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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 15 August 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour of transmitting herewith a copy of the Declaration-Appeal which was adopted on 1 August 1980 at Bucharest by the Grand National Assembly, the State Council, and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania and is addressed to all parliaments, supreme bodies and Heads of State, Governments and Heads of Government, and to the peoples of all the countries which participated in the Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

I should be obliged if you would kindly circulate the text of the Declaration-Appeal as an official document of the General Assembly under item 50 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Ion GORITZA
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

* A/35/150.

ANNEX

DECLARATION-APPEAL OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THE STATE COUNCIL AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA ADDRESSED TO ALL PARLIAMENTS, SUPREME BODIES AND HEADS OF STATE, GOVERNMENTS AND HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, AND TO THE PEOPLES OF ALL THE COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

Five years have elapsed since the Helsinki Conference - an event of historic importance in the life of our continent - when, for the first time, at the level of Heads of State and Government, the fundamental objectives were set of building security and peace in Europe, and of establishing a new climate of trust, friendship and peace among all nations on the continent.

This anniversary is taking place against the background of an extremely dangerous deterioration in the international situation, which has come about in the first half of this year as a consequence of the persistent imperialist policy of domination and interference in the affairs of other States, of the trend towards the reshuffling and consolidation of spheres of influence, of sharpening incompatibilities between certain States and groups of States, and of the deepening world economic crisis.

The Helsinki Conference and the Final Act signed by the representatives of the 35 participating States opened up fresh prospects for relations among European States and inspired the peoples with the hope that a new era was dawning in the life of the continent. However, subsequent developments on the continent have failed to live up to these hopes and expectations, and the results have been far from satisfactory. The reason for this is that the States have failed to take firm, vigorous and consistent action to put into practice the agreements reached at Helsinki, some believing that the problems could be solved by the mere act of signing the documents. A passive wait-and-see attitude has been adopted which has hindered the mobilization of forces with a view to taking concrete action to implement the resolutions adopted. More serious still, the arms race has not diminished over the last five years; on the contrary, it has reached new heights, leading to the unprecedented stockpiling on our continent of ultrasophisticated weapons, including atomic weapons, thereby seriously endangering the peace and security of the peoples.

Under these circumstances, all peoples, Governments, parliaments, political leaders and democratic and progressive forces on our continent have an imperative and overriding duty to unite in taking the most vigorous possible action to halt this dangerous trend in Europe, and to proceed resolutely to attain the objectives and apply the provisions agreed upon at Helsinki.

While mobilizing all their forces for socio-economic progress and the building of a new life, the Romanian people and our State and Government, throughout this period and in full accord with the Helsinki provisions, have worked steadfastly at helping to build security on the European continent.

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The Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government place great store by the wide-ranging and intensive activity undertaken by the Romanian Communist Party and by our State in the cause of European security and the contribution made by the General Secretary of the Party and President of the Republic, Comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu - a contribution that has been unanimously recognized by the Romanian people and internationally - to efforts to establish a new policy of equality of rights among States, of respect for the independence of all nations, of co-operation, trust and peace among all peoples on this continent and in the rest of the world. We have developed broad relations of friendship and co-operation with all States on the continent, we have firmly promoted the principles of equality and respect for the national independence of all peoples, and we have unswervingly worked to extend these principles throughout the political life of Europe and the rest of the world. Romania has made numerous proposals aimed at breaking the deadlock on the acute issues of security and at stimulating general European co-operation and the attainment of all the objectives on which the peace of all our peoples depends.

Now, on the fifth anniversary of the Helsinki Conference, the Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania are appealing earnestly to all parliaments, supreme bodies, Heads of State, Governments and Heads of Government of all the countries which participated in the Conference to mobilize all their forces for the fulfilment of the vital aspirations of the peoples of our continent to live in an atmosphere of understanding, co-operation and peace, in a world based on full equality and unfailing respect for the freedom and independence of all nations.

Let us do everything in our power to settle the complex problems confronting mankind today, to reduce international tension and pursue a firm policy of détente, to bring about general disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament, and negotiated political settlements of all inter-State conflicts, to establish the new economic order and to build a better and a more just world on our planet. Let us concert our efforts to achieve a united Europe, based, above all, on overriding mutual interests, the cause of progress, well-being, security and peace for all the nations of the continent. Let us spare no effort to ensure the fundamental right of the peoples - the right to life and peace as a basis for all their other achievements and the steady flourishing of human civilization on our continent and on the entire planet.

Let us proceed, without delay, to co-operate as closely as possible in the thorough preparation of the forthcoming Madrid meeting, so that it may give a fresh, strong impetus to the implementation of the documents signed five years ago.

In keeping with the spirit of the Helsinki agreements, we must work to intensify economic co-operation, removing any artificial barrier or obstacle in order to proceed to settle, through concerted efforts, the root problems of the continent's socio-economic development.

Let us develop broad co-operation in scientific research and modern technology, let us expand cultural exchanges and human contacts, ensuring a better mutual understanding of our peoples and of their material and spiritual achievements, and, on this basis, strengthen trust and friendship among nations.

The Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania call upon all European States to focus their efforts first and foremost on initiating tangible measures for the military disengagement and disarmament of the continent, without which trust, peace and security, in Europe and in the rest of the world, are inconceivable. Let us not forget that it was on our continent, in this century, that two devastating wars broke out, sucking all the peoples of the world into their vortex. Today, two opposing military blocs - NATO and the Warsaw Treaty - stand face to face in Europe. In the overriding, vital interests of the peoples of Europe there must therefore be an immediate freezing of military budgets, followed by their steady reduction. All troops must be withdrawn from the territories of other States, foreign military bases must be dismantled, and military personnel and arms substantially reduced in number. The conclusion of an agreement to negotiate on the renunciation by both sides of the deployment of new missiles on our continent is of particular importance. Let us not forget for one moment that the presence of nuclear weapons seriously endangers all the peoples of the continent, be they in the north, the south, the west or the east of Europe. Weapons do not discriminate between their victims; no one can escape their destructive power. No weapon is capable of defending human life; all any weapon can do is kill. The cause of European security also demands firm action with respect to the two military blocs, first to restrict their activities, and then simultaneously to dissolve them, as well as to put a stop to any show of military force on the frontiers of other States of such a nature as to intimidate or exert pressure on the peoples. Let us see to it that the magnificent achievements of the human mind, of modern science and technology, and of contemporary civilization are no longer harnessed to weapons' production and destruction, or used to threaten the existence of the human race, but instead are placed solely at the service of the welfare and happiness of the peoples, and their right to life and peace.

The Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania appeal to all parliaments, Governments, peoples, politicians, and to progressive forces throughout the continent, energetically and consistently to strive for the steadfast promotion of the principles of full equality of rights and respect for the national independence and sovereignty of all peoples in inter-State relations. The decisive element on which the achievement of genuine security, the fruitful development of co-operation, and the establishment of peace on the continent and in the rest of the world depend at this time is respect for the sacred right of all peoples to develop freely and independently, to choose freely their own political system and their path to economic and social progress, without any outside interference. The overriding imperative of our age, which will be decisive in freeing mankind from the nightmare of another war is the complete renunciation of the use of force or threat of force. Let us see to it that any dispute between States, any conflict, is solved solely by peaceful, political means, by negotiation between the parties concerned, in a spirit of understanding and mutual respect, and of safeguarding the fundamental interests of the peoples. Only in this way shall we be able to establish a truly new climate of trust, détente, understanding and co-operation in Europe, in which every nation feels safe from any danger of aggression or outside interference and is able to muster its material and human resources for the progress of civilization, well-being and peace.

The Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government of our country again place the following proposals before the European countries and peoples:

Owing to the tense international situation and the special significance of the Madrid meeting in stimulating the process of détente and security on our continent, the meeting should take place at the level of foreign ministers with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the discussions and the degree of commitment to and responsibility for the requisite measures.

The Madrid meeting should decide to convene a European disarmament conference which will take tangible measures to halt the arms race and to reduce the existing military potential on the continent.

Continued co-operation between our States in the search for real solutions to problems of security must be ensured; periodic working meetings, expert groups, and other forms of negotiation should be organized for the purpose.

Romania believes that the next all-European conference should take place at the level of Heads of State and Government, with a view to assessing activities in the light of the Helsinki Final Act, and taking account of the political changes which have occurred on the continent and in the rest of the world, as well as of present imperatives. This conference is intended to supplement the 1975 documents in an appropriate manner and to develop them by means of new provisions and measures designed to open up the way for a truly viable approach to the building of security in Europe.

Romania also considers that the conclusion of a general treaty on the renunciation of the use and threat of force would be of major importance as an essential contribution to the cause of détente, trust and security on the continent, and to the strengthening of peace in general.

The Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania propose that 1 August should be celebrated every year as the day of solidarity and struggle of all European peoples for the building of security and peace on our continent.

A positive outcome of the Madrid meeting and the achievement of tangible progress in building security in Europe would have a favourable impact on the process of détente and peace throughout the world. This would enhance the contribution of the European States - in close co-operation with all the States of the world - to the settlement of the burning issues of the modern era, the halting of the arms race, as a step towards disarmament, first and foremost nuclear disarmament, as well as the establishment of the new economic order, and the building of a world of peace, understanding and co-operation among nations.

The Madrid meeting is called upon to reaffirm emphatically the solemn commitment to the documents signed at Helsinki, and the firm resolve to implement the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in its entirety.

We are convinced that the achievement of security - this lofty desideratum of our peoples - would not only be of service to Europe, but would have a positive and profound influence on the world climate as a whole, contributing to the lessening of tension, the resolute pursuit of the process of détente, and the cause of strengthening international peace.

The Grand National Assembly, the State Council and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania assure all parliaments, Governments, all the peoples of Europe, and all forces struggling for the noble cause of peace and progress that our country will continue to do everything possible to give practical expression to the Helsinki Final Act in its entirety, to ensure the success of the forthcoming Madrid meeting, and to bring about the solution of the complex problems on which the creation of a new climate of co-operation and lasting peace on our continent depends.

We call upon all peoples and on public opinion throughout our continent to spare no effort to give an impetus to the process of détente and peace, to build security, to strengthen multilateral co-operation among States worldwide, irrespective of their size or social system, on the basis of unswerving respect for the freedom and national independence of all peoples, the right of every nation to independent development in line with its will and aspirations, and to create a united, prosperous and peaceful Europe.