

# Conference of Foreign Ministers: extract on the seat of the institutions (Paris, 6 and 7 January 1958)


**Caption:** Extract from the Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Paris on 6 and 7 January 1958, on the provisional location of the institutional seats.

**Source:** Conférence des Ministres des Affaires étrangères - Secrétariat. Procès-verbal de la Conférence des Ministres des Affaires étrangères tenue à Paris, les 6 et 7 janvier 1958, MAE 18 f/58 rev. Bruxelles: 10.01.1958. p. 4-5.

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**Last updated:** 05/07/2016



## Proceedings of the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Paris on 6 and 7 January 1958

[...]

### IV. Seat(s) of the Institutions of the Communities

The Ministers agreed that all the European organisations of the six countries should be located in the same place as soon as such a centralisation operation was actually feasible and in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties.

For the purposes of selecting the seat, they decided to meet again before 1 June 1958 (1). In the interim, they would be seeking opinions on the various applications submitted, from the Assembly and the President of the High Authority of the ECSC, as well as from the Presidents of the Commissions of the Common Market and Euratom and the Presidents of the Bank and the Court. It was understood that the opinions being sought were consultative in nature, since the actual decision on the seat of the Institutions lay with the national governments, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties.

The Ministers would also be consulting international experts with qualifications in town planning.

In the interim, the Commissions would be meeting at the invitation of their Presidents. Given that no final or provisional seat had yet been determined, the governments recommended that the Commissions should hold their meetings either at Val Duchesse (Brussels) or in Luxembourg, depending on which was the more practical and had the necessary material facilities.

The Councils of Ministers of the two Communities and the Bureau of the Investment Bank would meet at the discretion of their Presidents.

The Assembly would meet in Strasbourg.

The Secretariat of the Interim Committee would remain at the disposal of the bodies of the Communities.

[...]

(1) There was a gentlemen's agreement between the Ministers to the effect that this date might, where necessary, be extended until 30 June 1958.