
 - Management and implementing powers of the Commission
 - Environment
 - Promoting cultural values
-

5 October 1985

INTERNAL MARKET

Revised Commission paper

Article 1

The Community internal market shall be progressively established during the period expiring on 31 December 1992.

It shall comprise an area without internal frontiers in which persons, goods, services and capital move under conditions identical to those obtaining within a Member State.

Article 2*

1. In Articles 28 and 51, Article 56(2), the second paragraph of Article 59, Article 70(1) and Article 84, the word "unanimously" shall be replaced by the words "by a qualified majority" and in the second sentence of Article 57(2) the word "unanimity" shall be replaced by the words "a qualified majority".
2. By way of derogation from Article 99, the harmonization of legislation concerning turnover taxes, excise duties and other forms of indirect taxation shall be decided upon by the Council acting by a qualified majority to the extent to which such harmonization is necessary in order to ensure the establishment and functioning of the internal market.
3. By way of derogation from Articles 100 and 235, the measures necessary to ensure the establishment and functioning of the internal market in respect of goods and services shall be adopted by the Council acting by a qualified majority.

Article 2a

Without prejudice to the powers of the Community, the Member States shall cooperate, in conjunction with the Commission, with the aim of achieving the internal market in respect of persons, in particular as regards the entry, movement and residence of nationals of non-Community States, and the combatting of crime and of traffic in drugs.

* The arrangements for the Parliament's involvement in the decision-making procedures referred to in this Article are set out in the Commission document on the role of the Parliament in the Community's legislative process.

Article 2b*

In order to take account of differences in the economic development of the Member States and considering the special effort that certain national economies will have to exert during the period of establishment of the internal market, the Council may decide to adopt a date later than 31 December 1992 for certain Member States and in certain fields.

The Council shall act unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament.

Article 3

The Commission, after receiving the opinion of a consultative Committee composed of representatives of the Member States, shall lay down provisions for the implementation of the measures adopted by the Council pursuant to Article 2. The Council, acting unanimously, may however reserve the right in specific cases to lay down certain of those implementing provisions.

Article 4 (new Article)

Before 31 December 1989 the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, shall lay down the provisions necessary to ensure that the final date stipulated in Article 1 is adhered to.

* This Article is to be read in conjunction with Article 2 of the document on increasing Community cohesion which the Commission presented to the Preparatory Group on 27 September 1985.

Article 5 (new Article)

Before 30 June 1992 the Commission, in consultation with each Member State, shall draw up an enumeration of national laws, regulations and administrative provisions which, although in conformity with the obligations stemming from the Treaty or from acts adopted pursuant thereto, nevertheless hinder the achievement of the objectives laid down in Article 1.

The Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission after consulting the European Parliament, shall decide by the end of 1992 whether and to what extent or under what conditions the provisions in force in each Member State shall be recognized by the other Member States as equivalent to their own legislation.*

*The arrangements for the Parliament's involvement in the decision-making procedures referred to in this paragraph are set out in the Commission document on the role of the Parliament in the Community's legislative process.

COMMISSION
OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

(4)

16 October 1985

INCREASING THE COHESION OF THE COMMUNITY

Revised Commission paper

Article 1

In order to promote the harmonious development of the Community as a whole, the Community shall pursue and develop its activities aimed at increasing its economic and social cohesion, in particular by improving the living, working and employment conditions of the peoples of the Member States and by reducing the differences existing between its various regions and the backwardness of the least-favoured regions.

Article 2

The achievement of the objectives of Article 1 shall be taken into account in developing and implementing the common policies and the internal market; it shall be rendered possible by the efforts of the Member States to coordinate their economic policies and by Community action through the activities of the structural funds, the European Investment Bank and the other financial instruments referred to in Article 4.

Article 3

Immediately upon the entry into force of the Treaty, the commission shall submit to the Council an overall proposal designed to make such changes to the structure and operating rules of the existing structural funds (the EAGGF Guidance Section, the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund) as would be necessary to define more precisely and rationalize their tasks in order to contribute to achieving the objectives of Article 1, as well as to increase their effectiveness and coordinate their operations with one another and with those of the other financial instruments. The Council shall act unanimously on that proposal within one year, after consulting the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee. It may amend Articles 123 to 127 of the Treaty accordingly.

Article 4

Without prejudice to the powers of the European Investment Bank, and in order to assist in the carrying out of investment projects contributing to the convergence and growing integration of Member States' economic policies, as well as to increasing the competitiveness of the European economy, the Community may borrow on the capital markets in order to grant loans and may give guarantees. The terms and conditions of such operations shall be determined by the Council acting by a qualified majority, on a proposal from the Commission, after consulting the European Parliament¹.

¹ Decisions to be adopted by the Council under this Article will have to be taken in accordance with the procedure of Article 149b as proposed by the Commission in its paper on the powers of the European Parliament.

Article 5

Following adoption of the decisions referred to in Article 3, any subsequent amendments or additions to be made to them shall be adopted by the Council acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, after consulting the European Parliament¹.

¹ Decisions to be adopted by the Council under this Article will have to be taken in accordance with the procedure of Article 149b as proposed by the Commission in its paper on the powers of the European Parliament.

Brussels, 19 November 1985 (OR.f)

NOTE

from: Commission
to : Conference of the Representatives of the Governments of the
Member States

Subject: Social policy

Chapter I: European social area

Article 117

The first paragraph shall be supplemented as follows:

Member States agree upon the need to promote improved working conditions and an improved standard of living for workers, so as to make possible their harmonization while the improvement is being maintained through the establishment of a European social area.

Second paragraph unchanged.

Article 118: (unchanged)

Article 118a

Member States agree to define the framework for measures in the field listed in Article 118, in particular in order to promote improved general working conditions, including the safety and health of workers. .../...

To this end the Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall after consulting the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, adopt the minimum requirements applicable in this area by means of directives.

The provisions adopted pursuant to this Article shall not preclude the introduction by each Member State of national measures, compatible with the Treaty, for the increased protection of working conditions.

Article 118b

The Commission shall endeavour to develop the dialogue between social partners at European level which could, if they consider it desirable, lead to contactual relations.

5 October 1985

Revised English version

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

Revised Commission paper

Article 1 (new)

1. The Community's aim shall be to strengthen the technological basis of European industry and to ensure that it becomes more competitive at international level.

2. In order to achieve this, it shall encourage undertakings, research centres and universities in their research and technological development activities; it shall support their efforts to cooperate with one another, aiming, in particular, to enable undertakings to exploit the Community's internal market potential to the full, inter alia through the opening-up of national public contracts, the definition of common standards and the removal of legal and fiscal barriers to this type of cooperation.

Article 2 (formerly Article 1)

In pursuing these objectives, the Community may carry out the following activities:

- (a) implementing Community research, demonstration and technological development (RDTD) programmes;
- (b) coordinating Community policies with national RDTD policies;
- (c) ensuring cooperation with non-member States and international organizations in the field of RDTD;

(d) disseminating findings and ensuring that optimum use is made of the results of Community RDTD projects;

(e) enhancing human resources in the field of science and technology in the Community.

Article 3 (formerly Articles 1(2), 2 and 3(2))

1. The Community's activities shall be the subject of a multiannual framework programme setting out the general scientific and technical objectives and estimating the overall Community financial participation and the way in which it is to be allocated to the various objectives.

2. Within the multiannual framework programme, the Community's sectoral programmes shall lay down the specific objectives of RDTD, define their technical content, fix their duration and provide for the means judged to be necessary for their implementation, as well as detailed rules for their execution, particularly those designed to promote cooperation between partners.

3. The sectoral programmes may take the form of complementary programmes involving the participation of only certain Member States, which shall contribute to their financing.

Article 4 (formerly Article 3)

1. Within the multiannual framework programme, in addition to its own programmes, the Community may provide for participation in:

(a) research and development programmes undertaken by the Member States, including participation in structures created for the execution of those programmes;

- (b) research and development programmes undertaken by non-member States or international organizations, including participation in structures created for the execution of those programmes.
2. Provision may be made in the sectoral programmes for participation by non-member States or international organizations in those programmes.
 3. The form such participation is to take shall be the subject of agreements between the Community, the Member States or the non-member States or international organizations concerned.

Article 5 (formerly Article 4)

The Council, acting in accordance with the provisions of Article 7(2), may set up the requisite bodies for the implementation of the RDTD programmes, whether in the form of European agencies or, where appropriate, joint undertakings of the kind referred to in Articles 45 to 51 of the Euratom Treaty.

Article 6 (formerly Article 5)

1. The method of financing each programme, including any Community contribution, shall be established at the time of its adoption in accordance with Article 7(2).
2. Without prejudice to financial intervention by the Community using its borrowing and lending instruments, the contribution of the Community shall be laid down under the budget procedure.

Article 7 (formerly Article 6)

1. The Council shall adopt the multiannual framework programme acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament.

2. The sectoral programmes and other measures necessary for the implementation of the multiannual framework programme shall be adopted by the Council acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission. The adoption of the complementary programmes shall also require the agreement of the Member States taking part.*

*The arrangements for the Parliament's involvement in the decision-making procedures referred to in this Article are set out in the Commission document on the role of the Parliament in the Community's legislative process.

Brussels, 16 November 1985

MONETARY PROVISIONS
(New Commission proposal)

- Article 2 of the EEC Treaty is hereby supplemented as follows :

The Community shall have as its task, by establishing a common market and progressively approximating the economic policies of Member States, to promote throughout the Community a harmonious development of economic activities, a continuous and balanced expansion, an increase in stability, an accelerated raising of the standard of living and closer relations between the States belonging to it.

The objective shall be to achieve economic and monetary union of the Member States in accordance with Articles 103 to 107 of this Treaty, thus bringing about parallelism between alignment of economics and monetary cooperation.

- Article 107 of the EEC Treaty is hereby supplemented as follows :

1. Member States shall endeavour by means of their economic and monetary policy to bring about progressively an economic and monetary union and shall cooperate to this end, within the European Monetary System in particular.

The EMS shall include an exchange and intervention mechanism between Community currencies, in which Member States shall participate in order to execute its obligations. The European monetary unit (ECU) shall be the pillar of the system and shall be used in particular for settlements between Community monetary authorities.

2. If a Member State makes an alteration in its rate of exchange which is inconsistent with the objectives set out in Article 104 and which seriously distorts conditions of competition, the Commission may, after consulting the Monetary Committee, authorise other Member States to take for a strictly limited period the necessary measures, the conditions and details of which it shall determine, in order to counter the consequences of such alteration.
3. The European Monetary Cooperation Fund shall be the organ responsible for running the EMS. It shall be granted the necessary autonomy for accomplishing its tasks. Its board of governors shall be made up of members of the Committee of Governors of the central banks of the Member States and of a Commission representative.

4. The European Monetary Cooperation Fund shall be replaced at the appropriate time by a European Monetary Fund, with institutional autonomy.

For this purpose the Council, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament, shall lay down provisions which it shall recommend to the Member States for adoption in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements.

5 October 1985

(16)

PARLIAMENT'S POWERS

Commission paper

The proposals submitted here on increasing Parliament's powers are based upon the plan proposed by the German delegation - presentation in "baskets". They follow logically from the ideas floated by the Commission in its paper on the institutional implications of enlargement (COM(83) 116 final).

1. First "basket"

The obligation to consult the European Parliament is extended to cover all normative clauses of the Treaty (except in cases where the cooperation procedure applies).

2. Second "basket"

The principle of conciliation will be written into the Treaty and it could be used for all major acts and no longer only for acts with financial repercussions.

3. Third "basket"

The revision of the Treaty is intended to give the Community new horizons and, by the provision of more finely-tuned institutional machinery, the ability to reach them. In essence, those new horizons are represented by the extended market without frontiers, technological cooperation and greater economic and social cohesion. To ensure the effectiveness of this new departure the Commission proposes that Parliament be more closely associated with it, by means of a "cooperation" procedure. This procedure will come into operation wherever the Council, pursuant to the new provisions, may act by a qualified majority.

4. Fourth "basket"

Finally, for decisions of a "constitutional" nature in four areas (Articles 138, 201, 236 and 237), Parliament's assent or agreement should be obtained.

5. Judicial review

The adoption of these amendments justifies Parliament henceforth enjoying the same rights and owing the same obligations as the Council and the Commission in the procedure for the judicial review of acts of the institutions (Article 173 of the EEC Treaty).

I. EXTENSION OF CONSULTATION

The Commission proposes that consultation of the European Parliament be required in all provisions where this is not already laid down, except in the case of the provisions:

- containing safeguard clauses;
- relating to negotiations with non-member countries;
- relating to the composition and workings of institutions other than the European Parliament.

Clearly, those provisions under which the European Parliament is to be given a more active role (see III - Cooperation procedure) would also be excluded¹.

"Article ..."²

The provisions referred to in Articles 92(3)(d), 94, 101, 103(2), 112, 113(4), with the exception of the eventuality referred to in paragraph 3, 114, 121, 128, 136 and 213 shall be adopted after consultation of the European Parliament."

¹The following provisions would henceforth require consultation of the European Parliament:

- Article 92(3)(d) (declaration of the compatibility of certain categories of aid)
- Article 94 (conditions for the application of Articles 92 and 93)
- Article 101 (distortion of competition)
- Article 103(2) (economic policy measures)
- Article 112 (aid for exports)
- Article 113(2) (autonomous commercial policy and conclusion of commercial agreements)
- Article 121 (social security for migrant workers)
- Article 128 (vocational training)
- Article 136 (measures applicable to OCTs)
- Article 213 (collection of information).

²This provision will have to be converted subsequently into an amendment to each of the Articles referred to.

II. CONCILIATION

(19)

There is at present a conciliation procedure instituted by joint agreement between the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission for acts of general application which have appreciable financial implications (Declaration of 4 March 1975; OJ C 89, 22.4.1975, p. 1).

The Commission proposes that the scope of conciliation be enlarged and that the principle be written into the new Treaty and its objectives defined there.

The detailed arrangements and the timetable for implementation would be laid down in an act of secondary Community legislation adopted by joint agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.³ Specific arrangements could be made for certain decisions such as the conclusion of international agreements.

Article 149a

1. Where the European Parliament is consulted in pursuance of this Treaty, the Council and the European Parliament, with the assistance of the Commission, may resort to a conciliation procedure to enable the Council, in its deliberations, to be better informed of the significance and import of the European Parliament's opinion and to seek agreement with the latter.

2. The conciliation procedure shall be initiated by joint agreement between the European Parliament and the Council at the request of either institution, after obtaining the opinion of the Commission, if warranted by the economic significance or legislative scope of the act in question.

³It is worth noting that the Commission proposed improvements to the existing procedure at the end of 1982. On the basis of that proposal the Working Party on General Affairs in the Council finalized a text which has since been approved by nine delegations (doc. 7702/84 of 7 June 1984). The act provided for in the fourth paragraph of the new Article 149a could be based on the arrangements contained in that text, which are broadly in-line with the European Parliament's own guidelines.

3. After completion of the conciliation procedure the Council shall act as provided for under this Treaty, taking account of the results of conciliation. It shall inform Parliament of its decision, giving a reasoned explanation.

4. The detailed arrangements and timetable for implementation of the conciliation procedure shall be adopted by joint agreement between the European Parliament, acting by an absolute majority of its members, the Council, acting by a qualified majority, and the Commission."

III. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL

The Commission proposes effective involvement of the European Parliament in the exercise of legislative competence for instruments relating to the internal market and the new areas brought within the scope of Community activity (technological research and development, economic and social cohesion of the Community). The European Parliament's agreement would be required for the Council to be able to act on a Commission proposal by a qualified majority. Should the European Parliament introduce amendments, the Council would have to proceed to a second reading.

"Article 149b

Where, in pursuance of this Treaty, a Council act is adopted in cooperation with the European Parliament, the following procedure shall apply:

1. The Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, after obtaining the opinion of the European Parliament, shall adopt an act on first reading.

2. The Council act shall be transmitted to the European Parliament.

If, within two months of such communication, the European Parliament approves this act or has not stated its position, the Council shall definitively adopt the act in question.

3. Within the period of two months referred to at 2 above, the European Parliament may, by an absolute majority of its members, propose amendments to the Council act. It may also reject the Council act by an absolute majority. These decisions shall be transmitted to the Council and the Commission.

4. The Commission shall deliver an opinion on the decision reached by the European Parliament.

5. Where the Commission delivers a favourable opinion, the Council, acting by a qualified majority, may adopt the amendments of the European Parliament and definitively adopt the act as thus amended. In the event of an unfavourable opinion, it shall act unanimously.

The Council, acting unanimously, may alter the European Parliament's amendments or disregard its rejection and definitively adopt the act in question."

In relation to the internal market, to ensure that the procedure remains consistent, cooperation must apply not only to provisions for which a qualified majority is henceforth provided pursuant to the revised "internal market" document (Articles 2 and 5), but also to treaty provisions for which a qualified majority is already provided (cf. points a) and b) of the draft Article). Cooperation must also apply in the case of the new provisions relating to technological research and development and increasing the cohesion of the Community, which provide for a qualified majority.⁴

⁴This procedure would thus be applicable to the following provisions:

- Article 7 (prohibition of discrimination)
- Article 28 (alteration of the customs tariff)
- Article 49 (freedom of movement for workers)
- Article 51 (social security)
- Article 54(2) (freedom of establishment)
- Article 55 (exceptions to freedom of establishment)
- Article 56 (special treatment for foreign nationals)
- Article 57 (mutual recognition of diplomas and the pursuit of activities as self-employed persons)
- Article 59 (extension of freedom of establishment to nationals of a third country)
- Article 69 (free movement of capital)
- Article 70(1) (movement of capital involving third countries)
- Article 99 (indirect taxation - internal market)
- Article 100 (free movement of goods and services - internal market)
- Article 235 (free movement of goods and services - internal market)

and to the new provisions proposed by the Commission:

- Article 5 of the revised "internal market" document
- Article 7(2) of the revised "technological research and development" document
- Article 5 of the document on "increasing the cohesion of the Community".

"Article ...⁵

The following shall be taken in accordance with the procedure of Article 149b:

- a) the decisions referred to in Articles 2 and 5 of the revised document on the internal market;
- b) the decisions referred to in Articles 7, 49, 54(2), 55, 56(2), last sentence, 57(1) and (2), first sentence, and 69;
- c) the decisions referred to in Article 7(2) of the revised document on technological research and development;
- d) the decisions referred to in Article 5 of the document on increasing the cohesion of the Community."

⁵ This provision will have to be converted subsequently into an amendment to each of the Articles referred to.

IV. ASSENT PROCEDURE

In four cases which concern the Community's "constitution", the Treaty provides for a mixed procedure involving both the Community and the Member States. These are:

- the establishment of a uniform procedure for the election of Members of the European Parliament (Article 138(3));
- the creation of own resources (Article 201);
- revision of the Treaty (Article 236);
- accession of a new Member State (Article 237).

In the case of Articles 138 and 201, the decision taken at Community level by the Council alone cannot enter into force unless it is subsequently approved by each Member State in accordance with its constitutional requirements.

In the case of Article 237, the Council decision is a precondition for the adoption of the accession agreement by the Member States and the applicant State.

In the case of Article 236, the procedure is more complex: the Council has to deliver an opinion in favour of calling an intergovernmental conference which then determines the amendments to be made to the Treaty.

In the case of Articles 138, 201 and 237, the Commission proposes that the Council should in future take its decision after receiving the assent of Parliament. The decision would still have to be ratified by the Member States.

In the case of Article 236, the Commission supports the proposal made by the German Delegation on 24 September 1985.

This means that the four Articles in question should be amended as follows:

Article 138 (second subparagraph of paragraph 3)

"The Council shall, acting unanimously after receiving the assent of the European Parliament, lay down the appropriate provisions, which it shall recommend to Member States for adoption in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements".

Article 201 (third paragraph)

"After receiving the assent of the European Parliament to these proposals the Council may, acting unanimously, lay down the appropriate provisions, which it shall recommend to the Member States for adoption in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements".

Article 236 (text proposed by the German Delegation)

"The Government of any Member State, the European Parliament or the Commission may submit to the Council proposals for the amendment of this Treaty.

If the Council and the European Parliament, after consulting the Commission, deliver an opinion in favour of calling a conference of representatives of the Governments of the Member States, the conference shall be convened by the President of the Council for the purpose of determining by common accord the amendments to be made to this Treaty.

The amendments shall require the assent of the European Parliament acting by a majority of its Members; they shall enter into force after being ratified by all the Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements."

Article 237 (first paragraph)

"Any European State may apply to become a member of the Community. It shall address its application to the Council, which shall act unanimously after consulting the Commission and obtaining the assent of the European Parliament."

V. JUDICIAL REVIEW

Adoption of the above provisions justifies the European Parliament being placed on the same footing as the Council and the Commission in the procedure for the judicial review of acts of the institutions. Article 173 will thus have to be amended as follows:

"Article 173

The Court of Justice shall review the legality of acts of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission other than recommendations or opinions. It shall for this purpose have jurisdiction in actions brought by a Member State, the European Parliament, the Council or the Commission on grounds of lack of competence, infringement of an essential procedural requirement, infringement of this Treaty or of any rule of law relating to its application, or misuse of powers.

Any natural or legal person may, under the same conditions, institute proceedings against a decision addressed to that person or against a decision which, although in the form of a regulation or a decision addressed to another person, is of direct and individual concern to the former.

The proceedings provided for in this article shall be instituted within two months of the publication of the measure, or of its notification to the plaintiff, or, in the absence thereof, of the day on which it came to the knowledge of the latter, as the case may be."

September 27, 1985

(27)

MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTING POWERS OF THE
COMMISSION

Article ...

The fourth indent of Article 155 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community is replaced by the following :

" - exercise the powers for the implementation of the rules laid down by the Council. Subject to Article 205, the Council may, when adopting such rules, impose certain requirements in respect of the exercise of those powers. The Council, acting unanimously, may also reserve the right in specific cases to exercise certain of those powers itself.

The requirements referred to above must be consonant with principles and rules to be laid down in advance by the Council, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after obtaining the opinion of the European Parliament."

18 October 1985

E N V I R O N M E N T

Revised document

Article 1

-1-

(30)

1. Action by the Community relating to the environment shall have the following objectives:
 - to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the natural and man-made environments;
 - to contribute towards protecting human health;
 - to ensure the prudent use of natural resources on which the quality of life depends.

2. Action by the Community relating to the environment shall be based on the principles that preventive action should be taken, that environmental damage should preferably be rectified at source, and that the polluter should pay. Protection of the environment shall be an important component of the other Community policies.

3. In preparing its action relating to the environment, the Community shall take account of:
 - available scientific data;
 - ecological conditions in the various regions of the Community;
 - the costs and benefits of taking action or not taking action;
 - the economic and social development of the Community as a whole and the balanced development of its regions.

4. The Community shall take action relating to the environment to the extent to which the objectives referred to in paragraph 1 can better be attained at Community level than at the level of the individual Member States.

Article 2

The Council, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, shall decide on the principle and objectives of Community intervention in any given area.

Article 3

The Council shall adopt measures for the implementation of decisions taken pursuant to Article 2 acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament.

Article 4

Articles 2 and 3 shall apply to the provisions already adopted by the Community relating to the environment.

**COMMISSION
OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

September 27, 1985

(32)

PROMOTING COMMON CULTURAL VALUES

Article ...

1. The Community shall, in the exercise of its powers, contribute to the affirmation of the cultural identity of Europe and the promotion of common cultural values, while respecting their diversity. Special attention shall be paid to improving knowledge of each nation's culture and history and to developing new means of communication, particularly the audio-visual media.

2. In pursuance of the objectives set out in paragraph 1, the widest possible cooperation shall be sought with other European countries and with the international organizations that have responsibilities in the cultural field, notably the Council of Europe.