

Resolution adopted at the Second International Conference for the United Socialist States of Europe (Paris, 21–22 June 1947)

Caption: At the Second International Conference for the United Socialist States of Europe, held in Montrouge, Paris, on 21 and 22 June 1947, leaders of socialist parties, trade unionists, pacifists, cooperators, deportees and intellectuals from 14 European countries adopt a resolution that sets out the aims and objectives of a unified socialist Europe.

Source: Unite or Perish - Report of International Conference Paris (June 21&22, 1947), Report of the Second International Conference for the United Socialist States of Europe, Paris, 21 and 22 June. London-Paris: International Committee of Study and Action for the United Socialist States of Europe, 1947. 143 p.

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"The Conference for the United Socialist States of Europe, conscious that the objectives which it seeks constitute the first and indispensable step towards the United Socialist States of the World, sends its fraternal greetings to the workers of the entire world, particularly of the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R. and Europe, and calls upon them to take part in the struggle for the overthrow of all the forces of reaction and oppression."

It declares: —

"1. That Europe, unless it desires to acquiesce in its own division, is inconceivable without the totality of the peoples which have constituted its historical community. In consequence, it includes the European territories placed under Soviet influence, and which form the indispensable link with the U.S.S.R.

"In the first stage, and bearing in mind the actual circumstances, these countries, half-European, half-Asiatic, cannot be included in the framework of the socialist and democratic Europe of to-morrow.

"2. That the transfer of national sovereignties to a federal organism is essential in order to bring to an end the political and economic chaos of Europe. It makes an appeal to socialists, to trade-unionists, to federalists, to workers, and, in general, to all peoples who desire the renovation of the political, economic and social structures, and who are prepared to struggle together, using all the means at their disposal, against the out-worn principle of national sovereignty, generator of hatred, misery and war.

"3. Its resolute opposition to all forms of state totalitarianism. To all bureaucratic, therefore oppressive, nationalisations, it opposes socialisations on a democratic foundation, placing in the hands of the workers and technicians the control of industry.

"4. That the offer made by General Marshall of aid to Europe corresponds to a vital need but it will only constitute a factor for peace if it is unaccompanied by any form, avowed or unavowed, of political or economic domination.

"The plan for the regeneration of Europe can only be conceived and realised by the Europeans themselves, linked on an international basis with the mass of the workers who will constitute the dynamic force of this reconstruction.

"5. That a socialist, therefore peaceful Europe which will have no hostility towards any country, will not serve as the instrument of any policy of hegemony, no matter from whence it comes. In face of the growing dangers it makes an appeal to the peoples of Europe to realise their community of interests and destiny, of their essential unity in order to bring to the actual problems the imperative solutions which present themselves and which may be summed up in two words: Socialism and Federalism.

"6. That is a vital necessity for the overseas peoples as well as for the European peoples to establish between themselves the links which will form a close and confident collaboration, from which will be henceforth excluded all forms, open or disguised, of colonisation or imperialism. The overseas peoples have the right to attain their independence and to determine the degree of their cooperation with a Europe which will have become socialist.

"On the basis of the preceding considerations the Conference gives a mandate to the International Committee which will be formed at the end of the Conference to: —

"(a) Form an Economic Committee which will prepare the reply to be given to the Marshall propositions in the general line of a socialist organisation of Europe.

"(b) Place on the Agenda of the next Conference the problem of the peoples of Eastern Europe and the overseas peoples and invite their qualified representatives to join us in our work and to be present at the next

international Conference.

(c) To enter into relations with the international organisations which pursue a similar aim, in order to arrive at, in the framework of the resolutions adopted, the best and most effective means of working and acting in common."

The session ended at 1 p.m.