

Decision of the WEU Council on the transfer of the exercise of social and cultural activities to the Council of Europe (21 October 1959)

Caption: On 21 October 1959, the Council of Western European Union (WEU) decides to transfer the exercise of the social and cultural activities pursued by the organisation to the Council of Europe.

Source: Partial agreement in the social and public health field. Basic texts. [ON-LINE]. [Strasbourg]: Council of Europe, [26.11.2004]. Disponible sur http://www.coe.int/T/E/Social_Cohesion/soc-sp/General_Information/03_Basic_texts/basic%20texts.asp.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/decision_of_the_weu_council_on_the_transfer_of_the_exercise_of_social_and_cultural_activities_to_the_council_of_europe_21_october_1959-en-3bc55bb2-9973-49a9-a283-93974acce36a.html

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Decision of the Council of Western European Union (21 October 1959) Transfer of the exercise of social and cultural activities to the Council of Europe

I. The exercise of the social and cultural activities at present pursued by W.E.U. are transferred to the Council of Europe.

This transfer will be carried out in such a way as to ensure that the activities in question can be pursued as effectively in the Council of Europe as hitherto in W.E.U.; it does not affect the scope of the revised Brussels Treaty.

II. This will be achieved by the procedure of Partial Agreements, introduced by Resolution (51) 62 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

To this end, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe will authorise the member States of W.E.U. to continue to the extent which they consider necessary within the Council of Europe the activities included in the transfer.

III. The working methods hitherto employed by W.E.U. will be maintained under this Partial Agreement.

This means that:

1. the liaison section system, which enables officials of the government departments concerned to keep close contacts with one another and provides an efficient means of developing European co-operation on the technical level, will be maintained;
2. the background documentation will continue to be prepared by national delegations;
3. all documentation will remain confidential until its wider distribution has been agreed. This will maintain the existing atmosphere of free and frank discussion;
4. certain meetings will be held away from the headquarters of the Council of Europe in order to enable participants to study on the spot questions within their competence and to enable officials of the host country to become more conversant with European problems.

IV. Any activity covered by the Partial Agreement can, as required, be extended to other member States of the Council of Europe.

V. Committees and sub-committees set up under the Partial Agreement will report on their activities to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, which, at meetings limited to representatives of member States party to the Partial Agreement, will decide what action to take on these reports. The latter will be forwarded for information to the competent expert committees of the Council of Europe.

A chapter on the activities in question will be incorporated in the report which the Committee of Ministers is required to submit to the Consultative Assembly.

VI. The Secretaries-General of the two Organisations will take all necessary executive action for the transfer. The timing of transfer of each particular activity shall be determined in consultation between them.

They will also make arrangements for the preservation of archives.