

Doc 93.3(25)
100 1974

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1974-1975

3 May 1974

DOCUMENT 41/74

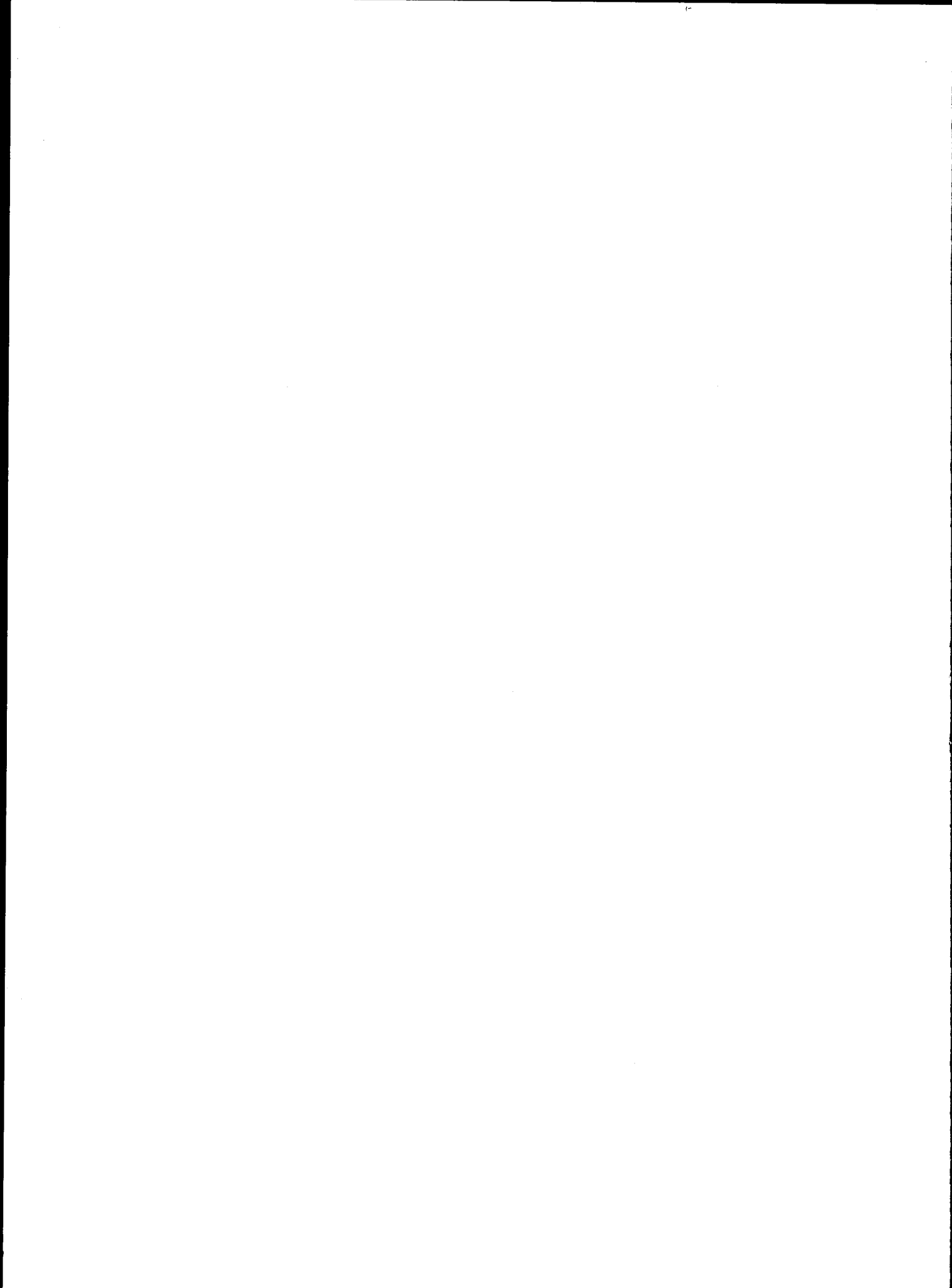
Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth

on the Memorandum from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 112/73) on measures to be taken in application of point 16 of the Hague Communiqué

- Recommendation for a decision setting up a “Committee for Youth Questions”
- Recommendation for a decision setting up a “Youth Advisory Committee”

Rapporteur: Mr Horst SEEFELD



By letter of 29 February 1972 the President of the Council of the European Communities, exercising his discretionary powers, consulted the European Parliament on the Memorandum from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council concerning recommendations for a decision setting up a Committee for Youth Questions and a decision setting up a Youth Advisory Committee (Doc. 270/71).

On 10 March 1972 the President of the European Parliament referred these texts to the Political Affairs Committee, as the committee responsible, and to the Committee for Finance and Budgets for its opinion.

By letter of 21 June 1973 the President of the Council, exercising his discretionary powers, once again consulted the European Parliament on the Memorandum, which had been revised to take account of the enlargement of the European Communities (Doc. 112/73).

On 3 July 1973 the President of the European Parliament referred the revised Memorandum to the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on Budgets for its opinion.

The committee appointed Mr Seefeld rapporteur on 4 May 1973.

It considered the Memorandum at its meetings of 14 June, 11 July, 24 September, 8 October (hearing of representatives of youth organizations), 19 November and 7 December 1973.

On 9 January 1974 the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth appointed a working party which considered the recommendation for a decision on setting up a 'Youth Advisory Committee' on 16 January, 31 January, and 28 February and 12 March 1974.

The Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth considered the latter recommendation again on 28 February and 21 March 1974.

It approved the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement at the latter meeting by 8 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

The following were present: Mr Broeks, chairman; Mr Nolan, vice-chairman; Mr Seefeld, rapporteur; Lady Elles, Mr John Hill, Mr Hougardy, Mr Klepsch, Mr Laban, Mr Pisoni, Mr Premoli, Mr Terrenoire and Mr Thornley.

C O N T E N T S

| | <u>Page</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION | 5 |
| B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT | 17 |
| Annex I | 22 |
| Annex II | 34 |

The Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the European Parliament's opinion on the Communication from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council on measures to be taken in application of section 16 of the Hague Communiqué:

- Recommendation for a decision setting up a Committee for Youth Questions
- Recommendation for a decision setting up a Youth Advisory Committee

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Communication from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM (73) 635 fin.),
- having been consulted by the Council in an instance in which consultation was not obligatory (Doc.270/71 and 112/73);
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth (Doc. 41/74);
- having regard to the Communiqué of the Conference of Heads of State or Government on 1 and 2 December 1969 at The Hague;

1. Draws attention to the report drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc.232/71) and to the resolution adopted on the basis of this report¹, and endorses the requests put forward therein;
2. Urges that a first conference of the ministers of the Member States responsible for youth be convened as soon as possible in the Council of the Communities;
3. Urges that the decisions taken by such a conference be coordinated with the decisions of the ministers responsible for educational matters so as to arrive at a coherent Community educational, youth and cultural policy;
4. Regrets the Commission's failure to consult representatives of international and national youth organizations in drawing up its proposals;

¹ OJ No. C 19, 28 February 1972 , p. 20

5. Endorses the Commission's recommendation for a Council decision on the setting up of a 'Committee on Youth', subject to the following amendments;
6. Believes that the Commission's recommendation for a Council decision setting up a Youth Advisory Committee does not, in its present form, meet specific expectations and should therefore be radically amended;
7. Requests the Commission to incorporate the following amendments in its recommendation, pursuant to Article 149, paragraph 2, of the EEC Treaty;
8. Calls on the Council and the Commission of the European Communities to study and take in hand youth problems with the greatest possible openness so as to arouse in young people feelings of unity and mutual understanding, and to make them fully aware of their worth and their rights and obligations in a united, democratic and peace-loving Europe;
9. Requests the European Commission to take the necessary measures to ensure that, as from 1 January 1975, the appropriations for youth measures are consolidated within one chapter and substantially increased;
10. Also requests the Commission to investigate whether a European Youth Centre should not be created;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the relevant report to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

I. Recommendation for a Council decision
setting up a Committee for Youth Questions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty estab-
lishing the European Economic
Community

Having regard to the Commission's
recommendation,

Having regard to the opinion of the
European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the
Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas the creative activities and
the actions conducive to European
growth will be assured of a greater
future if the younger generation is
closely associated with them, as was
recognized by the Heads of State or
Government at the Hague on 1 and 2
December 1969;

Whereas, in order to facilitate the
formulation of the procedure for the
association of the young in the
Community's work and to make its
achievement possible, a procedure
should be provided instituting
permanent coordination of the
activities of the Member States and
of the Commission within a Committee
for Youth Questions,

DECIDES:

Article 1

A Standing Committee for Youth
Questions (hereinafter called the
'Committee') is hereby established.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaties estab-
lishing the European Economic
Community, the European Coal and
Steel Community and the European
Atomic Energy Community,

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

DECIDES:

Article 1

A Standing Committee for Youth
Questions (hereinafter called the
'Committee') is hereby established
within the Commission.

Article 2

The task of the committee shall be to ensure permanent coordination and consultation between the Member States and the Commission to study measures to be taken:

- to inform the younger generation in the Member States more thoroughly of the objectives and implementation of the Treaties establishing the European Communities,
- to associate the young with the study and achievement of certain actions in application of the said Treaties,
- to promote new initiatives associating the young in the work of the Community.

Article 3

1. The Member States and the Commission shall each appoint two members to the Committee. They can also designate two deputy members.

The members of the Committee and the deputies appointed by the Member States shall be chosen from among the senior officials responsible for youth questions in their own country.

2. The committee shall elect its bureau for a period of two years.

Article 2

unchanged

unchanged

to associate the young with the study and achievement of certain actions in application of the said Treaties of direct and special concern to youth as such,

to evolve and promote new initiatives associating the young in the work of the Community.

Article 3

1. Each Member State and the Commission shall appoint two members to the Committee. They can also each designate two deputy members.

The members of the Committee and the deputies appointed by the Member States shall be chosen from among the senior officials responsible for youth questions in their own country.

The term of office of the members of the Committee and the deputies shall be two years. It shall be renewable.

unchanged

3. The Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure and submit them for approval to the Council, which shall give a valid decision on them after hearing the opinion of the Commission.

4. The secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the services of the Commission, which shall be responsible for preparing the Committee's work and for maintaining the necessary contacts with existing committees or working parties.

Article 4

In the performance of its tasks as laid down in Article 2, the Committee shall, at the request of the Council or the Commission, or on its own initiative, compile reports and issue opinions.

The committee shall address its reports and opinions to the Council and the Commission.

3. The Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure and submit them for approval to the Council, which shall give a valid decision on the granting of such approval after hearing the opinion of the Commission.

4. unchanged

unchanged

Article 5

The Commission shall submit to the European Parliament an annual report on the activities of the Committee.

II. Recommendation for a Council decision setting up a
'Youth Advisory Committee'

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the treaties establishing the European Economic Community, the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the Commission's recommendation,

unchanged

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

unchanged

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

unchanged

Whereas the creative activities and the actions conducive to European growth will be assured of a greater future if the younger generation is closely associated with them, as was recognized by the Heads of State or Government at The Hague on 1 and 2 December 1969;

unchanged

Whereas, in order to facilitate the formulation of the details of such association and to enable its achievement, a procedure should be provided for establishing close cooperation between the Community and representatives of youth organizations within a Committee with advisory status and able to express its opinions in complete independence,

Whereas, in order to facilitate the formulation of the details of such association and to enable its achievement, a procedure should be provided for establishing close cooperation between the Community and representatives of youth organizations within a forum with advisory status and able to express its opinions in complete independence,

DECIDES:

Article 1

A Youth Advisory Committee (hereinafter called the 'Committee') is hereby established.

DECIDES:

Article 1

A European Youth Forum (hereinafter called the 'Forum') is hereby established.

Article 2

The Committee shall be consulted on the initiative of the Commission or the Council on measures provided for by the Treaties and on new initiatives to associate young people in the work of the Community.

- As regards measures provided for by the Treaties, the Committee may be asked for opinions, in particular in the following spheres: questions concerning youth employment and unemployment, mobility of young people, operations of the Social Fund, vocational training and guidance, problems of special interest to young farmers, freedom of establishment and the mutual recognition of diplomas, the protection of young people at work, their social and cultural advancement, exchanges of young workers and the participation of young people in certain development aid programmes.

Article 1A

The Forum shall, as a rule, hold two three-day meetings each year.

It shall be divided into three sections, the first being composed of representatives of political organizations, the second of representatives of social or trade union organizations, and the third of representatives of organizations with a mainly educational or cultural character.

The sections shall meet separately for from one to three days one month before each Forum meeting.

Article 2

The Forum shall be consulted on the initiative of the European Parliament, the Commission or the Council on measures provided for by the Treaties and their further evolution and on new initiatives to associate young people in the work of the Community.

- As regards measures provided for by the Treaties, the Forum may be asked for opinions, in particular in the following spheres: questions concerning youth employment and unemployment, mobility of young people, operations of the Social Fund, vocational training and guidance, problems of special interest to young people active in various sectors of the economy, freedom of establishment and the mutual recognition of diplomas, the protection of young people at work, their social and cultural advancement, exchanges of young workers and the participation of young people in certain development aid programmes.

- As regards new initiatives, the Committee may be asked to give opinions with a view to promoting fresh forms of action to involve the young in the work of the Community (educational measures, exchange programmes, etc) or to improve their living conditions and training facilities in all the Member States.

- As regards new initiatives, the Forum may be asked to give opinions with a view to promoting fresh forms of action to involve the young in the work of the Community (educational measures, exchange programmes, etc.) or to improve their living conditions and training facilities in all the Member States.

Article 2A

The Forum may also, on its own initiative, deliver opinions on the subjects referred in Article 2.

The Community institutions shall be required to consider these opinions. Any minority viewpoint that obtains 25% or more of the votes cast shall be attached to the opinion and submitted to the institutions for consideration.

Article 3

1. The Council shall appoint the members of the Committee after having received the Commission's opinion. To this end, the Member States shall present to the Council a list of representatives chosen from among national youth organizations containing twice as many names as there are seats for the country in question. The 52 seats are distributed as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Belgium | 4 |
| Denmark | 3 |
| France | 9 |
| Federal Republic of Germany | 9 |
| Republic of Ireland | 3 |
| Italy | 9 |
| Luxembourg | 2 |
| Netherlands | 4 |
| United Kingdom | 9 |

52

Article 3

1. Every international youth organization to which the Commission has granted consultative status with the Communities may send one, two or three representatives to the Forum; each of the organizations shall have one vote only. International youth organizations which are active in at least five of the nine Member States to further the cause of European unification and which submit an annual report on their activities to the European Commission may be granted such consultative status one year after the submission of their application.

In order to promote the creation of youth organizations at Community level, account shall be taken not only of the question whether the persons proposed are representative of their country's youth but also of their membership of international youth organizations at Community level.

2. The term of office of the members of the Committee shall be two years. It shall be renewable.

3. The Committee shall elect its bureau for a two-year period.

4. The Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure and submit these for approval to the Council which shall give a valid decision after having heard the opinion of the Commission.

Every international organization represented on the Forum shall be entitled to have, if necessary, a representative in each section. It shall have only one vote, namely in the section for which it has itself expressed a preference.

delete.

3. Each section of the Forum shall elect a bureau of three members for a period of two years.

The chairman of the Forum shall be elected by the plenary assembly for a period of two years.

The chairman of the Forum and the bureaus of each section shall together constitute the Forum Bureau.

The Bureau shall meet every three months.

4. It shall be the task of the Forum Bureau to ensure the permanent coordination of activities undertaken in the interests of young people by the Forum and the Community institutions.

Further, the Forum Bureau shall remain in permanent contact with the Commission to discuss the implementation of projects designed to promote youth information activities and the exchange of young people in Europe.

The Forum shall draw up rules of procedure that will enable it to perform all the tasks entrusted to it under the terms of the present decision.

5. The secretariat of the Committee shall be a permanent body designated by the members of the Committee. All operational expenses of the Committee and its secretariat shall be financed from an amount earmarked for this purpose in the Community's budget.

5. The Forum shall have an independent and appropriately staffed secretariat.

All operational expenses of the Forum and its secretariat shall be financed from an amount earmarked for this purpose in the Community's budget by way of an increase in the Kreyszig Funds.

6.

6. On one day of each Forum meeting, a combined meeting shall be held with the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth of the European Parliament and representatives of the European Commission and Council.

7. The national youth councils in the Member States of the Community shall each delegate one representative to the Forum, who shall be entitled to vote in the plenary assembly.

Article 4

In pursuing its tasks as defined in Article 2, the Committee shall compile reports and issue opinions at the request of the Council or the Commission. The Committee shall address its reports and opinions to the Council and the Commission.

Article 4

In pursuing its tasks as defined in Article 2, the Forum shall compile reports and issue opinions. The Forum shall address its reports and opinions to the Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

Furthermore, the minutes of the meetings of the Forum shall be submitted to the Community institutions.

Article 5

After a period not exceeding two years from the date on which this decision enters into force, the Commission shall present a report to the Council and Parliament on the structure and functioning of this Forum and its organs and shall, if appropriate, propose the revision of the present decision.

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

- I. Recommendation for a Council decision setting up a Committee for Youth Questions.

Preamble and considerations

The Commission has based its proposal on the EEC Treaty only. It is, however, clear from Article 2 of the proposed decision that the Commission does not intend to confine the activities of the Committee for Youth Questions to the area of the EEC Treaty; on the contrary it proposes to include the areas covered by the ECSC and Euratom Treaties in the terms of reference. The Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth supports this view and is therefore of the opinion that these two treaties must also be mentioned in the preamble.

Article 1

It should be made clear that the Committee for Youth Questions is an auxiliary body of the Commission. The Council can create its own structures in the Council Secretariat or in the Committees of Permanent Representatives. It should therefore be added that the Committee for Youth Questions shall be set up 'within the Commission'.

Article 2

The terms of reference to which the activities of the committee are to be restricted can be defined somewhat more clearly than simply by the word 'certain' actions of the Community. This can be achieved by stating that its terms of reference include all actions 'of direct and special concern to youth as such'.

In the text of the third indent, instead of speaking only of the 'promotion' of new initiatives' reference should be made to the right to evolve and promote new initiatives, in order to emphasize the Committee's right of initiative.

Article 3

For greater clarity it would be preferable not to state that 'the Member States' shall appoint two members, but that 'each Member State shall appoint two members', and can also designate two deputy members.

Again for the sake of clarity, it would be better to say in paragraph 3 that the Council will decide on the granting of such approval i.e. of the rules of procedure of the committee, after the Commission has given an opinion. Otherwise the sentence could be construed in a more general sense.

Article 4

No proposed amendments. The Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth strongly supports the Commission's proposal that the committee should be given a right of initiative in that it would be entitled to submit proposals 'on its own account'. Only in this way can the committee make a dynamic contribution to the formulation of a joint youth policy.

New Article 5

The Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth attaches importance to the European Parliament being associated with the work of this committee. This could be of great importance, particularly in the initial period of a common youth policy. It therefore considers that an annual report on the Committee's activities should be submitted to the European Parliament.

- II. Recommendation for a Council decision setting up a Youth Advisory Committee

Preamble and recitals

The ECSC and Euratom Treaties must be mentioned here for the same reasons as were given for the first recommendation.

Article 1

In order to make a clear distinction between this and the Committee for Youth Questions and to underline the fact that this is a new approach to youth policy in the Communities, the name Youth Forum is recommended. This also applies to the recitals and the remaining articles.

Article 1A

This article should be added in order to provide a more detailed description of the work and structure of the forum. The Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth believes that the Forum should, as a rule, meet for three days twice a year in order to give young people in the

Community the opportunity to cooperate, on a permanent basis, in the building of Europe.

The international youth organizations represented in the Forum should be enabled to express their views on political, social and cultural affairs according to their particular scope. For this reason the Forum should be subdivided in such a way that it is possible for the representatives of organizations concerned principally with any one of the above spheres to meet separately for from one to three days one month before each Forum meeting.

Article 2

It is possible that at some time in the future the European Parliament and its committees may desire to consult the youth organizations on certain questions. The Forum would be an excellent medium through which to effect such consultation.

The committee therefore considers it very desirable that the Forum should be able to take action on the initiative of the European Parliament. As regards the matters on which opinions may be delivered the committee is able to concur with the list given by the Commission, subject to two amendments. It would like to see the addition of matters which come under the 'further evolution' of the Treaties, for one thing because a large number of problems in which youth are directly or indirectly interested do not come explicitly or fully within the purview of the European Treaties.

The aim of the second amendment is to abolish the restrictive phrase suggesting that specific youth problems exist only in the agricultural sector.

Article 2A

This article is added to satisfy the desire, so clearly manifested at the hearing of youth organizations, for possession of the right of initiative. Here the committee believes that the Forum's opinions, as also minority viewpoints that have obtained at least 25% of the votes cast, should be considered by the Community institutions.

Article 3

Paragraph 1

To be deleted and replaced by a procedure which guarantees the independence of the youth organizations.

The committee believes that the members of the Youth Forum should be appointed directly by international organizations which have been granted consultative status with the Commission by reason of their activities in at

least five of the nine Member States in the cause of European unification, on which a report is submitted annually to the Commission. Such consultative status may be granted one year after it has been applied for.

Organizations with consultative status will have only one vote in the Forum and one vote in the section of their choice. They will be at liberty to attend the other two sections as observers.

Paragraph 2

This paragraph naturally goes out.

Paragraph 3

This paragraph provides for the election of the chairman, the Forum Bureau and the bureau of each section of the Forum, it being understood that the aims of the respective youth organizations will be taken into account and that the continuity of the activities undertaken will be guaranteed.

Paragraph 4

So that the independence of the Forum, stipulated in paragraph 1 of this article may be reinforced the Forum should draw up its own rules of procedure. The committee nevertheless believes that these rules of procedure should incorporate arrangements for permanent coordination with the Community institutions of the youth measures to be taken in the Community.

Paragraph 5

The youth representatives have often stated that the Forum (and therefore also the international organizations) should have at their disposal an independent and appropriately staffed secretariat, preferably situated in the vicinity of the seat of the European Commission in Brussels. The operational expenses and the costs connected with the organization of the Forum should, however, be covered by a special appropriation in the budget.

The European Community's budget includes appropriations for youth measures under various chapters. The question is perhaps worth asking whether a specific cohesive Community youth policy would not be better served if the appropriations earmarked for youth measures were consolidated within one chapter, for example in a Kreyssig Fund which could gradually develop into a youth fund.

Paragraph 6

The committee believes that the first two days of Forum meetings should be reserved exclusively for the representatives of the international youth organizations to meet amongst themselves; a joint meeting with the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth and the representatives of the Commission and Council should also be held on one of the three days of Forum meetings.

Paragraph 7

So that the international and national youth organizations excluded by the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article may make their views known in the Forum, a representative of the national youth council of each Member State should be afforded the opportunity of participating in the work of the Forum. Such representatives will of course be entitled to vote only in the plenary assembly.

Article 4

As Articles 2 and 2A already provide that the Forum may compile reports or deliver opinions on the initiative of the Parliament, the Commission for the Council or on its own initiative, this need not be restated here. Such reports and opinions should, however, be addressed principally to the European Parliament.

So as to enable the Community institutions to keep fully up to date with the work of the Forum, it should be explicitly stated that the minutes of Forum meetings must be sent to the Community institutions.

Article 5 (new)

This article will contain the customary clause about subjecting to review the structure and functioning of the Forum after a period not exceeding two years from the date this decision comes into force.

ANNEX I

Views of the Christian-Democratic Group, the Socialist Group and the European Conservative Group and the Conservative youth organizations on the recommendation contained in the Memorandum from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision setting up a 'Youth Advisory Committee' (Doc. 112/73)

PROPOSALS FROM THE CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC GROUP CONCERNING THE
CREATION OF A COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON YOUTH

(adopted by the Group on 11 December 1973)

1. The Christian-Democratic Group notes that the Commission's proposals for the setting-up of a Youth Advisory Committee were not approved by any of the international youth organizations represented at the hearing held on 8 October 1973 by the European Parliament's Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth.
2. If, in accordance with section 16 of the Hague Communiqué, the aim is to associate youth closely with the building of Europe, it would be unwise to set up an institution in which many international youth organizations would refuse to participate.
3. The Christian-Democratic Group therefore intends to reject the Commission's proposals for the setting up of a Youth Advisory Committee and to request new proposals on the following basis.
4. No attempt should be made to set up an institution which, by a procedure giving rise to an artificial majority, would compel youth to speak with one voice. Indeed, as the 'hearing' on 8 October clearly showed, youth never speaks with one voice.
5. Youth organizations cannot pretend to represent all youth. It would be foolish therefore, to set up a Youth Parliament on this basis. Such organizations do, however, make it possible to involve the maximum number of young people in the building of Europe. In view of this international youth organizations should be helped to send representatives to Brussels, where Community decisions are taken and where the European institutions would be able to seek their opinions, the importance of which derives precisely from their diversity.

6. Since, as regards European education, international youth organizations represent integrated models of coordination and stimulus on the basis of different political, trade-union and cultural trends, youth movements structured at European Community level should be considered important bodies for consultation.
7. The Community should create a Community Youth Council consisting of the appointed representatives of every European youth organization which has consultative status with the Commission.
8. To enjoy consultative status with the Commission, a European youth organization must:
 1. Show that it consists of national member organizations from at least 6 Member States of the European Community whose activities extend to the whole of each of these countries;
 2. Regularly carry out, every year, information and education programmes connected with the building of Europe and addressed to young people between 15 and 35 years of age evenly distributed over at least 5 EEC countries;
 3. Agree to supply the Commission each year with all the details of these information and education programmes and, where necessary, to submit to inspection by the ad hoc services of the Commission.
9. The Community Council shall meet at least twice a year and shall be subdivided into three sections which may meet separately depending on the topics of interest concerned: the first section shall consist of the political European youth organizations, the second of the trade-union or professional organizations, and the third of the educational or cultural organizations.
10. The meetings of the Community Council on Youth shall normally last two days. On the first day, the representatives of the youth organizations will meet alone. On the second day a joint-session could be arranged with the members of the European Parliament's Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth. The representatives of CENYC and the Committee for Youth Questions could be invited as observers. Complete reports of the debates would be placed at the disposal of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission, but only the motions carrying more than 75% of the votes within one of the sections (i.e. obtaining broad agreement) would give a 'right of initiative' and thus be considered as representing the opinion of youth.

11. The Commission must provide small offices (one per organization) for international organizations with consultative status, permitting them to be represented by a small secretariat in Brussels.
12. The Community Council shall elect its bureau for a period of two years on proposals from the various sections. This bureau shall consist of 10 members - at least 3 representatives of the youth organizations from the first section, 2 representatives from the second and 2 representatives from the third section. It shall appoint a chairman and vice-chairman from among its members. It shall draw up the agenda for meetings of the Community Council and represent the Community Council between meetings; it shall also submit draft rules of procedure for its terms of office for approval by the Community Council.
13. The collaboration of the bureau of the Community Council on Youth and that of Commission representatives should be secured within a joint body constituting a Community Youth Centre. This Community Youth Centre will be responsible for carrying through all initiatives aimed at contributing to the dissemination of information to young people and to youth exchanges in Europe (Centres, scholarships and funds for young people). Hence, it would permit the classification and coordination of all initiatives adopted by the Commission in favour of youth.
14. This project will make it possible to involve young people in a close and practical manner in the building of Europe. Indeed, by making it possible for youth organizations to work together on practical questions spontaneous cooperation and understanding will be created. The European institutions, and primarily the European Parliament, will be able to benefit from the many suggestions in drawing up a Community Youth Policy.

PROPOSALS FROM THE SOCIALIST GROUP

(forwarded by the Group on 19 December 1973)

1. The Socialist Group proposes the formation of a 'European Youth Forum', which should:
 - meet twice a year,
 - consist of 50 members,
 - have the right of initiative,
 - be open to consultation by the Commission and the European Parliament (Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth), and
 - publish an annual report on its views and activities.

The members of the Youth Forum will be nominated by the two international European youth organizations, CENYC and the Coordination Bureau. European organizations not at present belonging to the Coordination Bureau, in particular a number of political youth organizations and 'Sportjugend', will be asked to consider joining.

CENYC and the Coordination Bureau will themselves nominate their representatives (25 per organization), taking geographical considerations into account. Members will be elected to the Youth Forum for a period of one year. The term of office may be renewed. The delegations from the two organizations may also include youth representatives who do not come from the Member States of the European Community. The number of such representatives may not, however, amount to more than one-third of the total number of participants.

The tasks of the Youth Forum will be those set forth in Article 2 of the Commission's present recommendation, together with the others mentioned at the hearing of youth representatives. The Youth Forum will have a suitable secretariat responsible for organizing current work and carrying out the tasks of the Youth Forum.

2. The Socialist Group further recommends immediate consideration, by the Commission, of the establishment of a 'European Youth Centre'. This should be set up in Brussels and should be placed at the disposal of all youth organizations in the Community for international conferences and seminars. The Youth Centre must therefore be equipped with: living quarters for conference participants, dining rooms, conference rooms, translation facilities, library, day rooms and offices for conference organizers. The Youth Centre could be administered by the secretariat of the Youth Forum in conjunction with the Commission.

This Youth Centre would be a meeting place for European youth. It would enable the Commission to reduce the necessary subsidies for conferences, etc. and would cut down the costs the youth organizations have to meet out of their own funds.

VIEWS OF THE EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVE GROUP AND
OF THE CONSERVATIVE YOUTH ORGANISATIONS,
ENDORSED BY THE EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVE GROUP
ON THE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A. View of the European Conservative Group

(Letter from the Chairman of the European Conservative Group to the Chairman of the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth, dated 20th September 1973)

The group is fully seized of the need to associate young people with the building of Europe and is most concerned to see that they - as much as public opinion as a whole - should be involved in this process. We also recognise that there are a number of problems affecting particularly young people, which may require the formulation of new Community policies.

Our discussions led us, however, to doubt the need for youth to be institutionalised in the Community's Institutions to the extent envisaged in the Commission's proposals, and we thought that if the latter were implemented, they could in fact set a dangerous precedent for claims for similar status by other categories of Community citizens.

The Group was more inclined to view the involvement of youth as being part, a very important part, of the Community's overall information programme. Youth could also be further associated with the development of Europe through involving young people in specific projects under Community auspices such as, for example; a voluntary service programme: education and other exchanges: and the evolution of new Community policies designed to solve problems affecting young people. As far as we can see none of this would require the institutionalised approach implicit in the Commissions's proposals.

The Group do, however, agree that the Commission should have a central role in the administration of the policy and also that it should consult Member Governments.

We therefore support the establishment of a Committee for Youth Questions, composed of officials, under the Commission. But we are doubtful if it is necessary to formalise to any great extent the administrative arrangements for this Committee since the individual officials responsible for youth policy, who would be its members, frequently meet together in any case. They could arrange to cover regularly the agenda suggested in the Commission's proposals, together with any other relevant youth matters. This would not require a separate Secretariat, only a modest increase in Budget.

We doubt however, the wisdom of proposing a Youth Advisory Committee with the composition and terms of reference suggested by the Commission.

We think this would give an over-formal status to youth. The special institutional arrangements would be difficult to work out in detail, to define in terms of powers and procedures, and subsequently to amend and improve in the light of experience. They would also be unnecessarily expensive.

We believe a less rigid approach would be more likely to get results both in meeting the desires of organised youth to express its opinions and be listened to, and in attracting the interest of the many young people who are not members of any youth movement but whose support the Community must seek to enlist.

In the latter connection attention is drawn to the work which has already been done under the auspices of the Council of Europe in the youth field. . The European Youth Centre which has been established in Strasbourg following an eight-year "experimental period" was set up as an instrument of participation of European Youth and non-Governmental youth organisations in the building of Europe. The aims of the Centre are to supplement the training of youth leaders in a European context; provide non-Governmental youth organisations with a meeting place and,

- to seek, more particularly, means of ensuring participation by young people in solving the problems which concern them;
- to promote research into youth problems through the exchange of ideas and experiences.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe have also created a Foundation in which all European States may participate for the purpose of securing the support of Governments for youth activities contributing to the achievement of peace, understanding and co-operation among peoples.

In general the European Conservative Group believes that it is to the Parliament and its Committees that the opinions of youth should be primarily addressed.

We would welcome a decision to discuss this important question in greater depth in the light of present circumstances but we feel that any further reconsideration should involve youth organisations as well as the Commission.

B. Views of the Conservative Youth Organisations endorsed by the European Conservative Group :

Section 1 Principles

Action should be based on the following principles :

Any steps taken by the Community should encourage individual and independent youth action

Of all the groups in society, the young are the most subject to rapid changes of view and of needs. Only the youth organisations themselves can remain completely in touch with new feelings and developments. It should not be part of the Community's work to provide activities for the young. The Community has however a clear duty in three fields. It should be the provider of accurate information. It must be an open-minded partner in the continuing dialogue on the creation of Europe. It must provide such minimum facilities as are necessary to strengthen the youth organisations and help them to overcome the logistic barriers to co-operation.

Any institutions created must enable the Community to hear clearly the different views of youth

Nothing could damage the effectiveness of new institutions more than a feeling that they were untrustworthy or unrepresentative. No time should be wasted in searching for a compromise "Youth Viewpoint" where

no such position genuinely exists. There is no reason why youth should have a single view. To be young is essentially no more significant politically than to have red hair or to be over eighty. No one suggests that it is possible to find a meaningful common view among redheads or octagenarians. Any consensus which does emerge should be treated with great interest. This may happen in certain fields where youth has a special competence. If genuine agreement is reached among all or most parties, then it is most likely that the matter is a "youth question". This is the only workable definition of what a "youth question" is. Any attempt to restrict discussion will rightly be resented and will in any case be avoided by procedural ingenuity. The only safeguard that the Council will discuss relevant issues is the insertion of a requirement to achieve a specified level of support for any specific proposal. Such discussions should take place in public. The Community should be suspicious of artificially created compromise statements on general questions which purport to speak for youth.

There must be clarity of representation in any new institution

The problem of ensuring that representatives are truly representative is clearly very difficult in a situation where it is neither practical nor desirable to have mass elections. Nomination by governments is unacceptable as an interference with the freedom of youth to organise itself. The international youth organisations should be encouraged as they are already established at Community level. They are the natural partners in dialogue. However, there are limitations to their use for representative purposes. Obviously, a European Association of Stamp Collectors would be valuable if the Community wanted advice on Stamp Collecting. It is possible to doubt the value of the political, religious and social ideas of its leaders when other issues were being discussed. If a man is elected because of his expertise in one subject, then he should be listened to on that subject. Any other views which he may by chance hold are of considerably less weight. A collective general youth view should only be of importance where very widely supported.

It should not be necessary to create a heavily institutionalised additional bureaucracy

The Community needs to find a way of involving youth, of listening to youth and of informing youth. It does not need to create a new "Youth Parliament" that might aspire to do the same job as the European Parliament. The view of Liberal Youth is correct. There is a danger of creating too many youth institutions which will no

longer be subject to democratic control.

Section 2

Proposals

The Community should establish the following institutions.

The "Charlemagne Centre" for European Youth Organisations

It is necessary to establish a new kind of facility in Brussels. In the place of co-ordinating bureaux or large full-time youth secretariats "representing" all youth, aid is needed for European youth organisations - the "Internationals".

The Community should make office space available to the "Internationals" preferably in one building. This would allow the establishment of small bureaux for each recognised organisation. It would not be necessary for the Commission to staff the Centre.

The suggested name of "Charlemagne" has been given to distinguish the Centre from institutions such as the European Youth Foundation and The European Youth Centre. The Centre would provide a standing conference for consultation at all stages and all views would immediately be available to the Community. It might well be that, through the working together in the same building by the "Internationals" a consensus might emerge on practical problems. This would be enhanced by the access the "Internationals" would have to information and translation services.

It is suggested that the criterion for the granting of a bureau should be consultative status with the European Communities.

Three Youth Advisory Councils

It is suggested that there should be three councils dealing with Political Affairs, Social Affairs and Cultural Affairs. These three should form the Community Conference on Youth Affairs. This Conference should be held twice a year for three days. The first two days should be as separate Councils and the third day should be a joint session with the Youth and Cultural Affairs Committee. Participation in these Conferences should be on the basis of three representatives from each International, one to sit on each of the YACs. In addition, observer status, with speaking but not voting rights, would be given to CENYC, the Committee on Youth Questions, the European Commission youth staff

and representatives from the Council of Europe Youth Organisations.

Section 3

Problems

The right of Initiative

There has been considerable discussion about the so-called right of initiative of the Youth Organisations. It is clear that the job of the Conference is to express the various views of Youth, rather than to be a Government in miniature. The Conference should have the right to discuss whatever it considers relevant, but only those motions which command very widespread support should be sent to the other institutions for consideration. Thus, any motion in any Council should require 75% support to be passed. Any motion to be formally sent to the Council of Ministers, Parliament or Commission would require 75% support in all three Councils. All sessions should be public and all minutes should be available.

Participation of Non-Community Organisations

Concern has been expressed that it would be dangerous to limit representation to members of the nine countries. The following points should, however, be borne in mind. All Youth Organisations are aware of the need to consider the wider Europe. Most of the "Internationals" contain members from outside the current Community. CENYC represents Youth Councils in a similarly wide area. The interests of Non-Community countries will therefore be represented but it might be possible in addition to provide a limited number of Observer places for specific countries in specific instances. The particular need is to keep the Conference to a manageable size.

++++

ANNEX II

Resumé of the views expressed by the representatives of international youth organizations at the hearing organized in Brussels on 8 October 1973 by the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth.

A

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Why have the youth organizations expressed regret at the fact that they were not consulted by the Commission before it forwarded to the Council proposals for involving youth more closely in the construction of Europe?
 - Are there fundamental objections to the proposals put forward or is it a matter of principle?
2. Do the youth organizations insist, within the framework of the Consultative Committee, on being heard by the three European institutions?
 - Would it not be better to maintain a dialogue with the consultative institution, i.e. the European Parliament, bearing in mind the fact that the Commission is to have a Committee on youth questions and that the Council already has the Economic and Social Committee as a consultative body?
3. What are the youth organizations' views on the membership of, and appointment of members to, the Consultative Committee? Do they agree to the amendments put forward by the European Parliament or are they in favour of a different arrangement to give representation to all the major political, religious and educational viewpoints?
4. It goes without saying that the Consultative Committee should have a right of initiative on youth matters. Parliament would like to amend the Commission's proposal to this effect. Would it not therefore be desirable to define the Consultative Committee's terms of reference more clearly by indicating that they ought to relate in particular to youth questions?
5. Having regard to the European Commission's proposals, can the youth organizations already suggest any priority measures which could be taken to associate the younger generation more closely with the construction of Europe.

OPINION OF THE COUNCIL OF
EUROPEAN NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES

1. The Executive Committee of CENYC at its meeting in Rome, 1 - 2 October 1973 again thoroughly discussed the project of the European Communities Commission to create a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC). Special attention was paid to the Draft Report of the European Parliament's Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth (Rapporteur Mr. Seefeld) and to the questionnaire as adopted by the above committee.
2. CENYC recalls the resolution as adopted by its 8th General Assembly in Killarney, Ireland on 28 April 1973. The following principles are reaffirmed:
 - 2.1. Representatives of youth organisations in any body must be chosen by the youth organisations themselves and any outside interference is totally unacceptable.
 - 2.2. Any youth consultative body must be able to act in complete independence and have the right of initiative.
 - 2.3. CENYC strongly believes that youth must strive to overcome the existing political, economic and other divisions in Europe. It is therefore committed to ensuring that youth organisations from countries which are associated to, or have obtained free trade agreements with the European Communities can participate in a youth consultative body created by the European Communities.
 - 2.4. CENYC is fundamentally opposed to the creation, at EC level of structures which exist already on a broader level (ie Council of Europe - European Youth Centre, European Youth Foundation).
3. On the questionnaire of the Committee for Cultural affairs and Youth the following was adopted:
 - 3.1. There is no objection in principle to the creation of a Youth Advisory Committee of the European Communities if the principles laid down under 2 are fulfilled. On the contrary CENYC believes that such a platform would enable young people to actively participate in, and contribute to, the building of a peaceful and harmonious Europe.

But CENYC also believes that the project of the EC Commission does not follow up Article 16 of the Declaration of the Hague and would if implemented hamper rather than ensure youth participation. This is why CENYC regretted and still regrets the lack of prior consultation.

3.2. CENYC strongly supports all efforts to give the European Parliament all parliamentary powers. However at present important decisions are taken by the other organs of the EC. Therefore CENYC insists on a youth consultative body to be heard by all three European institutions and by the Economic and Social Committee.

3.3. As laid down under 2.1. the youth representatives must be chosen by youth organisations without any interference. The two coordinating bodies on the European level ie CENYC and the Coordination Bureau of INGYOs provide, a framework which allows all major political, religious, educational and other tendencies to be represented.

Moreover CENYC strongly believes that the membership of any youth consultative body should be made up of 50% from national youth committees and 50% from international non-governmental youth organisations. True to this principle, CENYC requests a youth consultative body at EC level also composed of 50% national youth committee representatives and 50% INGYO representatives, both including representatives of non EEC member countries as laid down under Point 2.3.

3.4. The right of initiative is to CENYC one of the pre-conditions for a youth consultative body. Therefore CENYC is most satisfied with the firm position adopted on this by the Committee for Cultural Affairs and Youth.

However CENYC as other youth organisations strongly believes that the term 'youth questions' is outdated. Young people are part of society and all problems of the society they are living in are of concern them. CENYC is therefore opposed to any limitation of the competences of a youth consultative body.

3.5. CENYC, like all youth organisations in Europe, has established priorities for its policy and activities. There are as follows:

- a) Development
 - regional development in Europe
 - Europe and the Third World
 - Underprivileged groups (migrant workers)
 - Liberation movements

b) East-West relations in Europe

c) Social problems of young people - young workers

- rights of young people

- the situation of young women

- relations between youth organi-
sations and public authorities

CENYC believes that all these issues open up ways of associating youth with the construction of a peaceful and harmonious Europe. CENYC has not been waiting for either the Declaration of The Hague or the project of the EC Commission to start working on these principles.

LIST OF CENYC NATIONAL COMMITTEES

AUSTRIA

Osterreichischer Bundesjugendring
Friedrich Schmidt Platz 5
A 1080 WIEN

BELGIUM

Comité Belge pour les relations
internationales des jeunes,
c/o Maurice Christiaens,
13, Boulevard de l'Empereur,
1000 BRUXELLES

DENMARK

Dansk Ungdoms Faellesrad
Ny Ostergade 10 mezz.
DK 1101 COPENHAGEN K

FRANCE

Comité pour les relations interna-
tionales des Associations Francaises
de Jeunesse et d'Education Populaire,
30 rue Cabanis,
75 PARIS XIVE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Deutsches Nationalkomitee für Inter-
nationale Jugendarbeit,
c/o D B J R
44, Haager Weg
D 53 BONN-VENUSBERG

ICELAND

National Council of Icelandic Youth
P.O. Box 1026
REYKJAVIK

IRELAND

National Youth Council of Ireland
Waterloo Road 6
DUBLIN 4

ITALY

Comitato Italiano Giovanile per le
relazioni internazionali,
c/o Pino Pizza - MGDC
Largo Arenula 34
I 00186 ROMA

THE NETHERLANDS

Nederlands Comité voor Internatio-
naal Jongerenwerk
Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 92
NL AMSTERDAM

NORWAY

National Committee for International
Information and Youth Work
Grev Wedels Plass 5
OSLO 1

SWEDEN

Sveriges Ungdomsorganisationers
Landsråd,
Dobelsgatan 35 n.b.
S 113 58 STOCKHOLM

SWITZERLAND

Cartel Suisse des Associations
de Jeunesse,
Seefeldstrasse 8
CH 8022 ZURICH

TURKEY

National Organisation of Turkish
Youth,
471/2 Istiklal Caddesi,
TUNEL - ISTANBUL

UNITED KINGDOM

British Youth Council
57, Chalton Street
LONDON N.W.1.

OPINION OF THE EUROPEAN
COORDINATION BUREAU FOR INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

I. ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE (See page 35)

1. a. The Internationals cannot accept that mainly paternalistic attitudes are adopted towards them.

Before submitting its proposal to the Council of Ministers, the Commission should have consulted as well the international youth organisations, natural partners of the international institutions, as the national councils or committees existing in the member or candidate countries of the Communities.

Despite several letters addressed to the Presidents on duty at the Council of Ministers (15 September, 8 October and 17 November 1970 - 25 March 1971), to the Commission and to the European Parliament, by first the Provisional Committee and then by the General Assembly of the European Coordination Bureau for international youth organisations, we have never got any official reactions. According to the informations received, we noted that beyond the divergences on other points, the different bodies of the European Communities (Commission, European Parliament, "Ad Hoc" Group created by the Council of Ministers) agreed on the fact that "to associate young peoples means a deepening and broadening of the informationsand to enable them to participate actively to the study and solution of the problems directly concerning them".

In these conditions, the Commission should have been consequent with itself, and put into practice its good intentions.

- b. Yes, and on this point we have made concrete counterproposals, presented at the end of chapter II.
2. Yes, we think it would be better to have this dialogue with all the bodies, but these ones should definitely decide by themselves the structure through which this dialogue can be undertaken.

3. The amendments put forward by the Parliament mean some progress towards a solution, as the Parliament clearly determine the presence of the Internationals as such, but it is clear that the distribution scale does not correspond to our views.

The Bureau considers that :

- the coordination at European level, departing from national structures (with all what implies the word "national") is historically out-of-date.
- the only "European" way of organising itself is to do it beyond the borders, and on the basis of similarities, common interests, political beliefs, and so on..
- the international youth organisations are the youth movements of the Europe in construction... Coordination should be done at the level of the unit which we wish to create.

According to that, the Bureau asserts that the real European work has to be done through the international organisations.

In what refers to the representativity, the Coordination Bureau embraces all big political, religious or educational tendencies, as is showed by its list of member organisations.

4. It does not go without saying, or else, the Commission's proposals do not go without saying, as the Commission has not retained the right of initiative. We approve entirely the amendment of the European Parliament. In what refers to the terms of reference of the Consultative Committee, the proposal which indicates that it ought to relate in particular to youth questions, gives sufficient scope to tackle other questions and seems thus - if restrictive regulations are not foreseen afterwards,- to answer to our request.
5. These actions are presented at the end of chapter II.

II. THE ADVISORY YOUTH COMMITTEE

The European Coordination Bureau for International Youth Organisations which groups presently the 14 international non-governmental youth organisations has defined as follows its position vis-à-vis the Recommendation for the Council Decision setting up of a "Youth Advisory Committee".

The European Coordination Bureau refuses formally this setting up as long as the following basic principles are not applied :

1. A preliminary consultation of youth is indispensable

This includes perhaps the creation of a consultative status for the youth organisations, near the European Communities.

2. The youth Advisory Committee shall have a real right of initiative

The disposition of the right of initiative has been admitted in the draft, at the Committee of High Youth Officials foreseen by the same proposal, thoroughly ignored at the level of the Youth Advisory Committee.

3. The youth organisations represented at the Youth Advisory Committee shall be elected by the youngsters themselves and not by the governments

This solution has been approved advantageously among the organs of the European Youth Centre (EYC) and of the Foundation (EYF). These two creations of the Council of Europe function satisfactorily with a paritar administration "governments-youth organisations", the youth organisations being elected by consultations among themselves :

- principally in the frame of the European Coordination Bureau for the representation of the Youth Internationals;
- in the frame of the CENYC for the representation of the national committees.

4. The international organisations are the natural partners of the international European institutions

The international youth organisations consider that they are the representatives of youth who have already started the European construction in their own organisation and they wish to remain the natural and direct partners of the Commission and other institutions of the Community for all the Community youth problems.

The international youth organisations propose to the Council and the Commission to consider the creation of a juridical statute for the youth organisations, which can be compared with the one existing on the level of the Council of Europe.

+

+

+

All these elements are not applied, however, in order to show their will to participate in the edification of a European Youth Policy, the organisations member of the European Coordination Bureau for International Youth Organisations points out that it would be more advisable if the Commission withdraws its two proposals and shows - by several new proposals (enumerated below) - the real will of the Government and of the Commission to associate the youth closely with the creative activities and the actions conducive to European growth, according to the wish of the Heads of State or Government who met in The Hague on 1st and 2nd December 1969.

In its present form the creation of the Advisory Committee constitutes for the European Communities a youth alibi, the cost of which is exorbitant. The grants dedicated to this "structure" could be used advantageously by the Internationals themselves in the framework of their "youth" actions.

5. Proposals

- a. The European Commission sets up, in agreement with the European youth Organisations, a specialized service disposing of valid possibilities to inform on a permanent and objective way the youth organisations about the Community activities and initiatives.
- b. The Commission provides in the budget for the financial assistance required for at least two yearly exchanges of views with the European youth organisations.... without limiting however these exchanges of views to the only youth aspects.
- c. The Council of Ministers shall put at the disposition of the Communities the credits required for the setting up of a Community fund charged with providing financial assistance for documentation, meetings, seminars, exchanges of youngsters as well as for administrative costs in order to permit the development of the Community action within the youth organisations (structure, translations, interpretations) ;
- d. A Community youth centre equally administrated by the European Commission and the Youth organisations shall be set up near the Communities in order to develop information and education about Community problems. This Community centre will also organize accelerated language courses in the States of the Community.

- e. The European Commission shall annually inform the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Council about the results of all initiatives and actions concerning youth.

III. Remarks concerning the proposal of the Commission of the European Communities

A. Definition of the word "Youth"

The limit fixed between 15 and 25 years is absolutely artificial and does not consider the fact that some youth movements are dedicated to youngsters under 15 years and that in practice youngsters between 25 and 35 years very often happen to be the youth representatives in the complex national or international organs.

B. Setting up of a Youth Advisory Committee - Draft statute

Article 2

The right of initiative shall be acknowledged to the Committee in every field. In this respect it must be recalled that the Commission has to know that every endeavour at Community or government level about youth or any other subject can find an issue only if the youth who is the generation which will apply and lives the policies set up to-day accepts or refuses these policies.

It is thus indispensable not only to "consult" youth, but there must also exist an information system going from youth to the institutions.

Article 3.1.

Coordination at European level going from the national committees (with all meaning involved in the word "national") is historically out-of-date. The only "European" way to organize is to do it beyond the borders, on the basis of affinities, centres of interests, political convictions etc... The international youth organisations are the youth movements of the "edificating" Europe. Coordination has to be undertaken at the level of the body which we intend to set up. This lets us say that the youth internationals are the natural interlocutors of the European institutional bodies and that this state should have been clearly applied in the composition of this committee. The draft report of the Commission for Youth and Cultural Affairs makes a proposal in this direction which is however absolutely insufficient.

Article 3.4.

The proceedings are absolutely paternalist and in contradiction with the own proposal of the European Communities according to point D/a : "The Commission considers that consultation of the Community's youth through a representative committee which can formulate its views in complete independence will be an important step towards involving young people in building the Community".

Article 4

This article shall also foresee that the opinions be addressed besides to the Council of Ministers and the Commission to the members of the European Parliament and to the members of the Economic and Social Committee.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS BELONGING TO THE EUROPEAN COORDINATION BUREAU

9 Rond Point Schuman - 1040 BRUSSELS

(position on 8 October 1973)

C.E.S. Alfred MISSLIN, rue Montagne aux
Confédération Européenne des Syndicats Herbes Potagères 37
(1000 BRUSSELS, Belgium)

E.B.G.
Europäischer Bund der Gewerkschaften

E.C.T.U.
European Confederation of Trade Unions

I.F.M. - S.E.I. Secrétariat, Rauhensteingasse 5
VIENNA, Austria
Mouvement International des
Faucons Rouges

I.F.M.
Internationale Falkenbewegung

I.F.M.
International Falcon Movement -
Socialist Educational International

J.E.C.I. Pierre GROLLIER, rue Linné 37
75005 PARIS, France
Jeunesse Etudiante Catholique Intern.

I.K.S.J.
Intern. Katholische Studierende Jugend

I.Y.C.S.
Intern. Young Catholic Students

I.U.S.Y. Jerry SVENSSON, Neustiftgasse 3
1070 VIENNA, Austria
Union Intern. des Jeunes Socialistes

I.U.S.Y.
Internationale der Jungsozialisten

I.U.S.Y.
Intern. Union of Socialist Youth

U.E.J.D.C.

Union Européenne des Jeunes
Démocrates Chrétiens

Alain DE BROUWER
rue des Deux Eglises 41
1040 BRUSSELS, Belgium

E.U.J.C.D.

Europäische Union Junger Christlicher
Demokraten

E.U.Y.C.D.

European Union of Young Christian
Democrats

C.M.T.

Commission 'Jeunesse travailleuse'
de l'organisation européenne de la
Confédération Mondiale du Travail

Willy PEIRENS, Wetstraat 135
1040 BRUSSELS, Belgium

Henk VAN EEKERT, Vijfheren-
landen 234

W.V.A.

Ausschuss 'Arbeitende Jugend' der
Europäischen Organisation des
Weltlichen Verbandes der Arbeit

NL - VIANEN (ZH), Netherlands

W.C.L.

Commission 'Young workers' of the
European Organisation of the World
Confederation of Labour

M.C.P.

Mouvement Chrétien pour la Paix

André GILLER, rue Louvrex 36
4000 LIEGE, Belgium

C.F.D.

Christlicher Friedendienst

René MARCHANDISE, rue Louvrex 36
4000 LIEGE, Belgium

C.M.P.

Christian Movement for Peace

M.I.J.A.R.C.

Mouvement International de la
Jeunesse Agricole et Rurale
Catholique

Marcel VAN DIJCK, Diestse Vest 24
3000 LEUVEN, Belgium

I.K.L.B.J.B.

Intern. Katholische Land - und
Bauernjugendbewegung

I.M.C.A.R.Y.

Intern. Movement of Catholic
Agricultural and Rural Youth

J.O.C.I.

Jeunesse Ouvrière Chrétienne
Internationale

Sergio REGAZZONI, rue Juste
Lipse 26
1040 BRUXELLES,
Belgium

I.C.A.J.

Intern. Christliche Arbeiterjugend

I.Y.C.W.

Intern. Young Christian Workers

J.S. des 9

Commission Jeunesse du Bureau de
liaison des Partis Socialistes de
la Communauté européenne

Felice BESOSTRI, Piazza Grandi 5
20129 MILANO,
Italy.

Jugendkommission des Europäischen
Socialistischen Büros der EWG

Youth Commission of the Socialist
Parties of the EEC

SCOUTEUROP

Bureau Mondial du Scoutisme

Jørgen RASMUSSEN, C.P. 164
CH 1211 GENEVE
Switzerland

SCOUTEUROP

Weltbüro der Pfadfinder

SCOUTEUROP

Boy Scouts World Bureau

J.E.F.

Jeunesse Européenne Fédéraliste

Secrétariat, 14 rue Duquesnoy
1000 BRUXELLES,
Belgium

J.E.F.

Junge Europäische Föderalisten

Y.E.F.

Young European Federalists

C.O.C.D.Y.C.

Communaute de la Jeunesse
Conservative et Chrétienne Démocrate

Mr David HUNT
29, Stoke Hill,
Stoke Bishop,
Bristol 9 - England

C.O.C.D.Y.C.

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlich-
Demokratischer und Konservativer
Jugendverbände

C.O.C.D.Y.C.

Conservative and Christian-
Democratic Youth Community

VIEWPOINT OF CONSERVATIVE AND CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC YOUTH

- Preliminary remarks

- 1) The age limit for young people proposed by the European Commission is too restrictive. If 25 years were made the upper limit, a considerable number of youth organizations would be excluded. It would be much more reasonable to have the age span go from 16 to 35 years.
- 2) There is no uniform youth viewpoint. Conservative youth, Christian-Democratic youth, Socialist youth and Communist youth etc., each has its own views, which should be presented as such.

- Proposals

1) Organization of youth conferences

The setting up of youth advisory committees should be limited as far as possible. Seeing that the international youth organizations already exercise a coordinating function in their respective spheres, it is proposed that, instead of an unwieldy institutionalized Youth Advisory Committee, a two-day Youth Conference be held yearly, if possible twice a year.

Such a conference would be divided into three groups, to deal with political, cultural and social issues respectively. The representative international organizations would have to be represented on the three working parties concerned.

On the first day of the conference only the representatives of the international youth organizations would meet, the second day being reserved for a mixed sitting with the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth.

Two further groups would be invited to the conference as observers, namely representatives from the CENYC, by reason of its sound organization and successful initiatives, and representatives of the Committee on Youth Questions to be set up by the European Commission, a committee which deserves to be heartily welcomed. The presence at these conferences of the Commissioners responsible for youth affairs should also be greatly appreciated.

Detailed reports of these conferences would be sent to the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council. At this stage the right of initiative should be considered as a sine qua non.

2) Permanent presence in Brussels

One of the main problems of international youth organizations is the clerical and financial aspect. A full-time presence is necessary in Brussels, that is to say where the decisions are taken. It is therefore proposed that the appropriations for an advisory committee be used instead for leasing office premises so that every international youth organization can be permanently represented in Brussels. Then, if proposals have to be elaborated or decisions taken on youth questions, it will no longer be necessary to engage in the time-consuming business of trying to reach an artificial consensus within the framework of the CENYC and the European Coordination Office.

In conclusion it should be mentioned that nothing holds back the work of international organizations so much as translation problems. It would be most welcome if the Community institutions could provide financial or direct assistance for the translation of basic documents on international youth organizations.

E

VIEWPOINT OF LIBERAL AND RADICAL YOUTH

Youth policy, with participation on an equal footing by young people themselves, necessarily means the early consultation of youth organizations and the provision of as much information as possible. It is important that young people should be able to make their views known directly to the Community bodies. The youth organizations should themselves choose their representatives in the Youth Advisory Committee without any outside interference. The 52 seats on the Committee should be allotted in such a way as to ensure a proper international representation of youth organizations. The Advisory Committee should be given the right of initiative, so that ideas held by the rank and file may be passed on to the Community bodies.

The liberal and radical youth organization has been focussing its attention on problems of youth criminality, leisure time, big city and education questions. The liberals are also very concerned with the problem of emancipation. Finally attention is drawn to the danger of having too many advisory youth committees, in view of the youth centres that already exist, such as those at the Council of Europe. There are fears lest the administrative apparatus become top heavy, for this would be at the expense of the actual youth work. The current trend is to create more and more secretariats, which can no longer be subjected to democratic control.

Some support would be welcome to improve the execution of clerical work.

F

THE FOLLOWING TOOK PART IN THE HEARING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 1973 IN BRUSSELS

for CENYC

Mr Kauer, Secretary-General

Mr Bettermann, Mr Nally, Mr Ridoux and
Mrs Viirman

for the EUROPEAN
COORDINATION BUREAU

Mr Boelpape, Secretary-General,
Miss Meevset d'Argenteuil, Mr de Brouwer,
Mr Marchandise and Mr Rossi.

for ELFRY

Mr Kollner

for ECCS

Mr Spencer

