

Recommendation 158 of the WEU Assembly on the situation in the Middle East (Paris, 15 June 1967)

Caption: On 15 June 1967, following the Six-Day War, the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) adopts Recommendation 158 on the situation in the Middle East, urging the WEU Council to promote the conclusion of a peace treaty between Israel and its neighbouring states so as to guarantee lasting peace in the region. The Assembly also reaffirms the importance of working out plans to prevent a new arms race in the Middle East and asks the Council to establish a humanitarian aid plan. From 5 to 10 June 1967, Israel launched a pre-emptive attack on Egypt, Jordan and Syria. This brief conflict resulted in a decisive victory for Israel over its Arab neighbours.

Source: Assembly of Western European Union. 'Recommendation 158 on the situation in the Middle East (Paris, sixth sitting, 15th June 1967)' in Proceedings: Thirteenth ordinary session: First Part, Vol. II, Minutes: Official Report of Debates. Paris: Assembly of WEU. June 1967, p. 54.

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RECOMMENDATION 158
on the situation in the Middle East

The Assembly,

Considering the repeated declarations by the Arabs affirming their intention to destroy Israel and the recent Egyptian blockade of the Gulf of Akaba which led to the present war in the Middle East ;

Convinced of the need to reach a definitive and permanent settlement between Israel and its neighbouring States as soon as possible ;

Affirming that only general recognition of the State of Israel will enable, by means of a dialogue between the parties directly concerned, a settlement to be reached of the pending problems in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

URGES THE COUNCIL

1. To promote the conclusion of a peace treaty providing for :
 - (a) guarantees by the great powers for final frontiers to be agreed upon in negotiations between Israel and the Arab States ;
 - (b) the right of passage through the Suez Canal and free access to the Gulf of Akaba for all ships in accordance with the principles of international law ;
 - (c) free access to the holy places in the city of Jerusalem for all denominations ;
 - (d) a just and humane solution to the grave problem of the Palestinian refugees ;
2. To work out plans for :
 - (a) the prevention of a new arms race in the Middle East ;
 - (b) a programme of effective assistance for the Middle East area.
3. To request the member governments of WEU, and all other governments able to do so, to accord priority to assisting the civilians and soldiers who may perish through hunger and thirst ;
4. To devote their efforts to ending hostilities and the Egyptian occupation of Yemen territory.