

Aide-memoire from the United States on the Schuman Plan (8 November 1950)

Caption: On 8 November 1950, the United States Administration drafts an aide-memoire in which it reaffirms its support for the French initiative of 9 May 1950 and welcomes the progress made during the negotiations between the Six on the Schuman Plan.

Source: Archives Nationales du Luxembourg, Luxembourg. Ministère des Affaires étrangères. Traités. Traités - Economiques et Financiers. Plan Schuman - Négociations - Secrétariat de la délégation luxembourgeoise 1950-1951, AE 11345.

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The United States Government has followed with great interest the progress made in negotiating a treaty which would create an organization to pool the coal and steel resources of Western Europe. It will be recalled that at the time the proposal was made the President and the Secretary of State of the United States gave their full support to its objectives and the French initiative was enthusiastically received in all quarters in the United States as holding out real hope for a new era in Franco-German relations and as a positive step towards greater economic integration of Western Europe.

The French Government attached great importance to the successful conclusion of these negotiations, particularly in connection with the question of German participation in Western European defense. The United States Government shared the French Government's views as to the desirability of concluding the Schuman Plan negotiations in the near future, in a spirit consistent with the original proposal. In this connection the attention of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is invited to the following statement made by the President of the United States in a speech delivered at Independence, Missouri on November 7:

"I have been very much interested in the proposal made by the French Foreign Minister, Monsieur Schuman, for pooling coal and steel production in Western Europe. I hope very much that this plan can be worked out along the bold lines proposed by Monsieur Schuman."

American Legation
Luxembourg, November 8, 1950.