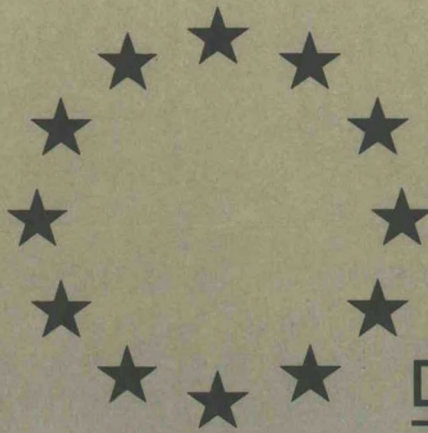


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Pour consultation  
For consultation

COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE



CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE

MEP (91) 1



## Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1991

COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE



CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE

REFERENCE  
COLLECTION  
DE REFERENCE

ONLY FOR  
CONSULTATION  
SEULEMENT

Strasbourg — January 1991

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR 1991



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## INTRODUCTION

### The Council of Europe and the 1990's

When presenting the draft Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1990 on 1 September 1989, the Secretary General emphasised that it was a "transitional" Programme, owing to the need to take into account both the requirements of the 3rd Medium-Term Plan, which had to be completed, and the new guidelines laid down by the Committee of Ministers on 5 May 1989.

The events which have occurred in Europe since then have profoundly altered the context in which this transition was to be effected and dictated far-reaching changes in the Organisation's activity. The growing pace of development towards democracy in a large number of States of Eastern and Central Europe offers a short-term prospect of accession by new members which could not be foreseen twelve months ago, whilst the progress made towards establishing a climate of lasting confidence and co-operation in Europe have prompted discussion on the new role which the Council of Europe might play in the context of Europe's new architecture.

In response to these challenges, at the very beginning of 1990 the Secretary General undertook a thorough review of the content, aims and methods of the Programme and in April submitted a preliminary draft 1991 Programme for 1991 intended to elicit thorough discussion both within the Organisation and in the member States. The reactions and comments of the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly, and Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and the Steering Committees demonstrated the extent of interest, curiosity or concern about the Council of Europe's activities and indicated the approach to be followed in a redeployment which, though not easy, is nevertheless necessary if the Organisation is to measure up to the task which falls to it today in a context of great hope and considerable uncertainty.

Having grown accustomed to a situation characterised by a measure of "stability", in particular in the number of its member States and the amount of the resources allocated to it, the Council of Europe now has to manage "change": the entry of new members, an increase in needs and the reorientation of activities to take account both of the geographic extension of the circle of its members and of the development of its vocation which it carries out in accordance with a commitment to pluralist democracy and human rights.

At a point in European history when, for the second time this century, in the words of an Italian philosopher, "the Old is already dead, but the New is not yet born", the Council of Europe is striving, through the Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1991, to provide an initial response to this multitude of challenges and requirements, sometimes contradictory, between change and continuity, innovation and tradition, present and future. Current and planned activities have accordingly been the subject of a thorough overhaul in the light of the criteria laid down by the Committee of Ministers and taking into account priorities for the Organisation's action. Some activities have been discontinued; others have been given a new slant to make them more effective; new ones dictated by the imperatives of the moment have been added. All have been reformulated as part either of major Projects, multidisciplinary where appropriate, of service activities, or of activities designed to facilitate the application or operation of Conventions.

The need to project the Organisation's action, in certain specific cases, beyond the present circle of its membership has been taken into account and specific actions proposed under the label of "Greater Europe". These activities are of key importance for more than one reason:

- a. they enable the Organisation to adapt progressively to the new dimension of European affairs and to its own enlargement;
- b. they will serve to initiate the member States and other European States into wider multilateral co-operation on subjects of common interest;
- c. they meet particularly pressing needs on the Greater Europe scale (such as those relating to minorities, the environment or the links between social protection systems) or concern questions of common interest which demand discussion and action on the widest possible scale.

These activities differ clearly in their conception from those proposed only to Central and Eastern European States within Vote IX of the Budget - and in particular from the "Demosthene" Programme - and which are mainly in the nature of individual assistance according to the specific needs of those States identified on the spot.

Furthermore, work pursued within the framework of Partial Agreements will also be reinforced and redirected where necessary, with a view to increasing its effectiveness and complementarity, as regards particular subjects, with intergovernmental co-operation "of the 24". Appropriate cross-links have been built in to ensure that all member States have the benefit of the results of the work carried out within the more restricted circles of Partial Agreements, some of which are open to collaboration or accession by European or non-European States, non-members of the Council of Europe.

Intergovernmental co-operation bodies have also been overhauled in terms of the proposed activities and new methods have been envisaged for putting them into effect.

In general, the Programme aims to contribute to the "positioning" of the Council of Europe in a constantly changing international political context. For this reason, emphasis has been placed for the first time explicitly on activities which, in several ways, contribute to shaping or strengthening the image and role of the Council of Europe as a reference Organisation for Europe and for the world in fields such as human rights, democratic freedoms, cultural identity, social cohesion and legal co-operation. Thus, the Council of Europe intends to make its contribution notably to the work which is being carried out within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

With forty years of history behind it, the Council of Europe is now at the crossroads: as the possessor of a remarkable heritage, it will be able to respond to the challenges of a decade which promises to be extraordinarily rich and stimulating. In 1949, ten States lifted it from the cradle in order "to respond ... to the expressed aspirations of their peoples" to closer unity between the European countries. The "Autumn of the Peoples" of 1989 showed that millions of Europeans still cherish the same aspiration. It is for the Council of Europe to respond now with the same courage and foresight as it did then.



### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1991 has been prepared by the Secretary General and adopted by the Committee of Ministers in pursuance of Resolution (74)33 on the planning and programming of the Council of Europe's intergovernmental activities.

The general structure of the Programme for 1991 is the same as that for 1990, with activities still divided up into nine Fields of activity in accordance with Resolutions (74)4, (74)33 and (86)21. The only major change in this respect is the transfer of activities relating to the safeguarding and promotion of the cultural heritage from Field VII "Heritage and regional planning" to Field IV "Education, culture, heritage and sport". This transfer reflects the grouping together of the services concerned under the Directorate of Education, Culture and Sport, which has been reorganised.

The presentation of activities follows the breakdown recommended in Resolution (89) 40, namely major Projects, Service activities and Conventional activities.

In each Field, activities are presented as follows:

- first, a general description of the objectives, priorities and methods of intergovernmental co-operation in the Field, with an indication of the main bodies responsible for the overall orientation of activities (Steering and some ad hoc Committees) and of any large-scale activities which may come within the Field as a whole;
- second, a presentation of the main activities in the form of Projects, i.e. fixed-term operations with specific objectives. The necessary information is given under four headings for each Project, in a form which is simpler and easier to read than in the past;
- third, service activities, for each of which a sheet, numbered from one to nine, provides the necessary information;
- lastly, Conventional activities are grouped together at the end of each Field, together with sheets for each Convention or group of Conventions for the operation or implementation of which appropriations are requested.

In accordance with the wish expressed by the Committee of Ministers, special attention has been paid to activities of a multidisciplinary nature or purpose, either because they relate to subjects coming under several Fields of activity or because they concern a number of problem areas encompassed by a single Field. This multidisciplinary aspect has been stressed wherever appropriate in the description of the Projects concerned; inclusion of the activity details in a given Field does not imply that these Projects will be carried out solely within that Field. On the contrary, it will be for the bodies responsible for their implementation - generally called "multidisciplinary Project Groups" - with the assistance of a Project head appointed by the Secretary General, to make sure that the multidisciplinary dimension of the activity is respected.



LIST OF  
"GREATER EUROPE" PROJECTS

FIELD I

Project:

I.1 - Human rights and genuine democracy

FIELD II

Project:

II.2 - Equality of opportunity in the building of a European Audio-visual area

FIELD III

Project:

III.2 - Population movements, demographic changes and employment

FIELD IV

Projects:

I. Education

IV.11 - Language learning and European citizenship

II. Culture

IV.23 - European Cultural Routes

III. The Cultural Heritage

IV.31 - The outlook for conservation: which theories?

IV. Sport

IV.45 - Future sports policies

FIELD V

Project:

V.1 - International youth mobility

FIELD VI

Project:

VI.3 - Prevention and education for health

FIELD VII

Project:

VII.1 - The European dimension of the environment

FIELD VIII

Projects:

VIII.1 - Strengthening local democracy

VIII.2 - Minority languages

FIELD IX

Projects:

IX.0 - Legal aspects of the protection of minorities

IX.1 - Territorial asylum, refugees and stateless persons

IX.2 - Administrative law and the rule of law



RESOLUTION (90)36

approving the Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1991

The Committee of Ministers,

Having regard to Resolution (74) 33 of 20 November 1974 on the planning and programming of the intergovernmental activities of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to the Declaration adopted and signed on 5th May 1989 and the Resolution (89) 40 adopted by the Committee of Ministers on the future role of the Council of Europe in European construction,

Having regard to the draft ordinary budget and to the draft subsidiary budget for the European Youth Centre for 1991 presented by the Secretary General (document CM(90)139 and Add.),

Having regard to the draft Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1990, presented by the Secretary General (document CM(90)114 and Corr.)

1. APPROVES the Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for 1991 as appended hereto,
2. INSTRUCTS the Secretary General to implement it within the appropriations voted for that purpose in the General Budget for 1991.

APdom1.

FIELD OF ACTIVITIES I

DEMOCRACY, FREEDOMS AND THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF HUMAN BEINGS

"European solidarity at the service of the individual"

FIELD I

## DEMOCRACY, FREEDOMS AND THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF HUMAN BEINGS

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The political changes in Europe in recent months are a clear-cut, significant step towards the establishment, throughout Europe, of democratic institutions and States governed by the rule of law. Because of this trend, which is in keeping with the course that the Council of Europe has advocated since it was set up in 1949, the Organisation now finds itself with new responsibilities: that of standing by the principles and fundamental values which are its hallmark, while building on its achievements with the participation of the new democracies, and that of making an active contribution to the establishment of a lasting system based on peace, security, justice and co-operation between member States and with non-member States which share the same objectives.

Against a rapidly changing political background, the contours of which are not yet definite, the Council of Europe has a number of assets - the European Convention on Human Rights, the European Social Charter and the Convention for the Prevention of Torture - which can serve as foundations on which to build at least some of the new architecture of Europe. The Council of Europe can be a "building site" on which democracy is learned and practised, and where member and non-member States can enter into an original and politically motivating form of partnership.

To this end, full advantage should be taken of the possibilities provided by the intergovernmental co-operation methods and machinery. In addition to the meetings of the Steering Committee for Human Rights and the European Committee for Equality between Women and Men, other ad hoc meetings open to member and possibly non-member States could be held at the Council of Europe to enable government experts to consider:

- the progress made by such worldwide or regional bodies as the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe with regard to human rights and respect of the principle of the rule of law, as well as the development of relations with the European Community in this field;
- the Council of Europe's contribution to the human dimension of the CSCE;
- the preservation and promotion of viable democratic institutions in member and non-member States in the light, in particular, of the activities of the European Commission for Democracy through Law.

Where appropriate, parliamentarians, representatives from non-governmental organisations particularly qualified in this field and independent experts could be involved in this work.

**PROJECT I.1****Human rights and genuine democracy**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

Through this Project, the Council of Europe, as an organisation based on recognition for the rule of law and democracy, is helping to add momentum to the process of rapid democratisation taking place in Europe by fostering dialogue and co-operation between the member States and the States which, having recently set up pluralist institutions, aspire to become members. The Project is designed to bring about discussion and joint study of the problems facing European democracies in both Eastern and Western Europe, in particular certain imbalances which prevail in the States concerned and threats which loom over them, such as:

- politically-motivated terrorism and its effects on the respect for human rights;
- the trend towards technocratic or authoritarian forms of government;
- unequal participation of women and men in the democratic process;
- the relegation of certain sections of the population to the fringe of society or their political exclusion;
- the defence of attitudes reflecting discrimination based on ethnic origin, financial circumstances or religious beliefs and the risk that society will be fragmented as a result;
- the various manifestations of intolerance.

The objective is to help ensure that the democratic institutions newly set up in the Central and East European countries become firmly established and function as effectively as possible and to increase support among all sections of the population for democracy and the workings of its institutions both at central and local level. Generally speaking, the idea is to make political decision-makers, representatives of middle-tier institutions (political parties, trade unions, churches), teachers, the media and the public aware of the problems and of the need to ensure that they are solved in such a way that human rights are respected.

A particular analysis will be made concerning questions relating to participation in democracy and education for democracy. This latter issue should include the promotion of civic education in schools and teaching of human rights at all levels in member States.

**Working methods**

Such broad objectives cannot be achieved, even in part, unless a series of steps is taken in conjunction with government experts and representatives of civilian society in the member and non-member States. It will be necessary to organise multilateral consultation between government experts, hold workshops and seminars open to independent experts and parliamentarians and set up ad hoc working parties on specific topics in the fields of the media, education and the participation of women and men in politics.

**Working structures**

A multidisciplinary project group will draw up the general outline of the Project in 1991. A number of elements are already available: Parliamentary Assembly Resolution No. 800 and Recommendation No. 962, the conclusions of the Strasbourg Conferences on Parliamentary Democracy, the 1987 Salonika Colloquy, the Strasbourg Colloquy and the Seminar on the democratic principle of equal representation held in 1989 and the Declaration adopted by the European Ministers of Justice in Istanbul in 1990. These will ensure implementation of the Project, which will be based, in particular, on select working parties responsible for making a detailed study of specific issues. It will call on consultants and hold meetings to which specialists from different backgrounds and a very wide range of European countries will be invited.

**Duration and results**

Although, by its very nature, an activity of this kind is destined to become a permanent one, the idea is to put as much effort as possible into the Project over the next three years, which will be decisive for the political developments taking place in Europe and for the Council of Europe itself. It should be possible to study a fairly wide range of problems in depth, publish studies and analyses, prepare model draft legislation or regulations and obtain endorsement in the form of one or more declarations on democracy and its institutions from the Committee of Ministers or Ministerial Conferences, all of which would serve as "founding instruments" for the new configuration of Europe in the 1990s.

**PROJECT I.2****Development of human rights****Description and objectives**

The Statute of the Council of Europe provides that the Organisation's function is not only the maintenance but also the further realisation of human rights. It is on the basis of this provision that the Council of Europe has prepared a vast and coherent series of instruments which safeguard fundamental rights both in the sphere of civil and political liberties and in the social, economic and cultural fields. Now that the international political climate is such that there is growing recognition of fundamental individual rights and of the need to ensure that the proclamation of these rights is matched by effective measures for ensuring that they are respected, the Council of Europe's role is being singularly strengthened.

The efforts to reinforce the protection of rights already defined as well as to define rights often already recognised as fundamental individual rights by the national legal systems - prohibition of discrimination between women and men based on the grounds of sex, the rights of people deprived of their liberty, provisions whereby convicted persons benefit retroactively from criminal legislation that is more favourable to them, the rights of sick people and economic, social and cultural rights - could lead to proposals for their inclusion in the Convention on Human Rights, the Social Charter or any other instrument, as well as for the drawing up of new instruments. In any event, it is important that the Council of Europe should continue to be the Organisation that serves as a reference for the study of such matters and that the results of its work - irrespective of the legal form it takes - should benefit all the member and non-member States which have recently reaffirmed their support for fundamental rights and freedoms as a basis for peace in Europe.

**Working methods**

This Project presupposes a constant correlation between the analysis and the definition of the subjects dealt with and the drafting of instruments, if any. It is therefore important to elicit as wide-ranging a debate as possible in government circles but also among specialists from other backgrounds. The project group should, however, be left to decide whether it is desirable and feasible to embark on the drafting of instruments embodying new rights.

**Working structures**

A committee made up of government experts will be responsible for deciding on the broad lines of the Project and supervising the various stages. A number of working parties could be set up to study specific topics likely to lead to the definition of new rights which could be set out in protocols to the Human Rights Convention and the Social Charter. Consultants could be invited to contribute on an ad hoc basis at certain stages of the Project. Non-governmental organisations specialising in this area could be consulted or invited to make their views known at hearings.

**Duration and results**

As this Project relates to the raison d'être of the Council of Europe, it is destined to become a permanent one. At this stage, however, its duration can be set at three years. This corresponds to the period over which significant progress with "new" human rights should be made in Europe. The results will, depending on the case, take the form of studies, draft declarations or instruments to be included in existing or new international instruments.

### PROJECT I.3

#### Improving procedures for safeguarding human rights

##### **Description and objectives**

Statistics show that the work load of the Commission, the Court and the Committee of Ministers (in its capacity as an organ of the Human Rights Convention) is increasing steadily. It is likely to increase much faster as a result of the accession of new States to the Organisation and possibly, in the future, as a result of the European Community's accession to the Convention, despite the improvements resulting from Protocol No.8, which came into force on 1 January 1990, and the gradual transformation of the Commission and Court into semi-permanent bodies. This bears witness to the importance of this Project, which is designed to monitor changes in the situation and, where necessary, produce appropriate solutions. Appreciable results have already been obtained in the form of adjustments which could be made to the procedures before the Commission and Court, amendments to be made to Article 32 of the Convention and the revision of the rules adopted by the Committee of Ministers for the application of Articles 32 and 54 of the Convention. It is now necessary to give further consideration to more radical reforms, such as a merger of the Commission and Court or the taking of final and binding decisions by the Commission, combined with a right of appeal to the Court, also open to the applicant and the State concerned.

A serious study should also be made of the procedure for the supervision of the application of the European Social Charter, to which only one change has been made to date (the division of the contracting parties into two groups) so that it can be speeded up and made more effective.

The Project could also examine, if the need arises, the question of the accession of the European Community to the Convention on Human Rights and the issue of a possible mechanism for the implementation of the Third Basket of the CSCE.

The Project is designed to give new impetus to work geared to the improvement of the workings and hence the actual credibility of the two main legal instruments of the Council of Europe and, ultimately, of the Organisation itself.

##### **Working methods**

The topics covered by this Project will be studied by government experts in the member States in conjunction with the supervisory organs of the instruments concerned. Where necessary, particularly highly qualified specialists will be called in.

##### **Working structures**

Two committees, in liaison with the CDDH and other bodies concerned, will examine the issues related to the improvement of procedures of the Convention on Human Rights and to the working of the Social Charter, assisted, where necessary, by ad hoc working parties and consultants.



**Duration and results**

Although it is by nature a permanent activity, it is important that this Project should give rise, in the near future, to specific proposals concerning both the Social Charter - with a view to its fully serving its purpose in a radically new political and social context - and the Human Rights Convention, for which the prospects of new accessions are less distant, since there is a link with membership of the Organisation as such. The situation should, therefore, initially be reviewed in 1992.

**PROJECT I.4****Equality between Women and Men****Description and objectives**

The member States of the Council of Europe, which set great store by the protection and promotion of human rights, have, over the last few years, taken steps nationally and through the Organisation to remove discrimination and inequalities that exist in law and in fact between women and men. It is a case of taking this action a stage further by conferring upon the principle of equality between women and men its full legal impact through the promotion of a change in attitudes and behaviour and in the structures of society which the application of this principle implies. The objectives of the Project are therefore:

- to find out more about the situation in member States, in particular by analysing specific problems, with a view to the elaboration of proposals and solutions;
- to study the workings of national machinery for equality and devise means of ensuring the effective enforcement of the principle of equality;
- to promote equal participation by men and women in the democratic process and in political institutions.

By its very nature, this Project fits in with a number of Council of Europe fields of activity: human rights, the media, social affairs, education, culture and legal co-operation. This multidisciplinary dimension will be reflected not only in the actual content of the Project but also in the dialogue that will take place with the other intergovernmental co-operation organs of the Council of Europe, with the aim of ensuring that, in the various fields of activity, account is taken of the "equality" dimension.

**Working methods**

The first step in this Project is to find out about national situations and policies, the experiences made, the difficulties encountered and the successes, by means of Council of Europe meetings of national equality specialists. Particular light will be thrown on the subject by the representatives from the Central and East European countries, in view of their own particular practice. Representatives from other international organisations will be involved in the Council of Europe's work, as will consultants qualified in this field.

**Working structures**

At the instigation of the European Committee for Equality, which will ensure the supervision of this Project, specific issues will be studied at seminars or workshops, with the help of consultants or by bringing together

those responsible for national machinery for ensuring equality. A special effort will be made to ensure equal representation on the bodies responsible for implementing the various parts of the Project.

#### **Duration and results**

Given the type of problems it is designed to solve, this Project is seen as a long-term one for the Organisation. The Project, which stemmed notably from the second European Ministerial Conference on Equality (Vienna, 1989), will initially be reviewed from the political angle at the next Conference, scheduled to be held in Italy in 1992/93. In addition to giving added momentum to the work on the development of human rights, in particular the inclusion of a specific provision on equality between women and men in the Human Rights Convention, and the updating of the Social Charter from this point of view, the Project should make for greater co-operation between national authorities responsible for equality and should lead to the drafting of recommendations. Following a proposal by the Federal Minister for Youth, Family, Women and Health of the Federal Republic of Germany, a Conference including representatives of Western, Central and Eastern Europe could be organised in 1991 in order to discuss urgent questions of equality between women and men, and in order to have an exchange of experiences. Consideration could also be given to the desirability of conducting a European campaign to foster awareness of equality issues, associating member States and non-member States if they so wish.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Human Rights Information Centre**

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**Description and objectives**

Recent developments in Central and Eastern Europe have highlighted the fundamental role which the Council of Europe is destined to play in order to meet the pressing need for information and documentation on, in particular, the case-law of the organs of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Social Charter, in the countries which have embarked on a complete overhaul of their legislation to bring it into line with democratic principles. At the same time, there is a growing demand for information in the member States, whether from judges, teachers, lawyers or the general public.

All information and education activities relating to human rights are grouped together in the Human Rights Information Centre, which is responsible for:

- compiling computerised data bases on human rights, including the case-law of the organs of the Convention and the Social Charter;
- gathering all relevant documentation on human rights and making it accessible to governments, judicial authorities, academics and the specialised sections of the public concerned;
- ensuring an information service for administrations or institutions specialising in human rights in member and non-member States, as well as for the public;
- bringing human rights issues to the attention of the public and ensuring that more is known about the problems, including the serious human rights violations and the threat to European democracies caused by racism, xenophobia and intolerance.

**Working methods**

The Centre is responsible for compiling and processing information, whether in the form of periodicals, specialised books, other publications, computerised data or documentation on legislation. It promotes research and the publication of original studies and analyses of human rights. It helps to inform and train specialised sections of the public through a research service and by distributing publications, arranging meetings and conferences, and setting up and running networks of centres specialising in human rights.

**Working structures**

An orientation committee comprising government experts and independent human rights and information specialists proposes to the Secretary General guidelines for the Centre's activities (information campaigns and priority topics) and facilitates liaison with the authorities and with national and international bodies that can contribute to the Centre's work or act as a relay for its activities.

A selection committee comprising members of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) makes recommendations to the Secretary General for the award of research fellowships and grants to institutions active in the human rights field.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity designed to ensure that more is known about human rights and pluralist democracy and to foster an awareness of the issues among the various professions and sections of the population.

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## 2. Colloquies, Round Tables and Seminars

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### Description and objectives

In order to further scientific knowledge of human rights, the Council has, for many years, held top-level meetings which, depending on the case and the issues under study, take the form of European colloquies (the next will be held in 1995), Round Tables with Ombudsmen (the meeting scheduled for 1990 has been postponed until 1991) and seminars (held every year).

### Working methods

These are scientific meetings which may be attended by government experts (civil servants, judges) and non-governmental experts (teachers, lawyers, representatives from non-governmental organisations) from member and non-member States.

### Working structures

The Colloquies are organised by a scientific committee, and the round tables and seminars by the Secretariat, in conjunction with the national experts.

### Duration and results

These are permanent activities. The conclusions of the Colloquies, Round Tables and Seminars contribute to the progress of the Organisation's intergovernmental work.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- 
- I.C.5**      **European Convention on Human Rights**
- I.C.35**     **European Social Charter**
- I.C.126**   **European Convention for the prevention of torture and  
inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**
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These three Conventions, which come into the human rights field, make provision for special implementing machinery and procedures, the operation of which is funded under Votes IV and VI of the General Budget. Action to publicise the Conventions and disseminate information about the results is carried out and financed by the Human Rights Information Centre.





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FIELD OF ACTIVITIES II

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

"Broadening and guaranteeing the scope of  
freedom of expression and information"



FIELD II

## MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

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The Council of Europe's activity in the media field finds its *raison d'être* both in the Organisation's primary task - the defence and promotion of human rights, of which freedom of expression and information is one aspect - and in its geographical scope, which is increasingly coinciding (particularly when future new member States are taken into account) with the area covered by the media, especially by radio and by conventional and satellite television.

This activity, which has made the Council of Europe a reference organisation, particularly thanks to the work which preceded and accompanied the preparation of the Convention on Transfrontier Television, thus has a double purpose:

- to preserve freedom of opinion and the free circulation of information and ideas in Europe;
- to monitor technical developments and their implications for mass media policy, for the purpose of enabling governments to seek and, when appropriate, adopt joint solutions, possibly in the form of international legal instruments, before they are overtaken by events.

The most obvious and effective example of this approach is the Convention on Transfrontier Television, which marks a fundamental contribution to regulation of this highly complex field. At the same time, television is currently just the most striking aspect of communications, within which press and radio are still of considerable importance, both in member and non-member States. Media concentration and the multi-media strategies also illustrate the extent to which information and communication constitute a "whole", within which transparency and independence must be guaranteed.

A second, constant concern of the Council of Europe has always been the need to encourage all those actively concerned with the audio-visual media in Europe to prepare and distribute high-quality productions with cultural messages which reflect the variety and diversity which make Europe's cultural identity a rich one.

These general policy considerations, matching the conclusions of the Conferences of Specialised Ministers, are the basis on which the Council of Europe intends to continue or launch a limited number of major projects.

General orientation of activities in this field will remain the responsibility of the Steering Committee on the Mass Media (CDMM), consisting of high-level experts appointed by the governments of the member States. To allow the professional cinema, television and audiovisual production organisations within the European Cinema and Television Office (ECTO) to follow and comment on all the Council of Europe's activities in this field, and to give the Council itself the benefit of their experience, a European Liaison Bureau has been set up on an experimental basis by the Ministers' Deputies at their 449th meeting in December 1990. The Bureau comprises representatives of the ECTO's member organisations and members of the CDMM, the Council for Cultural Co-operation (CDCC) and the Board of Management of Eurimages.

This Committee - which is intended to serve as a forum for dialogue between the various audiovisual partners, and not as a structure for intergovernmental negotiation or co-operation - is being set up in response to a request made by the European Audio-visual Assizes held in Paris in 1989.

**PROJECT II.1****Knowledge and analysis of national policies and international developments in the media field****Description and objectives**

This Project is intended to promote the pooling and optimum use of the Organisation's existing documentary and information resources, and to collect new data from the relevant government and professional agencies for the purpose of increasing the Council's capacity to follow ongoing progress in this field, anticipate national legislative policies, and to analyse technical changes and world media trends. Its aims are to:

- stimulate reflection on the media policy implications of the changes brought about by technical progress in the information and communication fields;
- anticipate the new developments or problems which may result from these changes, for the purpose of orientating the necessary media policy adjustments;
- assist governments, professionals and the bodies responsible for monitoring the Convention on Transfrontier Television by providing the information which they need to discharge their various tasks;
- give the States of Central and Eastern Europe - particularly when national regulations and laws in this area are being reformed - access to the necessary information and skills and to a network of European experts;
- encourage the comparison and assessment of national policies on certain subjects of special interest and help States, by pooling their experience, to arrive at appropriate individual or collective solutions to their problems.

**Working methods**

This Project will rely on multilateral evaluation exercises, involving study and analysis of national experiments, ad hoc studies by experts and seminars and workshops for governmental and non-governmental experts. Co-operation between the existing agencies will be expanded and reinforced with the help of networks. The Council of Europe will increase its capacity to collect, analyse and redistribute data at the request of the groups concerned. This function forms part of its contribution to the operation of the European Audio-visual Observatory (one of the first elements in Audio-visual Eureka), which will be based on existing institutions, but will not duplicate existing activities.

**Work structures**

Implementation of this Project will be supervised by the Steering Committee on the Mass Media and will be based on the following structures:

- a. Policy analysis groups, consisting of government experts assisted by independent experts and media professionals, which will have the task of reviewing national policies on particular aspects and pooling both national experience and projected solutions;
- b. a Co-ordinating Committee of the Medialex Data-bank, consisting of national correspondents responsible for keeping the Council of Europe informed on media legislation, monitoring the development of the bank, reviewing technical problems and recommending solutions;
- c. a Co-ordinating Committee on programme flow data, consisting of experts on cinema, television and videogrammes, and of experts from the European Audio-visual Observatory.

Specific questions, which might be discussed in greater detail so that the views of experts from different backgrounds could be compared might be studied at ad hoc seminars, research workshops or expert meetings.

**Duration and results**

This Project constitutes an expanded and reinforced continuation of various activities which are already under way. It also provides a basis for new activities, for example the drafting of model legislation or other regulatory texts. With the exception of the national policy evaluation exercise, it might later be structured as a service activity. In its present form, its duration can be estimated at three years.

**PROJECT II.2**

Equality of opportunity in the building of a European  
Audio-visual area  
(Greater Europe)

**Description and objectives**

The Project is intended to promote European cultural creation and identity, having regard to the need to protect the interests of countries with low audio-visual production capacities or a limited geographical area, which are in danger of being swamped by audio-visual material produced on a large scale and distributed over very wide geographical areas in languages other than their national languages. This problem concerns both the Council's member States and the States of Central and Eastern Europe, which constitute an important extension of the geographical area and of the market for audio-visual products. The aims of the Project are thus to:

- ensure that these countries' problems are duly taken into account and that suitable solutions are sought and implemented as necessary;
- stimulate the production, distribution and marketing of European audio-visual works on the European and world markets, preventing the establishment of a "second market" limited to States with low production capacities, and helping these States to participate on an equal footing with the main programme-producing countries;
- develop practical schemes to train audio-visual professionals in the use of new techniques - particularly those relating to multilingual programmes - which can help to ensure that States with low production capacities are not isolated.

These objectives first found practical expression at a workshop on the problems of countries with low audio-visual production capacities, which took place in Helsinki in October 1990.

**Working methods**

Implementation of this Project will involve strengthening dialogue and co-operation between governments for the purpose, firstly, of promoting the concerted adoption of national policy measures and, secondly, of backing these measures with initiatives to facilitate their implementation by the professionals concerned; the Project is thus intended to complement Audio-visual Eureka. Workshops of intergovernmental experts and audio-visual professionals should determine the practical measures to take. This action could be accompanied by the setting up of a co-operation mechanism, which would act essentially as a clearing house in matching supply and demand, with the possibility of contributing to the financing of these schemes, helping in countries with low-production capacities or limited geographical areas.

### **Working structures**

Under the CDMM's supervision, implementation of the Project will be entrusted to the Project Group set up to replace the MM-R-PD, whose terms of reference it will take over, while gearing its activities to the new priorities pinpointed by the CDMM.

The Project Group will co-ordinate the work of a number of:

- contact groups of government experts and professionals dealing with specific topics, such as taxation, the financing of production and distribution, and access to the means of distribution such as satellites;
- workshops on specific projects proposed by governments and professionals;
- consultants asked to study specific themes.

The practical functioning of the audio-visual co-operation mechanism (MCA), whose effective setting-up will depend upon a decision by the Committee of Ministers based on the proposals of the Project Group, might be facilitated by way of funds intended for this purpose in a specific budget allocation, possibly accompanied by a special account for contributions from private partners. In the light of results obtained after a three-year experimental phase, the Project Group would make recommendations on the possible setting up of a permanent mechanism.

### **Duration and results**

This Project should develop until 1994 in order to allow the MCA to have an initial impact. The results would be operational activities, ie vocational training schemes co-financed by the MCA, and media policy instruments - recommendations, guidelines and possibly legal instruments on such questions as tax concessions or incentives for investment in the audio-visual field - which might be envisaged by the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Mass Media Policy.

The operational dimension of the workshops must be emphasised because projects devised in this framework would be entitled to grants from the MCA and might, in some cases, be put forward to receive sponsorship by Audio-visual Eureka.



**PROJECT II.3****The European development of communication****Description and objectives**

The Project is intended to continue and extend the work already done by the Council of Europe on technical media developments and their impact on general policy choices connected with exercise of freedom of production and distribution, and with the need to protect the interests of the public. Having started with the study of such subjects as media concentration, sponsorship and transfrontier television, this activity should go on to cover other questions which arise as new modes of communication take hold: concentration, pluralism, the balance between audio-visual media, press and electronic information distribution methods.

It is important that the Council of Europe should keep in touch with communication technology developments so that it can ensure that fundamental rights and freedoms are respected and promote the finding of joint solutions - via legal instruments, if necessary - to the problems confronting member and possibly non-member States. This Project relies to a large extent on the technical assistance of government experts, but is also meant to stay open to consultation by representatives of various professional groups, which is essential to the finding of genuinely workable solutions.

**Working methods**

On the basis of the results and considerations stemming from Project No. 1, which should provide ample food for thought on media trends and the problems which are likely to develop in this field as time goes on, the government experts will be asked to consider such questions as copyright and neighbouring rights, sponsorship, the protection of broadcasts against illicit reception, the public's right of access to information when exclusivity rights for television broadcasting have been acquired and media concentration.

Consultation with the various professional groups will be organised mainly through the European Liaison Bureau (see Introduction to Field II above).

**Working structures**

This Project will essentially rely on the CDMM, on the Committee of Legal Experts in the Media Field (MM-JU) and on working parties geared to the subjects considered, care being taken to ensure that these working parties are light, flexible and capable of producing results in a relatively short time, thus preventing the emergence of a time lag between rapidly changing realities and the finding of legal solutions to the problems which they raise.

**Duration and results**

In 1991, the work done will be submitted for political and technical evaluation to the Third European Ministerial Conference (Cyprus, 9-10 October 1991), which should adopt guidelines for the Project's next operational phase, starting in 1992 and continuing until 1995. In principle, it will be up to the next Ministerial Conferences to monitor the progress of implementation and lay down new guidelines if necessary.

Depending on requirements, the conclusions of this work could take the form of legal instruments, model laws, political guidelines or co-ordination between political decision-makers, government experts and professionals.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**II.C.132 - European Convention on Transfrontier Television**

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**Description and objectives**

The Convention provides for a Standing Committee, consisting of representatives of the Contracting Parties, which is to meet within six months of the Convention's coming into force, and is later to monitor implementation of the text and solve problems of interpretation or execution to which it may give rise.

**Working methods**

The Standing Committee brings together the representatives of the Contracting Parties, uses the Medialex data-base and co-operates as necessary with the public and private institutions and bodies to which the Convention applies, including national bodies referred to in Article 19.

**Working structures**

The Standing Committee - consisting of one representative of each Contracting Party - may call on working parties and consultants in studying specific issues. Some of these studies might be published for the groups concerned.

**Duration and results**

This activity is permanent, its intended result being the free circulation of television programmes throughout Europe.

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**II.C. -- European Convention/Protocol to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television covering copyright and associated rights in the case of satellite broadcasts**

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**Description and objectives**

The text of a European Convention - or a Protocol to the Convention on Transfrontier Television - should be prepared by the CDMM in 1991, and could come into force in 1991. It would aim at maximum harmonisation of the protection provided for copyright and associated rights in the case of satellite broadcasts.

**Working methods**

The representatives of the Contracting Parties will be invited to engage in multilateral consultation.

**Working structures**

No specific structure is envisaged by the agreement which is being negotiated.

**Results and duration**

Consultation - which might take place once a year - is intended to facilitate comprehension and application of the agreement, and so ensure respect for the provisions on copyright and associated rights, which protect authors, actors, producers and distributors of programmes.

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FIELD OF ACTIVITIES III

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

"Towards a European social area"



FIELD III

## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

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European societies are undergoing far-reaching transformations with respect to population structures, lifestyles, the operation of social protection systems, work conditions and migratory movements. The events which have occurred in the States of Central and Eastern Europe since 1989 are likely to introduce further variables into the general picture. One only has to think of the population movements which might take place between East and West (but also between West and East) and the impact of such movements on population statistics, social security schemes, employment, lifestyles and the capacities of the different societies to absorb new social groups having their own traditions, languages and customs.

In the social field, the Council of Europe has always defended the principles of solidarity, social cohesion and legislative harmonisation as part of progress, and, thanks to its efforts, legal instruments have been drawn up and activities carried into effect which have helped to improve the international mobility of workers and their families, enabled them to settle in host countries without loss of cultural identity and provided them with legal and social protection on an equal footing with nationals. Other action has been taken with a view to achieving a general improvement in the standard of social protection, particularly by means of the European Social Charter, various social security instruments and the political guidelines agreed on in a number of Ministerial Conferences bringing together Ministers of labour, of social security, of family affairs and of migration.

These achievements should be fully exploited and developed now that other European States are preparing to join the Organisation and opportunities for co-operation and closer dialogue are opening up for all States of the continent, while instruments such as the European Social Charter, the Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers, the European Code and Convention on Social Security are acquiring new significance as standards for numerous countries.

With these new prospects, action by the Council of Europe can be pursued at two closely interrelated levels: firstly, through consultation and intergovernmental dialogue between member States and possibly some non-member States and, secondly, the organisation of a limited number of major projects reflecting the desire of the States concerned to work together to seek converging answers to common concerns.

Regarding social action, the Steering Committee on Social Policy will complete in 1991 the Project on "Specific social problems associated with recent changes in family structures" which it has been operating since 1988 and will start preparations for a new major multidisciplinary Project due to start in 1992 on "Childhood policies". In preparing this Project, care should be taken to include all the various components of the problems concerned and to elicit the necessary collaboration and concerted action within the Organisation.

A multidisciplinary Project on "Social deprivation and human dignity" will also be undertaken in 1991 on the basis of the conclusions of the Project on "Specific social problems associated with recent changes in family structures" and supported in particular by the results of the Colloquy which will take place in 1991 and the preliminary work already done by the Secretariat. This Project should become operational in 1992.

Regarding social protection, the Steering Committee for Social Security will embark on a wide-ranging study of the future of social protection in Europe, in the light of population changes and other developments in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The outcome might be the accession by these States to Council of Europe Conventions and Agreements in the social security field. The current activity on the individualisation of social security rights will be brought to completion in 1991-92.

Regarding employment, the Steering Committee for Employment and Labour will put the finishing touches to the conclusions of the activity commenced in 1987 on the transition between school and employment and improving co-ordination between the social welfare, employment and education services in order to avoid marginalisation and unemployment. It will also examine prospects for future work in the light of the conclusions of the 4th Conference of European Ministers of Labour held in Copenhagen in October 1989 where the role of public and private placement services was discussed. This subject could take on new importance in the future, not only in member States but above all in non-member countries which are having to face the challenges of transferring from a planned economy to a market economy with inevitable repercussions on employment and unemployment.

In this connection, it should be noted that, in collaboration with the International Labour Office (ILO), the Council of Europe will organise a Colloquy in 1991 on the social repercussions of economic reforms in Central and East European States, the aim of which will be to identify the fundamental principles to be guaranteed and preserved in the context of future change. This Colloquy will enable the experience gained on the subjects of employment, retraining, labour law, and collective bargaining to be pooled in a pragmatic manner with politicians and representatives of social and economic organisations in the East and in the West.

Demographic activities will be conducted under the responsibility of the European Population Committee which will intensify co-operation with other intergovernmental bodies so that demographic aspects may be given greater consideration in the study of the various social problems. Greater publicity will also be given to studies and other demographic research.



Migration affairs will continue to be the responsibility of the European Committee on Migration which will devote particular attention to completing the Project on "Community relations" which commenced in 1987, and the activity on the legal protection and socio-economic situation of migrants. This Committee will also develop its general role as a forum for exchanging information and ideas on national policies and preparing joint responses to the migration phenomena which will develop along new lines. Preliminary thought will be devoted to a Project on the multi-ethnic and multicultural dimension of European society (and European societies) with a view to finding solutions based on mutual understanding and tolerance. Building on the results of Projects carried out in connection with cultural co-operation, youth and community relations and taking account of the political conclusions of the Conferences of European Ministers of Culture and Justice and of the results of the next Conference of Ministers responsible for Migration Affairs, a Secretariat "think tank", possibly assisted by a consultant, should work out the broad lines for a Project on "Tolerance" which might be launched in 1992.

As well as co-operation involving all the member States, one has to note the work carried out within the framework of Partial Agreements, which interest a limited number of member States. The relevant Partial Agreements are the Social Development Fund and the Partial Agreement in the Social and Public Health Field, the latter working in favour of handicapped persons. In appropriate cases, suitable cross-links have been built in to ensure that all member States have the benefit of the results of the work carried out within the framework of the Partial Agreements.

**PROJECT III.1****The present and future population of Europe****Description and objectives**

This Project aims to develop Council of Europe action in the demographic field, which has been affected by the recent events in Central and Eastern Europe which are bound to lead, eventually, to greater "permeability" between the "two halves of Europe" and will consequently have a significant impact on population trends.

Certain phenomena that have already been identified - such as reproductive behaviour, natality and family size, the impact of migration on population statistics, on the labour market or on systems of social protection - are likely to gather momentum as contacts develop between a greater number of States and individuals. The Council of Europe's role in the population field has always been to monitor and to anticipate the major demographic trends and problems so as to be capable of preparing national - and where necessary international - political responses commensurate with the social challenges concerned. With the Project, it is thus hoped:

- to gradually extend to the States of Central and Eastern Europe the analysis and assessment of population trends which are already regularly monitored in the Council of Europe member States;
- to study, within this wider context, recent tendencies with regard to reproductive behaviour, human relations, migration and mortality;
- in the light of the trends identified, to draw up possible scenarios including, if necessary, alternatives, and evaluate their consequences for population size and growth;
- to measure the impact of these trends on the social and economic situation and the labour market in Europe, in order to help define a framework for international co-operation and national policies;
- to improve the public's perception of demographic issues.

**Working methods**

The study of these questions calls for the active participation of demographers, statisticians, economists and sociologists from different countries, either as members of a committee or participants in a symposium, offering opportunities to compare different models and experiments. Specific studies and research projects will therefore be backed up by meetings open to several specialists from different States, both members and non-members. The European Community and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe could be associated with this Project.

**Working structures**

The general policy in population matters in the Council of Europe is the responsibility of the European Population Committee (CDPO), which provides a forum for discussion and analysis by specialists. In its scientific capacity, it makes its knowledge available to other Council of Europe intergovernmental bodies dealing with matters requiring demographic insights.

In implementing this Project, the CDPO will be assisted by a Committee of Experts on the future population of Europe and a scientific "think tank" to prepare the European Population Conference scheduled for 1993, which will constitute the European contribution to the World Population Conference to be organised by the United Nations in 1994.

**Duration and results**

The study of population trends in Europe is virtually a permanent process in the Council of Europe. Nevertheless, this Project can be scheduled for completion in 1993, when the European Population Conference will take stock of "the socio-economic implications of demographic changes: European Population Present and Future".

**PROJECT III.2****Population movements, demographic changes and employment**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

This Project adopts a complementary approach to that of Project III.1, namely the analysis of migratory flows and their impact on the social and economic situation in European States compared with the study of populations regarded as stable elements ("stocks"). Its importance needs no stressing with the prospect of the likely resumption of migratory movements - or at least pressure in favour of such a resumption - both inside Europe, particularly from East to West, and between Europe and other parts of the world, more particularly immigration from countries of the Mediterranean basin and Africa. In view of the situation created by the democratic developments in Central and Eastern Europe, and taking account of the undertakings subscribed to within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, it will be increasingly difficult for European States to maintain or adopt highly restrictive national immigration policies. On the other hand, any "preference" accorded to European States is likely to increase pressure from southern States, in particular in view of the advent, at the beginning of 1993, of the Single Market between the 12 member States of the European Community. Hence the value of studying this question which has obvious political overtones: these will be studied in 1991 and 1993, moreover, at two Ministerial Conferences - the Luxembourg gathering of Ministers responsible for Migration Affairs and the meeting of the European Ministers of Labour in Malta - and also at the Vienna Conference (January 1991) on the movement of persons coming from countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

**Working methods**

The link between the analytical and political dimensions of the problems referred to will be reflected in the practical organisation of this Project, which will take account of the preparatory documents, and any relevant follow-up work to the Ministerial Conferences in Vienna and Luxembourg. Provision should therefore be made for the committees in charge of preparing these Ministerial meetings to be closely associated with the experts who are specially qualified in population matters.

**Working structures**

A joint committee of governmental experts could be set up with variable membership which, initially, might relate above all to the demographic and migratory aspects (CDPO and CDMG). Extension to include employment matters could take place later, if the need was felt. This Committee should have the support of consultants for investigating certain particular questions.

**Duration and results**

The Project should extend over three years, from 1991 to 1993. This time-scale would make it possible to study in depth the problems connected with migratory movements and their impact on national policies, in particular in regard to employment, in the light of the work and conclusions of the Conferences to be held in 1991 and 1993.

**PROJECT III.3****Community relations****Description and objectives**

Since 1987, the Council of Europe has been conducting a closely-knit set of inter-related activities forming the Project known as "community relations". The aim of this Project was to promote the development of harmonious relations between migrant populations and the host country society through mutual understanding and acceptance and by the enhancement of the components of each of the cultures and traditions concerned with a view to mutual enrichment.

Within the scope of this Project, studies have already been made of aspects such as the media, the responsibilities and means of action of governments and local authorities, education, social welfare services, and the role of associations and non-governmental organisations.

The Project would be brought to a close in 1991 with the drafting of a consolidated report on the national experiments which had been the subject of visits and appraisals during the foregoing years. This report would provide the basis for discussion by the European Ministers responsible for Migration Affairs, due to meet in 1991 in Luxembourg. A public Conference to round off the Project, to be organised with the collaboration of the Netherlands government and scheduled to take place, again in 1991, in The Hague, making it possible to bring the Project findings to the attention of a wider public in the social welfare field, representatives of local authorities and ethnic communities.

The results of the Project should be properly exploited so that they can be applied in the European States hosting communities of migrant origin and in order to continue dialoguing and pooling of experience with non-European States which had developed original formulas for absorbing migrants that could interest European States. This Project was designed and carried out by the 24 member States, but its conclusions could well benefit European States wishing to become members of the Council of Europe. For this reason, appropriate ways should be found of enabling these countries to benefit from the experience accumulated by the Organisation in this field.

**Working methods**

The final phase of the Project will continue to be worked out in consultation between governmental experts - at steering committee and committee of experts level - and by the non-governmental organisations which, throughout this activity, have given the Council of Europe the benefit of their experience. The Hague Conference is regarded above all as a means of publicising the results among the organisations and movements which are active in the field and whose work is the indispensable counterpart to the action of both national and local authorities. A function to be organised in collaboration with the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE) is planned, moreover, in order to highlight the important role of local government in the management of community relations.

**Working structures**

The committee of experts which has managed this Project from the beginning, acting under the authority of the European Committee on Migration, will draw up its final report for submission at the Ministerial Conference in Luxembourg and at the closing conference in The Hague. It will also collaborate with the CLRAE in organising the proposed special function.

At the close of this phase, the committee of experts could be transformed into a follow-up group responsible for implementing the practical findings of the Project in the various member States.

**Duration and results**

The Project will be completed in 1991. However, further action would seem fully justified in view of the interest shown by the member States and other countries, the involvement of the local authorities in 1991 which it would be regrettable not to take further advantage of, and the backing of numerous associations and movements capable of bringing the Project conclusions to the knowledge of a very wide public. It therefore seems appropriate to plan for a further phase which might last for at least two years, consisting of activities such as information and training meetings, contacts between pilot projects, the production of printed or audio-visual materials and exchanges of views with non-European experts.

### PROJECT III.4

#### Specific social problems associated with recent changes in family structures

##### **Description and objectives**

This Project follows on from the activity conducted since 1988 by the Steering Committee on Social Policy on the specific social problems associated with recent changes in family structures, bearing in mind the need to prevent marginalisation and poverty. During the foregoing years, the problems of single-parent families, young children in difficulty, frail old people, the social aspects of housing policy and the elderly were examined with a view to working out strategies for the social welfare services which would prevent certain groups or categories of the population from being marginalised. In 1991, the aim will be, firstly, to complete current work on varieties of welfare provision and frail old people and, secondly, to compile the entire range of reports and conclusions prepared over the last three years on various aspects of family policy (equality between the sexes, situation of young children, children and divorce, the elderly). Each of these reports could provide the subject-matter for a draft Recommendation.

Finally, a Colloquy on poverty and marginalisation will be held at the end of 1991, which will draw as appropriate on all the above-mentioned work, as well as involving other Council of Europe bodies concerned with questions of poverty and marginalisation.

The problems facing families and the political solutions which can be found for them have been studied for some years in the proceedings of the Conferences of European Ministers responsible for Family Affairs, with which the Council of Europe has fostered particularly close and fruitful relations. It would therefore seem advisable that the Council of Europe's intergovernmental work should be made available for preparing the 22nd Conference - due to be held in Lucerne (Switzerland) in 1991 - and that the background report to be submitted to the Ministers, in addition to the summary of national replies to the questionnaire, should be drafted as part of this activity.

##### **Working methods**

The Project has been conducted by a number of groups of experts and consultants, in close liaison with the Steering Committee which took an active part in defining objectives and monitoring progress. A substantial contribution to the Project was made in 1989 with the European Conference on integrating social and family policies in the 1990s, held in Malta on the initiative of the Maltese Government and with the support of the Council of Europe. The Colloquy on poverty and marginalisation should be a significant event to mark the completion of the Project.

##### **Working structures**

The Steering Committee on Social Policy has kept an eye on this Project, to which further contributions will be made in 1991 by the Committee of Experts on Varieties of Welfare Provision and Frail Old People and an assessment committee comprising experts belonging to the five committees having worked successively on this Project. The last-mentioned committee



should draft a consolidated report on the Project and possibly prepare Recommendations for the attention of the CDPS. This work will be carried out in close co-operation with a CDPS working party, assisted by consultants, who should draw up a final report on family policies on the basis of the sectorial reports produced over the last three years. The Committee of Liaison Officers in charge of preparing the XXIIth Conference of European Ministers responsible for Family Affairs will also be kept informed of the relevant work.

#### **Duration and results**

The Project will be brought to a close in 1991 with the drafting a consolidated report and conclusions which might give rise to Recommendations by the Committee of Ministers. The aspects of this Project relating to poverty will be analysed more particularly in connection with a Colloquy on these issues, which should be the occasion for launching a specific Project on Poverty (see below).

**PROJECT III.5****Social deprivation and human dignity****Description and objectives**

Poverty, ignorance and destitution still relegate certain men and women to the bottom rung of society, where they are further deprived of the human rights enjoyed more fully by the more prosperous members of society. For such persons, civil and political rights and social and cultural rights are often purely illusory or hypothetical. The Council of Europe cannot ignore this economic, legal and indeed ethical dimension of poverty and social deprivation in view of its essential role as "human rights watchdog".

This Project is designed to provide a specific contribution towards investigating, and thus helping to solve, a problem whose roots are both economic, social and cultural, individual causes and personal difficulties sometimes being inextricably compounded with difficulties originating in the family or the community. This contribution cannot be restricted to the economic sphere, in which other international organisations and the member States have made, and continue to make, considerable efforts to enable job opportunities to be created and income to be improved, as being the only lasting solution to poverty.

The Council of Europe proposes instead to concentrate its efforts on seeking and studying, with a view to their elimination, the social and cultural causes which disqualify certain individuals or families from enjoying their share of the national wealth and relegate them to a situation of material and moral destitution. This Project could consequently be aimed at, for example:

- improving knowledge of the conditions which cause the marginalisation and poverty of families and individuals, by adopting an original approach which pays attention primarily to the persons who experience poverty at first hand;
- exploiting all the possibilities offered by existing legal instruments, first and foremost the European Social Charter, in order to compile information, analyse data and identify fields in which action may prove necessary at national or international level;
- giving a new impulse to international discussions on the advisability of adopting legal rules which would either fill the gaps in the international protection of human rights, or would enable existing standards to achieve their goal more satisfactorily.

**Working methods**

This multidisciplinary Project could make use of the ideas already explored in 1989-90 by a Secretariat working party and the activities pursued in the various fields of the Council of Europe's Programme. These elements should be combined to form a coherent programme which would then be implemented by intergovernmental co-operation, with the backing of other non-governmental organisations active in this field.

### **Working structures**

A think-tank comprising members of the Secretariat has been set up to assist the Group in charge of preparing the Colloquy on aspects of poverty and marginalisation, scheduled for late 1991. The Secretariat team could then work for the Multidisciplinary Project Group responsible for preparing a coherent programme for the proposed Project as such, to be launched in 1992, while taking into consideration the social, legal and culture aspects of the problem and the means available to the Council of Europe. In 1991, work could be undertaken in particular on the "European report on poverty" to be drawn up together with the movements and groups active in the field, as well as on certain subjects which the 4th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Social Security (Lugano, 1989) has considered to be particularly important and suited to be examined in more depth by the Council of Europe.

### **Duration and results**

Before the end of 1991, as a result of the preliminary conclusions of the Project Group, the contributions of the Colloquy and the first "European Report on poverty", a general and coherent proposition for the successive stages of the Project will be submitted to the Committee of Ministers. It can nevertheless be estimated that an activity sufficiently developed to lead to practical results will need to be staged over 3 years until 1994.

The anticipated results might include:

- more efficient use of the procedures provided under certain Council of Europe legal instruments (Social Charter, Code of Social Security) and hence greater credibility of these European Conventions;
- more active and resolute collaboration on the part of non-governmental organisations, which would improve the Council of Europe's image;
- the publication of subsequent reports and original analyses centred on specific themes (such as, for example, training, employment or education) and drafted with the active participation of individuals and movements engaged in combating poverty;
- start of work, if so desired, on new international instruments or standards designed to supplement existing texts and increase their effectiveness in reducing social hardship.

**PROJECT III.6****Ageing and social protection****Description and objectives**

In the majority of member States, social security costs account for a very large share of public budgets and GDP. Their total volume has kept growing over the last 10 years and there is thus a problem of controlling this increase which is essentially accounted for by the health and old-age branches. Improved and more sophisticated health care, for the most part covered by social security schemes, has been largely responsible for this phenomenon. At the same time, population statistics have shown an appreciable rise in the number of old and very old people due to an increase in the average life expectancy of the population in general, and women in particular.

This Project therefore aims to discover whether, and to what extent, the present modes of funding, which mainly rely on contributions from the working population, are appropriate in view of these trends, what the medium and long-term financial implications would be and what measures member States might have to contemplate - and with what consequences.

Its objective is to provide governments, employers, workers and citizens in general with the key to understanding a complex issue whose solution might call for economic and financial measures and changes in working time and social lifestyles likely to have a profound impact on the expectations to which European populations have been accustomed for several decades.

**Working methods**

In recent years, a fair amount of documentation has already been produced on these problems, some of it by the Council of Europe itself. It is now a matter of bringing home the scope and gravity of the problem to the public at large and mapping out detailed procedures for action. A first phase in this process might consist in the organisation by the Council of Europe, in 1991, of a third International Colloquy on Social Security, specially devoted to the problems of financing social security expenditure. This Colloquy should fuel ideas on the role of medical and social services, whose costs also weigh heavily on social security budgets, on the specific problems of frail old people, who make special demands on social welfare services, and on the ever-closer links being forged between social, health and social security policies and the need for an increasingly integrated approach to the management of these services. The European Community and the ILO will be associated with the carrying out this Project.

**Working structures**

A preparatory committee will be organising the Colloquy. This group, which will subsequently have an enlarged composition to take into account its demographic, social and medical implications as well as the conclusions of the Colloquy, will then become the Multidisciplinary Group for the Project responsible for the general orientation and implementation of the Project. Experts will be invited to draw up background reports for the International Colloquy which will provide the "launching pad" for the Project. Subsequently, specialist groups may be created to investigate more thoroughly certain specific aspects of the problems dealt with at the Colloquy.

**Duration and results**

While taking account of work already done in the past, the Project should concentrate on devising solutions suitable for speedy implementation in member States. The Project should therefore be planned to last for 3 years, until 1993.

## PROJECT III.7

### Situation and status of young people between school and work

#### Description and objectives

Moving from school to working life is still a difficult and crucially important time for many young people. The obstacles they may encounter and the prospect of a possibly lengthy transition period may have serious consequences for a certain number of young people, entailing the risk of becoming marginalised, perhaps permanently. On the other hand, the scope for action by social welfare and employment services is sometimes limited owing to lack of co-ordination between them and with the education services. Further, transitional solutions such as the formula of "community work schemes" need to be redefined today so as to offer not so much a mere alternative to forced inaction as a springboard between the training received, which is sometimes inappropriate or insufficient - and the specific demands of the labour market.

These questions, which were the subject of discussion on occasions such as the Third Conference of European Ministers of Labour in Madrid in 1986 have, since 1987, been the subject of an activity due to be completed in 1991. Three aspects were covered:

- possible institutional shortcomings in the operational machinery and fields of action of the social welfare and employment services of member States;
- community work schemes and their benefit to young people from underprivileged backgrounds and also as a means of providing young jobless people of the occupational experience necessary to find employment;
- the status of young people as they move from school to employment.

#### Working methods

This Project has been co-ordinated by the Steering Committee for Employment and Labour and carried into effect by 3 committees of experts: the one on the Co-ordination of Services completed its work in 1990, while the two others, respectively on Community Work Schemes and Status of the Young will submit their conclusions in 1991. Contributions from consultants were also made at the different stages of this Project.

#### Working structures

Two committees of experts will meet in 1991. It will be for the Steering Committee to formulate conclusions and practical proposals, possibly in the form of draft Recommendations, for the attention of the Committee of Ministers.

#### Duration and results

The Project will be completed in 1991. Apart from any legal instruments that might be adopted, a wealth of documentary literature on national legislations and experiments has been compiled in the course of the Project and might provide material for a publication.

**PROJECT III.8****Childhood policies****Description and objectives**

The recent adoption by the United Nations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child has sparked off a new debate on the place of children in present-day society. It is clear that, over and above the discussions on the advisability - and dangers - of granting children individual rights vis-à-vis the community, their family and, when necessary, their parents, children are society's future. But Europe is ageing, its adult and elderly population is increasing, the share of social expenditure devoted to elderly and very old people is escalating, while the number of children is decreasing. Although the costs of bringing up children and providing them with health care and social protection remain considerable, this does not seem to result from a coherent vision of the future, but rather to consist of an accumulation of piece-meal measures whose sum does not add up to a policy.

This Project aims at providing an overall response to the concerns which have been expressed both by the Parliamentary Assembly and the conclusions of the 21st session of the European Ministers responsible for Family Affairs which deliberated on child upbringing and the role of social and family services. It will draw on the results of Project III.4 and on work in the demographic field and studies on family law. It should make a substantial European contribution to the United Nations Year of the Family in 1994.

**Working methods**

Wide-ranging consideration of this problem area will be started in 1991 by the Steering Committee on Social Policy, taking account of aspects relating to human rights, family law and education. The action programme to be launched in connection with this Project could be submitted to the Committee of Ministers along with the reply to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1211 on the rights of children.

**Working structures**

This first phase is the responsibility of the Steering Committee on Social Policy. Depending on how the contents and timetable of the project will have been defined by the Steering Committee, other bodies might be brought in from 1992 onwards.

**Duration and results**

The Project would be operational from 1992 for a three-year period. Its conclusions might take the form of a set of studies and recommendations and/or other legal instruments on the various aspects of childhood policies, and would probably be presented on the occasion of a European Conference in 1994.

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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### 1. Studies and research

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#### Description and objectives

In the fields of social affairs, employment, social security and demography, the Council of Europe has a range of concrete activities of recognised practical value in the form of documentation and research. With regard to the former, the European Population Committee (CDPO) annually produces a report on population trends in Europe and publishes a series of population studies consisting of research and analysis conducted either by members of the Committee themselves, or by committees of experts or consultants and approved by the Steering Committee.

With regard to social security, comparative tables of the various national schemes are published regularly under the auspices of the Steering Committee for Social Security, covering the States which are not members of the EEC, complementing the similar publication produced by the Commission of the European Communities. Similarly, an annual report on developments in national social security legislation is compiled from contributions by member and certain non-member States (Canada, Australia), in the form of comparative analysis of a specific aspect rather than a mere listing of legislation and regulations.

In connection with preparations for the Conferences of European Ministers responsible for Family Affairs, a document is published every year on the amount and the conditions for granting family and social security benefits, as well as the taking into account of family status when calculating income tax in member States.

Research is conducted by teams of specialists nominated by the member States and chosen by the Secretary General at the proposal of the CDPS and the CDEM on subjects of priority interest to the member States and the Organisation. In 1991, work will be completed by two groups working respectively on "Violence towards old people" and "The role of employment and training services in helping the long-term unemployed find jobs" and work will begin on "The situation of the homeless" and "The impact on work relations of new forms of organisation of work in firms".

By means of these activities, the Council of Europe affords a greatly appreciated contribution to the study of topical issues which benefits both member (and non-member) States and the Organisation, which often takes inspiration from the findings of this research when launching or pursuing intergovernmental activities.

#### Working methods

Studies and publications on family affairs and social security are generally entrusted to experts or drafted by the Secretariat on the basis of information supplied by national authorities, sometimes in reply to questionnaires.



Co-ordinated research is conducted by teams of specialists working under a director of studies. Their work entails visits to several member States.

### **Working structures**

Studies are approved for publication by the appropriate steering committees. A selection committee made up of equal numbers of CDPS and CDEM nominees, has up to now made proposals to the two steering committees regarding subjects for co-ordinated research and the composition of the research teams.

### **Duration and results**

The population statistics are drawn up every year and five timely studies are published per year. The other documents, prepared for the Ministerial Conferences, are produced every two or three years, with annual up-dates. The population publications will be marketed in a new "Demography Series", which will enable a part of the production costs to be recovered.

Co-ordinated research will be reorganised in 1992 in order to cover other subjects as well as social affairs and employment. The method of entrusting a team of specialists with in-depth study of a specific subject enables excellent reports to be produced, especially when field studies are required.

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## 2. Courses, training and fellowships

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### Description and objectives

This type of activity enables intergovernmental-type work to benefit from the contribution of specialists who do not normally have the opportunity of contact with the Organisation, or to extend to a wider circle than that of intergovernmental co-operation the results of work carried out in the Council of Europe.

The purpose of the social security training courses is to make the Council of Europe instruments better known among officials of the government departments and national social security institutions which have to apply them.

Vocational training courses for student instructors are organised for senior staff of vocational training institutions in the countries of Southern Europe with a view to improving the training possibilities available in those countries, thus contributing to reducing one of the causes of emigration from those States, viz the absence of training and occupational opportunities.

In addition, individual fellowships for studies abroad for purposes of further training are awarded by the Council of Europe to senior staff of national institutions and departments responsible for social welfare.

### Working methods

The social security courses are organised by the Steering Committee for Social Security with the assistance of consultants. They are intended for specialists.

The vocational training courses for student instructors are organised by the Secretariat in co-operation with a specialised training institution in a member State, which is responsible for the practical carrying-out of the courses (3 to 4 months).

Candidates for individual fellowships are put forward by the member States and selected by the Secretary General after examination of their applications by a selection committee. Each successful candidate receives a grant towards a study visit of 2/3 weeks in one or more countries, which will have previously made the necessary arrangements.

### Working structures

The necessary arrangements for the satisfactory conduct of these activities are made by the Bureaux of the Steering committees, with the assistance of the Secretariat.

For the individual fellowships, each country has its own internal procedure for shortlisting national candidates and for receiving foreign fellowship-holders. A selection committee made up of equal numbers from the CDPS and the CDEM examines applications and makes recommendations to the Steering committees.

#### **Duration and results**

The social security courses are organised annually in Strasbourg for senior staff from member States. It might be envisaged holding them subsequently in member States which so request in response to specific needs. The vocational training course will be held in Ireland in 1991. Candidates shortlisted in 1990 for social fellowships will receive their grants in 1991.

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### **3. Experiments in intercultural education**

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#### **Description and objectives**

Since 1986 experiments in intercultural education have been organised in some 10 member States. These experiments consist in partially financing the running of primary education classes with a high proportion of immigrant children and in applying methods and educational content derived from Council of Europe work.

Reports drawn up at the end of the school year by those responsible for the classes enable conclusions to be drawn as to the validity of the methods employed, in order that the proposed approach may be adapted as necessary to circumstances in different European countries.

#### **Working methods**

Classes are selected for the educational experiments by the CDMG on the basis of proposals from the member States. Each school then acts completely independently.

#### **Working structures**

Organisation of the experiments is the responsibility of member States, while the Secretariat is responsible for finance and co-ordination.

#### **Duration and results**

The intercultural experiments cover a school year. They will accordingly end in June 1991 and will be the subject of final evaluation by the CDMG and the CDCC.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**III.C.48 - European Code of Social Security and Protocol**

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**Description and objectives**

The Council of Europe has drawn up two standard-setting instruments concerning social security. The European Code of Social Security and Protocol (ETS Nos. 48 and 48A) lay down minimum standards for social security benefits in the branches of medical care, sickness allowances, benefits for unemployment, old age, occupational accidents and diseases, family and maternity benefits, invalidity and survivor's benefits.

The application of these standards is supervised, as provided in Article 7 of the Code, by the Steering Committee for Social Security, on the basis of annual reports by the contracting parties and the conclusions drawn up by a committee of experts of the International Labour Office. On completion of each cycle of supervision, the Committee of Ministers may, on the advice of the Parliamentary Assembly, address recommendations to the contracting parties. A procedure for examining non-accepted parts of the Code is carried out every 2 years.

The Committee of Ministers has recently adopted and opened for signature the revised European Code, which modifies the content of the provisions relating to the personal and substantive field of application and certain monitoring procedures for its application. This will entail compiling a new form in order to facilitate matters for the contracting parties.

**Working methods**

The contracting parties draw up annual reports which are examined by an ILO Committee of Experts in Geneva. The CDSS examines and approves its conclusions, drawing up draft Recommendations to the contracting parties for adoption by the Committee of Ministers.

**Working structures**

The CDSS meets once a year to deal with Council of Europe social security Conventions (one other meeting being concerned with intergovernmental co-operation).

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. Once the revised Code comes into force, the reports drawn up by the contracting parties will be examined by a committee of experts appointed by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

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**III.C.78 - European Convention on Social Security and  
Supplementary Agreement**

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**Description and objectives**

The European Convention on Social Security (ETS No. 78) establishes a system of co-ordination between national social security schemes, granting salaried or independent workers, as well as more generally any person who is or was subject to the social security legislation of a Contracting Party, equality of treatment, maintenance of rights in the course of being acquired and the servicing of benefits outside of the competent State. As and when accepted by the member States, it supersedes the 1953 Interim Agreements concerning only certain social security benefits.

Following recent events in the States of Central and Eastern Europe, new possibilities of travel, residence and work abroad have opened up for citizens of both member and non-member States. The Interim Agreements on social security consequently acquire fresh importance as "bridges" facilitating transfers of entitlement and contacts between hitherto quite separate systems of social protection in European countries. Thorough study of the Interim Agreements should enable precise proposals to be made concerning the benefit of accession to these instruments by the new member States.

**Working methods**

A study of the issues involved should be made by international social security specialists in the member States which have ratified the Agreements and the Convention, and by specialists from the interested non-member States.

**Working structures**

The Committee of Ministers has set up a Committee of Experts on the application of the Convention (SS-AC), which can carry out this task.

**Duration and results**

This work, including any revision of the Convention provisions requiring updating, should be completed in 2 years.

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**III.C.93 - European Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers**

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**Description and objectives**

This Convention, which came into force on 1 May 1983, is intended to complement the European Convention on Human Rights and the Social Charter with the aim of affording migrant workers who are nationals of Council of Europe member States equality of treatment with national workers of the host State as regards all aspects of living and working conditions.

**Working methods**

The Contracting Parties monitor the development of legislation and national practices in order to facilitate conditions for the application of the Convention and to draw up any appropriate proposals for its implementation or modification.

**Working structures**

A committee has been set up under the Convention to draw up a periodical report on the state of legislation and regulations in force in the contracting parties of relevance to the subject of the Convention.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. The committee reports every two years.





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FIELD OF ACTIVITIES IV

EDUCATION, CULTURE, HERITAGE AND SPORT

"Europe's cultural identity and cultural diversity"



FIELD IV

## EDUCATION, CULTURE, HERITAGE AND SPORT

In recent years the work of the Council of Europe in the vast field of education, culture, heritage and sport has been directed towards enhancing the components and profound antecedents of what has been called "European cultural identity". It became apparent that with the progress of European construction in the political and economic spheres, it was necessary to show how far the countries of Europe were united by innumerable historic, linguistic and artistic ties, and that the recent expressions of solidarity engendered by political alliances and economic interests were transcended by an authentic community of values and traditions.

With this discovery and profound enquiry, new forms of co-operation and dialogue have gradually become established at the international level, lately with spectacular success. The introduction of democratic institutions in a number of countries of Central and Eastern Europe has been accompanied by a sense of belonging to a civilisation with widely shared traditions inherited from a common past. Thus, the accession of certain European States to the Cultural Convention assumes an extra political dimension, for it means that they are now "back" in the circle of democracies and could in due course be admitted to membership of the Council of Europe.

Against the continually changing background of Europe's search for a new "architecture", cultural co-operation is still a steady point of reference. It is important that the Council of Europe strengthen and develop its capacity for action in this field having regard to the prospects offered by the cultural and human dimension of the CSCE. Rationalisation has already begun at the structural level and needs to be continued through practical action. It will be for the Council for Cultural Co-operation (CDCC), whose terms of reference have been revised for greater "strategic" relevance, to decide where the priorities lie for European co-operation in education, culture and the heritage. The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, for its part, has a duty to ensure that these efforts are coherent with the political ideas by which the action of the Organisation as a whole is guided. From this standpoint, concerted action between the Committee of Ministers and the Council for Cultural Co-operation will be crucial to the procedures for compiling the Programme, which in practice enshrines the determination of the Contracting Parties to the Cultural Convention, member States and non-members alike, to work together.

It will be for the Council for Cultural Co-operation to draw up the final Programme for 1991 in the light of the policy guidelines set by the Committee of Ministers and taking account of the amount of the grant to the Cultural Fund. Exceptionally, and in accordance with the decision taken by the CDCC at its 58th Session in June 1990, two meetings of the CDCC are scheduled for 1991 (February and December). As from 1992, the CDCC will have one annual session.

Where sport is concerned, the Steering Committee for the Development of Sport (CDDS) has been giving its full attention to the most urgent problems arising now and in the near future for policy-makers in the field of sport, in the light of the priorities set by the Committee of Ministers on 5 May 1989 and with reference to the prospects opened up by the changes occurring in Europe since November 1989. The CDDS considered its activities partly in the light of the needs expressed by the Parties, member States and non-members, to the European Cultural Convention, and partly in the knowledge that sport offers opportunities for contact with non-European countries: this is demonstrated by the recent adoption of the European Anti-Doping Charter for Sport (Recommendation R (84) 19 of the Committee of Ministers) by the International Olympic Committee and its approval by UNESCO. This potential must therefore be developed further so that the Council of Europe can extend its influence and achieve wider publicity for its work in the field of sport.

The activities in the CDDS Programme, and which are financed by the Sports Fund, were selected by the Sixth Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport and approved by the Committee of Ministers. They concern governmental and non-governmental sporting organisations, and require their close co-operation; the sectors they represent are those where the results may be expected to benefit both governmental organisations and NGOs.

As well as co-operation involving all the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention, there is work, still in the field of education, culture and heritage, undertaken within the framework of Partial Agreements in which only a limited number of States participate. The relevant Partial Agreements are "EURIMAGES" and the Partial Agreement on the Prevention of, Protection Against, and Organisation of Relief in Major Natural and Technological Disasters. Appropriate measures are taken and contacts made to ensure that all member States have the benefit of the results and work carried out within the more limited framework of Partial Agreements.

PROGRAMME AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY THE CULTURAL FUND  
AND THE SPORTS FUND

The following programme activities are financed by the Cultural Fund subject to a decision by the Council for Cultural Co-operation:

1. Education

- IV.11 Language learning and European citizenship
- IV.12 The European dimension of secondary education
- IV.13 Distance teaching
- IV.14 Adult education
- IV.15 Language industries
- IV.16 Inter-university co-operation in postgraduate training

2. Culture

- IV.21 Analysis and assessment of national cultural policies
- IV.22 Film and the cultural dimension of communication
- IV.23 European cultural routes
- IV.24 Promotion of cultural creation and dissemination
- IV.25 Culture and the regions

3. Heritage

- IV.31 The outlook for conservation: which theories?
- IV.32 Heritage sites and areas
- IV.33 The moveable heritage and sets of decorative items

as well as the related service activities.

The following programme activities are financed by the Sports Fund, subject to a decision by the Steering Committee for the Development of Sport:

4. Sport

- IV.41 Ethical values in sport
- IV.42 Sport, the media and business
- IV.43 Sport and youth
- IV.44 Sport and cultural life
- IV.45 Future sports policies

as well as the related service activities.

A detailed description of these activities can be found in the Project entries contained in chapters I to IV hereafter.

## I. EDUCATION

### PROJECT IV.11

#### Language learning and European citizenship (Greater Europe)

#### **Description and objectives**

This new activity, which carries on from the former CDCC Project No 12, is intended to help member States take effective measures to enable all their nationals to learn to use languages with a view to improved mutual understanding, personal mobility and access to information in a multilingual and multicultural Europe. Its objectives are to help implement reforms in progress and to promote innovation in language teaching and teacher training, in particular through:

- developing new models for identifying more advanced or more specialised levels of language ability;
- devising methods of assessing and programmes for initial and continuous training of teachers;
- developing appropriate systems of evaluation and certification;
- designing teaching and multimedia materials suited to the various contexts (school teaching, including early language teaching, training with a view to a profession, continuous education, self-teaching).

#### **Working methods**

The Project is to be carried out with the help of a Project group and involves international workshops with which those responsible for national research and development programmes are associated, meetings with specialists and teachers, intergovernmental symposia (the next of which, jointly organised with the Swiss authorities, will be at Rüslikon in 1991), interaction networks between experiences/national projects, publication of studies and dissemination of teaching materials based on the findings of former Project No 12.

#### **Working structures**

A Project group is helping the Secretariat plan and organise the various Project activities. Overall responsibility lies with the Education Committee.

#### **Duration and results**

Member States are taking a great interest in the Project and have submitted co-operation requests or event-holding proposals for as far ahead as 1995. The hope is that new methods will have an impact on the reform of syllabuses and of exams, teacher training, the design and publishing of textbooks and teaching/learning materials (including multimedia), developed in this way through curricula and university programmes.

**PROJECT IV.12****The European dimension of secondary education****Description and objectives**

Parties to the Cultural Convention undertake to encourage study of one another's languages, history and civilisation and of their common heritage. Over the years the CDCC has accordingly carried out a range of work on Europe in school curricula. The promotion of the European dimension of education has recently acquired a new importance due to the fact that the number of Contracting Parties will rise to include Central and Eastern European States, and with 1993 and the Single European Market just around the corner.

The Project is aimed at devising coherent and effective strategies for promoting the European dimension in secondary education so as to:

- equip the young with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they will need to meet the major challenges of European society;
- make them aware of the cohesion and diversity of their common cultural heritage and its interaction with other cultures;
- prepare them for higher education, mobility, leisure and daily life in a democratic, multilingual and multicultural Europe open to the world and subject to the increasing influence of new technologies and of the exponential growth of information.

**Working methods**

After having considered the feasibility in the first half of 1990, the CDCC decided to carry out, as of 1991, a Project with the above-described objectives.

The framework of the Project and its programming were defined by the intergovernmental symposium which took place in Belgium in November 1990 and will be agreed by the Education Committee in April 1991.

**Working structures**

A Project group will be set up in 1991 under the Education Committee to direct the Project and help the Secretariat carry it through.

**Duration and results**

The Education Committee will specify the duration of the Project, which should not exceed three years. The results will consist in a set of practical suggestions to member States, in the shape of a report on significant European experiments, audio-visual material and publications for teachers and education authorities. The setting up of European networks, in particular in the field of school exchanges, is envisaged.

**PROJECT IV.13****Distance teaching****Description and objectives**

The Council of Europe has taken an interest in distance teaching before, particularly distance teaching by terrestrial radio or television, but without significant result. As a result of developments in recent years in information technology and direct broadcasting by satellite, there has been a revival of interest in the subject and both the Parliamentary Assembly, in Recommendation 1110 (1989), and the Conference of European Ministers of Education, at its 16th session (Istanbul, 1989), recommended that the Council of Europe return to it.

The purpose of the Project is to explore the possibilities of achieving tangible results, regard being had to:

- past and present experiments in Europe;
- what kind of instruction could be developed (initial or continuing, general or specialised, vocational or arts-orientated);
- what technology could be used;
- the Council of Europe's specific role in planning, implementing, financing and following-up whatever particular activities the Project involves.

**Working methods**

The Project was the subject of a feasibility study by a consultant who handed in the first part of his report in June 1990 and who completed and submitted the final report at the end of 1990. Based on this first text, a co-ordination meeting of national experts interested in the Project was held on 26 June 1990 in order to check the advisability of an activity by the Council of Europe on the matter and the form it might take. The conclusions of the meeting having been very positive, the first, exploratory phase of the Project could start in 1991, subject to the decisions to be taken by the Education Committee in April 1991.

**Working structures**

In the light of the consultant's findings, the Education Committee will decide what bodies need to be set up. A Project group could probably be set up to co-ordinate the various phases and assist the Secretariat.

**Duration and results**

As 1991 would be devoted to establishing a network of specialists to help decide the content and objectives of the Project, the shape of the Project would depend on their conclusions. However, a Project of this kind can reasonably be expected to take at least four years, ie until 1994.



**PROJECT IV.14****Adult education****Description and objectives**

Through the exchange of information and the dissemination of the lessons learnt from novel experiments undertaken in a number of member States, each experiment being interconnected through close and regular contacts, the Project has tried to identify the prerequisites needed for adult education to help promote social integration in a constantly changing socio-economic climate. This integration has related to an important (and growing) part of the European population, i.e. the long-term unemployed and the old confronted by marginalisation and exclusion, and even by poverty. The results already achieved by the groups in the Europe-wide networks are of great interest; in particular to Central and Eastern European States experiencing far-reaching socio-economic change which is liable to generate unemployment and inactivity on the part of adult and ageing workers.

**Working methods**

The Project is based on a network of pilot schemes promoting adult education and integrated community development, and which are also linked together at national level by national networks. The networks organise visits to, and by, other schemes, opportunities to compare notes and meetings with decision-makers, specialists and educators working on the ground, who can verify whether a particular approach is appropriate and give those responsible for a particular scheme the benefit of results of similar schemes.

**Working structures**

Under the Education Committee, a steering group guides and co-ordinates the networks following proposals of the above-mentioned thematic groups, organises seminars, workshops and conferences.

**Duration and results**

The operational phase of the Project is to end in June 1991. A final Conference could be held in Strasbourg in 1992. It should give rise to the adoption of guidelines on educational schemes to meet the challenges of long-term unemployment and the special requirements of adults and the old. The Project results could be disseminated and in due course put into practice within the framework of a number of dissemination and evaluation seminars which would take the form of a service activity of limited duration.

**PROJECT IV.15****Language industries****Description and objectives**

The Project, which builds on an innovative attempt at co-ordinated description of natural languages, is intended, in the medium term, to produce a set of language instruments which, while not covering all the language needs created by the industrialisation of European languages, will be sophisticated enough to be certain of further development.

The objective is to produce language instruments suitable for use in language industrialisation processes (electronic lexicons, computer-assisted translation, linguistic data bases, lexicographical work stations) and to harmonise university courses in computational linguistics by drawing up and introducing common curricula at doctoral level.

**Working methods**

A series of six international Symposia (1987-89) mapped out the main lines of work: production of language software, widening the scope of the activity to take in further languages (eg Scandinavian, Finno-Ugrian and Slavonic languages), and investigation of other areas that might be addressed later, such as university education of linguists. The Project is being conducted in co-operation with UNESCO and the Commission of the European Communities.

**Working structures**

These Symposia are held by member States, with the help of the Secretariat and a group of experts which is co-ordinating the Project. The Education Committee is in overall charge.

**Duration and results**

The Project should be brought to completion in 1991 by activities which will concentrate on exploiting the conclusions of the pan-European Colloquies in Dubrovnik (1987) and Budapest (1990). The scheduled summing-up meeting with the European Community and UNESCO should ensure that the Project results are put to the best possible use by the member States and these Organisations in research, industrial applications and university language teaching. A follow-up could possibly be given to this Project (or certain aspects of it) through a service activity.

**PROJECT IV.16****Inter-university co-operation in postgraduate training****Description and objectives**

Postgraduate studies and research training have for some years been a priority area for co-operation between European universities. This co-operation aims to meet social needs for highly trained manpower and progress in science and technology, the needs of the universities for internationalisation, as well as cultural and European goals in the advancement of learning and the promotion of a European identity.

The Council of Europe has supported this broad movement through the programme for the development of postgraduate training launched in 1980. This has supported initiatives in a variety of important areas, emanating from ad hoc international groupings of academics in different European universities. The operational objectives have included: the analysis of training needs and opportunities, experimental short collaborative courses, and encouragement of joint approaches to training.

In 1990 it was decided to move progressively into a new phase of more selective and intensive support. Priority areas will be identified reflecting the Council of Europe's special concerns and experience, and the needs of new partners in Central and Eastern Europe. Greater emphasis will be placed on the problems of assessment and validation of joint postgraduate training programmes.

**Working methods**

The programme consists at present of grants made to the organisers of European workshops and intensive courses meeting the criteria of the scheme. The programme is annual, but subject areas and organising groups may be supported for several years.

The reorientation of the programme will require a smaller number of larger grants, and a greater element of planning and evaluation.

**Working structures**

The events to be supported are selected by an Evaluation Group of independent academics appointed by the Standing Conference on University Problems, which receives an annual report and gives directives to the Group.

**Duration and results**

The programme was last renewed in 1988 for five years. See above for evaluation of results.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Major European university problems**

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**Description and objectives**

The Standing Conference on University Problems (CC-PU) is a forum where national officials and university representatives meet regularly on an equal footing to exchange views and find practical solutions to the problems of universities and other higher education institutions.

The CC-PU's work under its forum role comprises:

- an annual debate on a major topic, in which both CC-PU members and invited leading figures take part. The 1991 topic is "The Humboldt principles of the university and their significance for contemporary mass higher education";
- an annual conference or colloquy at a different time from the Conference session (1991: Hamburg conference on "Our common cultural heritage: a challenge for East-West university cooperation"; 1992: conference envisaged in Warsaw on universities and democratisation).

**Working methods**

The CC-PU meets once a year to perform its function as a forum for discussion and shaping of national policy and putting forward proposals on intergovernmental and inter-university co-operation.

**Working structures**

The Standing Conference on University Problems (CC-PU) and ad hoc working parties.

**Duration and results**

This is an ongoing activity.

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## 2. Academic Mobility

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### Description and objectives

The encouragement of mobility of students, researchers and teaching staff in higher education has been the leitmotiv of the Council of Europe's work in this field for four decades.

The objectives of the present activity are: concerted measures to improve the flow of information; continuous review of the state of mobility and national and European policy measures in its favour; and co-ordination on a limited scale of financial assistance for postgraduate mobility (see also: Project IV.16 "Inter-university co-operation in postgraduate training", and activity IV.C.15 - ... - "Legal foundations of academic recognition").

The information aspect is pursued in the framework of the European Network of National Information Centres on academic equivalence and recognition (NEICS), which the Committee of Ministers recommended member States to create in Recommendation (74) 10.

The NEICS network is also responsible for the Conventional activity on legal aspects of recognition (see activity IV.C.15 - ... - "Legal foundations of academic recognition").

The Council of Europe Higher Education Scholarship Scheme, instituted in 1973, is intended to co-ordinate national scholarships for postgraduate students wishing to continue their studies in another European country.

### Working methods

Regular meetings of the network of national information centres (NEICS) are held, in association as appropriate with those of related networks of UNESCO/CEPES and the European Community.

Publications in progress are the second edition of the Student Handbook (1991), the Vademecum to university reception (1990), and a revised survey on Structures of University Staff.

The Council of Europe's role in the higher education scholarships scheme is that of a clearing house. An evaluation is being carried out in 1990-1991 by the Standing Conference on University Problems and the Secretariat.

Mobility policy is reviewed by the Standing Conference on University Problems at its annual meetings, and through its forum role activity (see Service activity No. 1), and in ad hoc events such as the Vienna Conference on Equivalences in Europe (October 1989).

### Working structures

The Standing Conference on University Problems (CC-PU) is responsible for this activity, assisted by the network of national information centres on academic mobility and equivalences (NEICS).

### Duration and results

This activity is permanent.

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### 3. Regional transfrontier inter-university co-operation

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#### Description and objectives

This activity is aimed at encouraging transfrontier groups of universities and other institutions of higher education in border regions to make the most of the opportunities afforded by their proximity and develop forms of co-operation for achieving objectives specific to the particular university group. It also aims at evaluating the lessons which these programmes may have for the development of European university co-operation on a wider plane.

The Council of Europe can help in the search for practical co-operation arrangements and solutions to problems of student or teacher mobility and those of jointly-taught courses.

#### Working methods

The Council of Europe supports or organises meetings so that the universities involved can meet and discuss their co-operation aims. Several university groups have been identified, including: North Portugal-Aquitaine-Galicia; Saar-Lor-Lux; the Alpine regions; the Upper Rhine; the Danube basin; Austria-Hungary-Italy-Czechoslovakia.

#### Working structures

Each network has its own structures. The Standing Conference on University Problems is in charge of the work, assisted by a Project group it has set up for the evaluation and guidance of the activity.

#### Duration and results

An attempt is being made to rationalise and reorientate the activity, in particular for the benefit of co-operation networks of Central and Eastern European universities. Decisions on the continuation of the activity are due to be taken before the end of 1991.

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#### 4. Teacher bursaries scheme

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##### **Description and objectives**

The scheme, which is the Council of Europe's main direct link with the teaching profession, enables foreign teachers to attend training courses run by member States as well as making it possible to hold special courses on subjects of direct relevance to the CDCC programme and hold four seminars a year at the Academy for Further Training of Teachers, Donaueschingen (Federal Republic of Germany). The objectives are to promote further training for teachers, broaden teachers' experience and develop a spirit of international co-operation.

##### **Working methods**

The scheme is financed by the Cultural Fund and member States' voluntary contributions. The bursaries are awarded by the Secretariat with the help of the national liaison officials who preselect the applicants and arrange bursar placements.

##### **Working structures**

The Secretariat administers the scheme in consultation with national liaison officers.

##### **Duration and results**

This is an ongoing activity. In 1989 it enabled some 500 European teachers to attend courses in or make visits to foreign countries.

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## 5. European schools day

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### Description and objectives

The European Schools Day competition is designed to encourage schoolchildren to become conscious of their European identity and to bring out their interest in questions concerning the cohesion and diversity of the European cultural heritage, the progress being made as regards European co-operation and unification, the challenges for modern Europe and the role and responsibilities of Europe in an interdependent world.

To date, 19 countries participate in this competition; however, all States which are Contracting Parties to the Cultural Convention should be participating, as was recommended by the Committee of Ministers.

### Working methods

The Day is jointly organised by the Council of Europe, the European Community and the European Cultural Foundation. The Cultural Fund and the Council of Europe are mainly involved in the funding of the competition, the choice of themes, acting as hosts to the prizewinners and holding the prizegiving ceremony.

### Working structures

The Secretariat administers the Cultural Fund's contribution.

### Duration and results

This is an ongoing activity. Every two years the Council of Europe receives the European Schools Day International Committee and organises the ceremony at which the prizes are presented to some 40 winners annually from 19 member States.



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## 6. Educational research and documentation

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### Description and objectives

The Council of Europe promotes the pooling of research results by:

- holding an annual educational research workshop on a priority theme (the 1991 Workshop is on the gifted child);
- organising an annual meeting of directors of educational research institutions in member States and non-member States (the 1991 Colloquy will be in San Marino); every two years this meeting takes the form of a pan-European conference organised together with UNESCO;
- making available to authorities and educational researchers a specialised, computerised data base (EUDISED) containing the research results in the field of education (it is planned to add information on the CDCCs work); the indexing consists of key words of the European Education Thesaurus.

### Working methods

The work takes the form of workshops or conferences attended by officials and education specialists of member States, non-member States, UNESCO, the European Community and NGOs. Their proceedings are published.

EUDISED is available on a direct line at the European Space Agency and also in the form of a commercial bulletin.

### Working structures

The Secretariat implements the work. The data for EUDISED is provided by the national agencies in each country. The Thesaurus is administered jointly by the Council of Europe and the European Community.

### Duration and results

These are ongoing activities. Some adjustments are being made to EUDISED in order to make it more attractive as a tool to national institutions and authorities.

## II. CULTURE

### PROJECT IV.21

#### Analysis and evaluation of national cultural policies

##### **Description and objectives**

The purpose of this Project is to conduct analytical studies of the cultural policies pursued in member and non-member States Parties to the Cultural Convention. Its objectives are as follows:

- draw up, within a reasonable time, a fairly comprehensive inventory of the European States' national cultural policies;
- make the States taking part in the exercise aware of the significance of the constituent elements, the results and of any gaps in their cultural policies;
- promote the flow of information and the exchange of experience between States;
- devise a common methodology for study, analysis and assessment which could be used in a wide range of cases and would thus make data broadly comparable.

The Project is therefore of interest both to the States concerned by the exercise, insofar as they take an active part in it, and for the Council of Europe, which is gradually acquiring a working aid that will give it a clearer picture of national policies and enable it to plan its future work.

##### **Working methods**

The analysis and evaluation are done by teams of specialists led by rapporteurs and a Chairman. Every team conducts visits, meetings and interviews with national authorities and leading figures in cultural circles. Its report is then discussed with the national authorities and debated by the CDCC.

The reports are normally published.

##### **Working structures**

The specialist groups are formed by the Cultural Affairs Committee on an ad hoc basis. They receive assistance from the Secretariat.

##### **Duration and results**

The Project began in 1988 with the report on France's cultural policy, followed in 1989 by the report on Sweden. In 1991 work considering the policies of Austria and Spain, which was started in 1990, will be continued and the study relating to the Netherlands could be started. Other countries have expressed their intention of taking part in the exercise in the next few years. Although it is felt that as many States as possible should be involved in the evaluation process in the near future, it has been pointed out that it may take ten years to cover all the Contracting Parties to the Cultural Convention.

**PROJECT IV.22**Film and the cultural dimension of communication**Description and objectives**

The spread of information technologies and technical progress in communication have brought about mass production and consumption of what is now known in general terms as communication, ie general and specialised information, advertising messages and the creation of visual or other identities, the dissemination of culture and the management of stocks (archives, libraries, film libraries). While film is a specific "product" included among the "cultural" components of communication, other elements nevertheless come into play: television and the programmes specifically designed for it, standard and interactive video, as well as the technical aspects which often shape production and broadcasting methods to the extent that it becomes objectively hard to distinguish between the broadcast product and the means of broadcasting it.

The purpose of the Project is to foster a discussion of this complex issue - complementing the discussion now in progress as part of intergovernmental co-operation in the media field - with the initial emphasis on:

- the usefulness of exploring and discussing the cultural dimension of mass communication;
- the importance for the Council of Europe of carrying out specific, targeted, operational activities;
- the need for functional co-ordination with the other bodies concerned, such as the European Audiovisual Observatory.

Activities relating to film will therefore be maintained and expanded, especially as regards:

- the conservation of the European film heritage (conservation of archives, physical protection of prints, legal protection of copyright-holders);
- the co-production and distribution of films in Europe (drafting of a standard multilateral film co-production agreement to replace the bilateral agreements negotiated on each occasion);
- staff training in new techniques in co-operation with existing institutions, bearing in mind the long-term possibility of setting up a European Audiovisual Centre.

**Working methods**

Participants in the general discussion of the cultural content of communication will include representatives of national administrations, international organisations such as UNESCO and prominent independent figures. As far as film is concerned, co-operation will be pursued with centres dealing with film archives, staff training and international contacts.

**Working structures**

A working group on communication, set up by the CDCC, has made proposals for the attention of the Cultural Affairs Committee. The Cultural Affairs Committee will then make detailed proposals for 1991 which will take into account the necessary co-ordination with the CDMM. The Cinema Committee will pursue its work in conjunction with the working group and subsequently with any appropriate body which the Cultural Affairs Committee may set up. The Cinema Committee is assisted by groups of experts for the study of specific questions.

**Duration and results**

Subject to a decision by the Cultural Affairs Committee as to the content and objectives, the Project, once it enters its operational phase, may be expected to take at least three years (1991-94).

**PROJECT IV.23****European Cultural Routes**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

The Project, which is intended to reflect European identity in visual terms by highlighting the diversity of its cultures, is a practical aid in bringing the "two Europes" closer together and a valuable means of bringing home to the general public the multiplicity of cultural inputs whose intermingling is one of the characteristic components of European civilisation. By establishing "routes" based on those used by ancient civilisations or on economic and cultural exchanges in the distant and not-so-distant past, the Project aims to:

- encourage Europeans to become aware of, value and experience their common cultural identity;
- safeguard and enhance the cultural heritage (places, sites, monuments) as a factor contributing to the quality of life and to socio-cultural and economic development;
- develop high-quality cultural tourism and hence contacts between European populations.

**Working methods**

The Routes are normally proposed by the national authorities of the States concerned, but regional and local authorities, associations, cultural institutions and schools are also involved. Each Route therefore has a specific, independent profile which may stress its artistic aspect, historical dimension or geographical and tourist implications.

UNESCO has expressed great interest in the Project, especially in the silk route, leading from Western Europe to China.

**Working structures**

Each Route is drawn up on the basis of information and suggestions provided by the States and other authorities concerned, by a scientific working group whose membership may vary but includes art historians, ethnographers, archaeologists, historians and representatives of national and local authorities as required in each case.

**Duration and results**

Those established and "launched" to date are the Silk, Baroque, Santiago de Compostela and Rural Habitat Routes. Routes on the Cistercians, the Vikings, the Celts, the Lombards and Mozart are in preparation or nearing their operational phase. Others could be added.

Once "launched" with the aid of the Council of Europe, the Routes are intended to be self-supporting. The Council of Europe in principle confines itself to indirect support in the form of a service activity.

In the short term, given their importance for enhancing European cultural identity in a pan-European context, the Routes may be regarded as a Project to be completed by 1995.

**PROJECT IV.24****Promotion of cultural creation and dissemination****Description and objectives**

With this Project, which falls into several parts, the Council of Europe aims to make a specific contribution to cultural activity as engaged in by creative artists (writers, authors, translators) or received and used by the public (readers, spectators). Rather than launching into the direct support and funding of spectacular works or events, the Council of Europe works to inform and educate the public and cultural leaders. The Project is intended to develop and complete three specific activities:

- encouraging the public to read by facilitating access to original and translated works;
- developing the poetry heritage and exchanges between poets;
- encouraging creative drama for and involving children.

The objective is to help increase public interest in these forms of cultural creation in Europe and to bring together creative artists and users at high-quality European events.

**Working methods**

These activities take the form of encounters between writers and the public (especially at the Carrefour des Littératures Européenes in Strasbourg every year), translators' meetings, training courses, contacts between poets and with the general public, and European meetings on children's and young people's theatre.

The Council of Europe helps to finance these events and organises meetings of writers, poets and translators with the aid of public and private institutions.

**Working structures**

The grants are decided by the CDCC and awarded by the Secretariat.

**Duration and results**

The Project is expected to end and be the subject of an evaluation in 1991. Based on the conclusions of the Consultative Conference on Poetry which took place in Saragossa (Spain) in November 1990, a specific "Poetry" Project could be launched in 1991. Support for the Carrefour des Littératures Européenes and the theatre meetings could be turned into service activities.

**PROJECT IV.25****Culture and the Regions****Description and objectives**

Started in 1986 as CDCC Project No. 10, "Culture and the Regions" has aroused growing interest among European States and regions as well as local government agencies and community organisations. After an experimental phase which centred on defining "cultural dynamics" in relation to regional development, the Project has:

- completed the study of regional cultural policies on the basis of a series of practical cases;
- encouraged the development of training activities to clarify the responsibilities of regional cultural officials;
- fostered interregional exchanges in co-operation with the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE) and the Assembly of European Regions;
- worked towards the setting up of a network of centres to monitor cultural activity and innovation in European towns and regions, in conjunction with the CLRAE and the European Cultural Foundation.

**Working methods**

The Project has provided opportunities for on-the-spot study of the different regional situations and the forms and content of cultural activity at regional level. Contacts have been established with local authorities, community organisations and cultural leaders on the basis of a multidisciplinary approach involving co-operation with various institutions.

**Working structures**

This Project has involved continuous liaison between the Secretariat and national and local authorities which have been visited and evaluated, with a Project group in charge of general co-ordination.

**Duration and results**

The Project will end in 1991 with a final Conference which is expected to:

- draw up recommendations on the cultural role of the regions;
- present the experiments analysed and conclusions drawn up in the form of books, case studies, teaching aids and audiovisual material;
- establish a number of working links between participating regions.



As from 1991 a limited operational phase could be undertaken in the form of a service activity to prevent dispersal of the Project's achievement, concentrating on:

- the work on the training of cultural, area-based administrators;
- the setting up of a network of follow-up centres on regional cultural initiatives and policies with an original content and the possible establishment of a European "observatory" to co-ordinate the network's activity.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Council of Europe Art Exhibitions**

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**Description and objectives**

The Council of Europe art exhibitions, which are intended to stimulate knowledge and appreciation of European art, deal with subjects that are significant for European art as a whole and sufficiently important to invite the participation of as many countries as possible. The exhibitions describe, through works of art, the cultural contribution of a period or style and the work and influence of outstanding artists or schools.

**Working methods**

Exhibition themes are proposed to the Secretary General by the States Parties to the Cultural Convention. The inclusion of a theme in the series is decided by the CDCC after having been advised by a Consultants Group which includes prominent specialists and directors of the great European museums. Exhibitions are organised by one State with the aid of other States, technical support from the Secretariat and a financial contribution from the special "Exhibitions" account of the Cultural Fund.

**Working Structures**

The Consultants Group works in close co-operation with the Secretariat and the directors of national museums and institutions - both public and private - on which the availability of works for exhibition to the public very largely depends. For every exhibition included in the series, a European Organising Committee of specialists is set up.

**Duration and results**

This is an ongoing activity. According to the timetable laid down by the CDCC, the XXIst Exhibition on "Emblems of freedom: the image of the Republic from the 16th to the 20th century" will be held in Switzerland in 1991 and the XXIInd Exhibition on "The Vikings and Europe" (working title) will be held in Paris and Berlin in 1992. Forthcoming exhibitions on which a decision remains to be taken concern "European art in the period of the Second World War" (London, 1994/5) and "Historicism in European Art" (Vienna, 1996).

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## 2. Forum of European networks of cultural centres

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### Description and objectives

To promote synergy, help rationalise cultural activity in Europe and disseminate the results of its own work, the Council of Europe has encouraged the establishment of liaison facilities between European cultural centres. Following a constituent meeting in 1988 attended by more than 65 cultural centres and institutions, thematic networks were set up by subject (science and technology, theatre, historic monuments and sites), by geographical area (Northern Europe, the Mediterranean, Central Europe) and by type of activity (artistic creation, use of new technologies, reception of trainees). A second general forum was held in the United Kingdom in 1989 and a third in Lisbon in autumn 1990.

### Working methods

Each network is organised independently. The Secretariat acts as co-ordinator and supervisor, aiming to awaken common interests around which co-ordinated activities might revolve and to improve the distribution of respective tasks or work programmes.

### Working Structures

The activity is run by the Secretariat. The Cultural Fund helps to finance the meetings of the Forum and specific networks.

### Duration and results

The activity has aroused very lively interest among cultural leaders throughout Europe. It is likely to be helpful in establishing or strengthening contacts with former or newly established cultural centres in Central and Eastern Europe wishing to co-operate more closely with similar institutions in the member States. It should therefore continue over the next few years, with an initial assessment taking place in 1992.

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### 3. Cultural documentation and research - CIRCLE

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#### Description and objectives

The Council of Europe was instrumental in the setting up, a few years ago, of the Cultural Information and Research Liaison in Europe (CIRCLE), which performs a valuable function in spreading information on cultural initiatives. CIRCLE is now established in Europe and is an important constituent of a worldwide institution with the same aims, CULTURELINK, in which UNESCO and the Council of Europe are also involved.

By means of CIRCLE the Council of Europe encourages information on and co-ordination of cultural research and documentation in Europe, finances research projects and studies on topics of common interest and improves the information base required for cultural policy decision-making.

#### Working methods

CIRCLE organises its activities through its Secretariat in Paris. The Council of Europe awards it an annual grant which enables it, among other things, to publish a newsletter entitled "Circular".

#### Working structures

Liaison with CIRCLE is provided by the Council of Europe Secretariat.

#### Duration and results

Co-operation with CIRCLE should make it possible to complete the following operations:

- publication of an updated, expanded version of the "Handbook of Cultural Affairs in Europe";
- compiling and publication of the proceedings of the pan-European Round Table Conference in Moscow on the pattern of cultural demand.

This is an ongoing activity, but an assessment of the functioning of the arrangements decided on in 1989 could be made after a sufficiently long interval, for example in 1994.

### III. THE CULTURAL HERITAGE

#### PROJECT IV.31

#### The outlook for conservation: which theories? (Greater Europe)

##### **Description and objectives**

The Council of Europe has, over the past 25 years, initiated and encouraged wide-ranging discussion of the content and aims of integrated conservation of the heritage in its social, urban and cultural environment. This work, which has successively related to several aspects of conservation (archaeology, rural and industrial heritage, funding and training), will continue in 1991 with the drawing up of a draft Recommendation to member States on the protection and enhancement of 20th Century architecture.

Recent political developments in Europe and the accession of new States to the Council of Europe's Conventions in the heritage sector are raising the issue of an "extension" to other countries of the integrated conservation philosophy developed in Western Europe over the last quarter of a century. Thus an opportunity arises to take stock and consider the future of the major heritage charters in Europe, in order to widen the discussion and make a contribution to the definition of new policies in the field, including:

- the current position and scope of integrated conservation and the problems of restoration of historical centres in the '90s;
- the restoration 20th century architecture and new architectural activity in towns and countryside;
- the changing theories and the practical problems encountered by States not previously involved in Council of Europe work on conservation.

##### **Working methods**

This Project provides the framework for a wide-ranging discussion among specialists from East and West in an informal, multi-disciplinary reflection group. This discussion would make a valuable contribution to the Conference on the cultural heritage to be organised by the Polish Government in 1991 in Kracow within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, and which will, in its turn, enable progress to be made in discussions with a view to the Third Conference of European Ministers Responsible for the Architectural Heritage, organised by the Council of Europe which could be held in 1991-92.

##### **Working structures**

The group of specialists currently considering 20th century architecture will complete its work in 1991. This could be the time to convene an East-West reflection group on the theme "The outlook for conservation: which theories?". Both groups will work in close co-operation with the Cultural Heritage Committee, which is to take over from the Steering Committee for Integrated Conservation of the Historic Heritage (CDPH).

##### **Duration and results**

This activity should continue until the next Ministerial Conference, for which it is a kind of preparatory stage.

**PROJECT IV.32****Heritage sites and areas****Description and objectives**

Since European Architectural Heritage Year (1975), the work of the Council of Europe has related to monuments and townscapes, but has not dealt directly with the issues of the safeguarding and enhancement of sites, one of the components of the heritage defined by the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1985).

The objective of this Project is therefore to identify, become familiar with, protect, develop and promote cultural sites and settings, on the understanding that the emphasis is to be placed on the cultural and historical dimension of the environment concerned, but not forgetting the problems relating to development and physical and economic planning inherent in the application of the Granada Convention.

**Working methods**

A feasibility study should be carried out in 1991 with a view to defining the exact scope of detailed arrangements for and the duration of the Project. This study should be based on the contributions of specialists from different backgrounds, the topics to be covered encompassing urban sites, the immediate vicinity of monuments and historic groups of buildings, historic parks and gardens and rural or suburban areas which are sufficiently homogeneous within the meaning of the Convention.

**Working structures**

A group of specialists should be set up in 1991, if necessary to be assisted by a limited number of consultants. Contrasting ideas and theories could be aired in public at a Colloquy which could be held by the Irish authorities in 1991 and at a meeting of experts which Luxembourg has proposed to host on this theme. Appropriate links will be maintained with the other working parties which, under the aegis of the Steering Committee for the Conservation and Management of the Environment and Natural Habitats, deal with the protection or restoration of the countryside.

**Duration and results**

This Project could take place over three years. It should culminate in the preparation of Recommendations to governments and the production of audiovisual material intended to heighten the awareness of the general public and specialists.

**PROJECT IV.33****The moveable heritage and sets of decorative items****Description and objectives**

The 1993 opening up of the frontiers between the member States of the European Community and the greater freedom of movement, exchanges and contact between the States of Eastern and Western Europe could give rise to increased trade and trafficking in works of art, leading to the impoverishment of certain countries' heritage. It is the aim of the Project, without considering the issues connected with stopping the illicit trafficking of works of art and with monitoring trade in objects associated with the cultural heritage, to find out how national, regional or local heritage policies can ensure that well-matched groups of real property and of moveable and decorative items or fixtures originally designed for such property may be preserved. The intention is to make people more aware of the way in which decorative or technical moveable items fit in with a particularly significant part of the immoveable heritage, so that these are prevented from deteriorating or becoming separated, which would amount to an impoverishment of the original immoveable item and a fundamental change in the meaning of the moveable item separated from its context.

It is self-evident that an increase in awareness of this kind would lead to better protection of these sets, and that another consequence would be the deterrence of trafficking in moveable items uprooted from their original placements.

**Working methods**

As basic documentation was collected in 1988-89, the Council of Europe could speedily bring into operation a team of specialists with instructions to put forward proposals relating to:

- the type of heritage under consideration;
- detailed topics to be tackled to start the activity off, such as identification, legal and physical protection and inventories of items;
- the objectives in view and the target audience.

This analysis could subsequently continue at international colloquies and symposiums in both member and non-member States affected by these problems.

**Working structures**

Under the authority of the Cultural Heritage Committee, a group of specialists could be set up as early as 1991. Its proposals would then be considered by the Heritage Committee with a view to defining the main lines to be pursued by the Project.

**Duration and results**

The Project could last three years, finishing in 1993. Recommendations to member States and, perhaps, a Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe could be drawn up at the end of the Project.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Technical assistance for the enhancement of the architectural heritage**

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**Description and objectives**

The objective of this activity is to help national, regional or local authorities which so desire to solve complex problems relating to the preservation and enhancement of their architectural heritage, thanks to the availability of experts.

The experts, selected depending on the nature of the problems raised in the consideration of each case, make a site visit and draw up a detailed report recommending the steps to be taken. On the basis of the report, the Secretariat may perhaps give subsequent assistance with follow-up action and help in the liaison with other international institutions or the implementation of multilateral programmes of direct assistance to the country concerned.

**Working methods**

It is the Cultural Heritage Committee which decides whether to grant assistance and which specialists to appoint. The site visit is carried out in agreement with, and with the assistance of, the authorities concerned. The report is then forwarded to the Committee of Ministers and in most cases is published for information and as technical documentation.

**Working structures**

The teams of specialists will be set up on an ad hoc basis.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. Assistance is granted to one or two cases which are considered to be important each year. Applications submitted in 1990 and now under consideration relate to the Charbonnages du Bois de Cazier (Belgium) and the town of Safranbolu (Turkey).

Other requests are already being made by Central and Eastern European States, which have just acceded to the Cultural Convention.

The experts' reports do not imply any commitment by the Council of Europe to ensure, financially or administratively, that they are implemented. Possible ways of following them up in practice could nevertheless be studied, in order to make it easier for the national or local authorities concerned to call upon the competent institutions, on the basis of the report by Council of Europe experts.



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## 2. Promotion of heritage skills and crafts

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### Description and objectives

With a view to promoting the preservation and handing down of the skills required for crafts associated with the architectural and artistic heritage, as well as the improvement of the image of these crafts in order to ensure that they continue, the objective of this activity is:

- to set up a "European network of heritage crafts", linking national authorities, trade associations and member States' specialists;
- to distribute a specialist periodical entitled "Crafts and Heritage";
- in collaboration with a suitable publisher (Hachette), to launch a series of works on heritage crafts;
- to draw up a list of available training systems in member States;
- to encourage the production and distribution of broadcasts and TV programmes in conjunction with events scheduled for Heritage Day.

### Working methods

The Secretariat makes the necessary contacts and takes the initiatives for the implementation of the various aspects of this activity, and is assisted in this task by a number of groups of specialists, qualified to deal with the subjects which have to be taken into account in this context (training, publishing and television production).

### Working structures

Two groups of specialists for the co-ordination of the "network" and a group of consultants on "collection" work in close co-operation with the Secretariat.

### Duration and results

This is a permanent activity. The "network" should consolidate itself in 1991, and the collection to be published by Hachette should start to appear by the end of the same year. The "Crafts and Heritage" periodical will continue to be published on the usual dates.

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### 3. Co-operation between national and international heritage documentation centres

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#### Description and objectives

The many heritage information and documentation centres, both national and international, in Europe have made one another's acquaintance and learned to co-operate, thanks to Council of Europe action, which has enabled them to make fruitful contacts and exchanges. It was also considered to be of interest for the Council to explore possible ways of establishing links making it easier to pool information and experience relating to filing methods and techniques, compatibility and the transmission of data.

The purpose of this activity is to identify the minimum descriptive elements enabling the technical specifications required for the documentation of information to be defined, and to carry out thematic projects or studies of regional or transfrontier interest involving the centres concerned.

#### Working methods

The London Colloquy (1989) and the September 1990 meeting of the group of documentation specialists provide the necessary elements needed to launch a network of the main documentation centres, which should operate independently of the Council of Europe.

#### Working structures

The group of specialists finalised its recommendations at the end of 1990. The Cultural Heritage Committee will have to decide on the arrangements for co-operation between the Council of Europe and the future network of documentation centres.

#### Duration and results

This activity will be completed in 1991 by the adoption of recommendations, the setting up of the network and the holding of a Colloquy organised by the French authorities and intended to co-operate with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe on the development of their own documentation centres.

Consideration could perhaps be given to follow-up action in the form of either technical assistance to certain States or the granting of "launch" subsidies to the national centres set up by the East European States and to a European network.

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#### 4. Raising awareness and education

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##### Description and objectives

In order to promote public awareness and make people familiar with their heritage, the Council of Europe publishes a specialised series "A future for our past" and has encouraged the holding in member States of National Heritage Days. At the same time, with a view to increasing the awareness of heritage issues by more receptive and better targeted audiences, "heritage classes" are offered in member States, organised in conjunction with the national authorities.

An initial series of events in 1989 and 1990 provided an opportunity to test working methods and acquire experience useful for the preparation of better defined and more effective proposals.

##### Working methods

It is appropriate to leave it to individual States to organise their own Heritage Days, with the Council of Europe offering patronage, the distribution of educational material and the co-ordination of any international or transfrontier events.

Where the heritage classes are concerned, the Council of Europe will prepare an aide-mémoire which might help academic authorities, teachers and students to define their own objectives and to seek out contacts at European level, perhaps in the form of twinning arrangements or joint operations.

##### Working structures

The national co-ordinators responsible for the various operations involved in this activity will be invited to meet at the Council of Europe to prepare detailed proposals about subsequent implementation.

##### Duration and result

1991 should be spent finalising new guidelines for action and preparing educational aids. Operations, for which national authorities will be responsible, should start in 1992, and the Council of Europe should step in to provide any documentary and logistic back-up which may be required.

"A future for our past" will be published in a new form as from 1991. The funds relating thereto are provided, for 1991, under Vote I of the Budget of the Council of Europe.

**IV. SPORT****PROJECT IV.41****Ethical values in sport****Description and objectives**

The Council of Europe intends, through this Project begun in 1988, to strengthen athletes' and spectators' understanding and application of the basic ethical principles of sports activities, namely fair play, respect for opponents and the unselfish pursuit of success. The main aim of the Project is to understand young people's attitudes to behaviour which is contrary to these principles - violence, doping and corruption - and to develop an image of fairness and openness in sporting activity.

**Working methods**

Co-ordinated research on the ground, specialised symposiums and expert reports have enabled a large amount of documentation on the subject to be collected. Educational campaigns and efforts to promote fair play have been aimed at target groups, including leaders of sports organisations, schools and educators.

**Working structures**

The Project is run by the Steering Committee for the Development of Sport, with the assistance of the Committee of Experts on Sports Research.

**Duration and results**

The Project should be completed in 1994. It could give rise to publications and audiovisual material for distribution to educators, leaders of sports organisations and athletes. The basic rules of fair-play could be included in a European Code of sports ethics.

**PROJECT IV.42****Sport, the media and business****Description and objectives**

The economic importance of sport is increasing constantly: sports events arouse media interest and set in motion great economic forces which also come into play by, directly or indirectly, funding sports activities, teams and athletes.

The objective of the Project is to study the whole wide-ranging subject, which has both positive and negative aspects. The particular focus will be on the problems connected with the funding of sport and its tax treatment, as well as contracts for the broadcasting of sports events and contracts for the funding of sporting activities through the sponsorship of events or teams, for example.

**Working methods**

These issues will be examined at meetings of experts, seminars and symposiums attended by representatives of interested circles, as well as through practical research.

**Working structures**

The Project is carried out by the Committee of Experts on Sports Research in conjunction with the CDDS and, where necessary, with the CDMM.

**Duration and results**

A number of documents providing information about practice in European countries will be published at the end of 1992. The second report on the economic significance of sport will be published in 1994. A code of conduct could be drafted subsequently, particularly with a view to dealing with the problems posed by the rapid commercialisation of sport and the direct televising of sport by satellite.

**PROJECT IV.43****Sport and youth****Description and objectives**

The purpose of this Project is to consider the importance and role of physical education and sport in the life of children of school age, to develop a lifelong habit of taking physical exercise and to foster links between sport as a school subject and sport as an extra-curricular or adult activity, bearing in mind changes in the traditional concept and methods of physical education in the States of Europe, particularly in the school context.

**Working methods**

The Project will be carried out in close co-operation with the national officials responsible for physical education in schools, specialist P.E. teachers and sports organisations. Symposiums and research should provide an overview of the new problems and of the trends taking shape for the future development of this discipline.

**Working structures**

The CDDS could set up working parties comprising physical education specialists and representatives of national government departments with responsibility for school education. The Education Committee and the CDEJ might also be interested in this Project.

**Duration and results**

The Project will begin in 1991 and be completed in 1994. It is expected to culminate in a European report on the major trends in physical education and in a school sport charter.

**PROJECT IV.44****Sport and cultural life****Description and objectives**

The purpose of this Project, which constitutes the follow-up action to a Recommendation of the Sixth Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport (1990) is to study and highlight the relationship between sport and culture in sectors such as sports facilities and events, as well as to show the importance of traditional games in cultural and sports policies. It is also intended to foster a rediscovery and increased awareness of the historical origins of sports and their contribution to the cultural identity of the nations of Europe.

**Working methods**

The CDDS is co-ordinating studies of traditional games which have been embarked upon in a number of countries.

**Work structures**

The CDDS is directing the Project and examining its results.

**Duration and results**

The end of the Project should be marked by a European Congress in 1992, which could be held in Spain on the occasion of the Olympic Games. This could be a means of publicising the results of the activity and building a bridge between traditional games and present-day sport.

**PROJECT IV.45****Future sports policies**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

Recent developments in Central and Eastern Europe, along with the resulting prospects for and practical examples of co-operation among European States, have created new openings for developing a European dimension to sports policies. As a result, one has to expect people, among them officials and athletes, to be more mobile. Some convergence of national sports policies can also be anticipated, as a result of both the removal of ideological aspects from sports activities and a greater willingness to make use of acquired experience, particularly in respect of popular sport.

The Project, under way since 1988, ought therefore to be considerably developed in the near future, making it possible to study more fully and more conclusively questions such as:

- methods of planning and formulating strategies relating to sport,
- the role and importance of sport and leisure activities in contemporary urban life,
- updating the training of those who will be required to administer sports policies in the 90s.

**Working methods**

Sport policy-makers, sports organisations and political decision-takers are helping to implement this Project at seminars, symposiums and meetings of experts.

**Working structures**

The CDDS is co-ordinating the Project.

**Duration and results**

The Project should facilitate contacts between sport administrators and training officials in Council of Europe member and non-member States. At the end of the Project, in 1994, conclusions on activity planning and business management techniques should be available.



**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Sport for all: promotion and participation**

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**Description and objectives**

The aim of this activity is to provide public and private decision-takers in the sports sector with information and advice on policies, methods, equipment and staffing, with a view to enabling all citizens, whatever their social or economic status and physical condition, to participate in sport.

**Working methods**

This activity makes it possible to develop and publicise among individuals or bodies active in the sports sector, the "Eurofit" test methods perfected by the Council of Europe.

**Working structures**

This activity is carried out under the responsibility of the CDDS.

**Duration and results**

The activity is of a permanent character. The "Eurofit" model is regularly revised and, where necessary, adapted to meet the needs of specific population groups, such as children and adults.

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## 2. Exchange and analysis of information about sport

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### Description and objectives

The purpose of this activity is regularly to provide sports officials with useful information about the development of sport in member States, and to give them advice on problems relating to information about sport. It also provides an opportunity to draw up periodical reports on discriminatory policies affecting sport, including apartheid.

### Working methods

General information is collected, managed and distributed by the "Clearing House" set up in Brussels (see below), while details of discriminatory practices affecting sport are sent to the Secretariat, which subsequently publishes information reports.

### Working structures

The Clearing House is independent of the Council of Europe and receives a grant from the Sports Fund. The Committee of Experts Sports on Information is associated with the implementation of this activity.

### Duration and results

This is a permanent activity. A newsletter is published four times a year. Ad hoc reports are drawn up for the Conferences of European Ministers responsible for Sport.

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### 3. Co-ordination of sports research

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#### Description and objectives

This activity enables the Council of Europe to receive regular information about the main research on sport carried out in member States, most of it at government initiative, and, where necessary, to give guidance or advice with a view to making the research more worthwhile and efficient and to bring it more closely into line with the activities and priorities of the Council of Europe programme.

#### Working methods

The Council of Europe does not directly fund or carry out research but, through government experts, co-ordinates European research projects and publishes the results thereof.

#### Working structures

The Committee of Experts on Sports Research is responsible for this activity.

#### Duration and results

This is a permanent activity. It has in the past provided the opportunity to publish a number of reports on subjects such as participation, injuries, sport in the national economy and child fitness.



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#### 4. Contacts with sports organisations

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##### Description and objectives

The Council of Europe endeavours to communicate the results of its work to other international organisations, to sports federations and movements in Europe and other regions of the world, and to co-operate in any helpful way with other intergovernmental bodies and non-member States.

The objective of the activity is to enable working contacts to be made with personalities and political officials at national and international level, contacts which are useful for the tasks for which the Committee for the Development of Sport is responsible.

##### Working methods

The Sports Fund meets the expenses of certain official journeys to enable the Secretariat to be represented at governmental and non-governmental organisations (UNESCO, IOC, FIFA, UEFA, the General Association of International Sports Federations, the European Sports Conference and the Association of the European National Olympic Committees). In exchange, these Organisations are invited, if they so wish, to be represented at meetings of the CDDS, as well as seminars and other events organised by it.

##### Working structures

The allocation of the resources of the Sports Fund, which is managed by the Secretariat, is decided by the CDDS.

##### Duration and results

This is a permanent activity. The contacts with non-member States and with international governmental and non-governmental organisations have proved highly useful in publicising the achievements of the Council of Europe throughout the world.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES  
FINANCED BY THE GENERAL BUDGET**

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**1. Funding of scientific networks**

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**Description and objectives**

In the wake of the First Conference of European Ministers responsible for Research (Paris, 1987), the Committee of Ministers decided in 1987 (409th meeting of the Deputies, item 45 (a)) to finance the work of a number of European scientific co-operation networks. At the time, the networks covered the following areas: decentralisation and local autonomy, science and technology at the service of the cultural heritage, human rights and medicine, oceanography, materials sciences, cartography, remote sensing and computer-aided manufacturing of textiles. The Committee of Ministers later decided (424th meeting of the Deputies, item 46) to add a further network, namely scientific and technical co-operation on women's studies.

The Secretary General grants subsidies to these networks. The purpose of the networks is to help strengthen European scientific co-operation on research, training and the application of research findings. With the financial support of the Council of Europe, it is possible to organise symposia, publish newsletters and research papers and generally facilitate contacts between research workers in the disciplines concerned.

**Working methods**

Each network operates in a totally independent way. The Secretariat is informed of all activities and endeavours to ensure that these remain as consistent as possible with the Organisation's priorities or contribute to the implementation of its own activities.

**Working structures**

No structure is envisaged for running and financing the networks.

**Duration and results**

The Committee of Ministers decided to finance the networks for a limited period, without specifying when that period would end. In view of current developments in scientific and technical co-operation Europe-wide, a decision could be taken by the Ministers' Deputies in the light of a Secretariat document assessing the functioning of the networks and the funds to be made available to them.

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## 2. Subsidy to the European Centre for training craftsmen - Venice (San Servolo)

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### Description and objectives

The European Centre for training craftsmen was set up in 1977 as an international foundation under Swiss law, at the initiative of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. From its headquarters in Venice, it organises annual training courses for craftsmen specialising in conservation trades. A number of member States and international organisations award grants to trainee craftsmen to cover their living expenses and fees and to compensate in part for the financial loss they incur through full-time attendance at the Centre.

Added to that of the Italian Government and of the regional and provincial authorities, the direct subsidy awarded by the Council of Europe helps the Centre balance its operating budget.

### Working methods

The Centre operates as a residential college, with courses at San Servolo alternating with periods of practical restoration work on old buildings or in craft workshops in Venice.

### Working structures

The Centre has its own governing bodies on which the Secretary General or her representative has a seat. The Director's salary is paid by the Council of Europe.

### Duration and results

This is a permanent activity. The Secretariat has suggested that thought be given to the Centre's working methods to see whether they can be made more effective, in particular by the organisation of courses for trainers so that, through a multiplier effect, a larger number of people may benefit from the teaching dispensed by the Centre.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**IV.C.15 - ... - Legal foundations of academic recognition**

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**Description and objectives**

The objective is to strengthen the legal foundations of academic recognition of school-leaving and higher education qualifications in Europe, through the monitoring, application and development of the Council of Europe's existing Conventions and other legal instruments.

The Council of Europe has adopted five European Conventions in this field:

No. 15 European Convention on the equivalence of diplomas leading to admission to universities and its Protocol (No. 49);

No. 21 European Convention on the equivalence of periods of university study;

No. 32 European Convention on the academic recognition of university qualifications.

The fifth, adopted on 19 June 1990, covers the general equivalence of periods of university study.

Two Declarations have been adopted, in 1974 and in 1989, on the application of Convention No. 15.

**Working methods**

Under the authority of the CC-PU, the Council of Europe network of national information centres on academic equivalence and mobility (NEICS) has been charged with monitoring the problems in the implementation of these conventions in the light of developments in higher education and in the work of other organisations. This task is in addition to its work in promoting the flow of information (see Service activity No. 2).

Work in progress includes contributing to the drafting of a declaration of general recognition principles, as recommended by the Vienna Conference on equivalences in Europe (2-4 October 1989).

The network has been asked to advise on the desirability of further work on credit transfer and distance education, on the recognition of unrecognized diplomas, and on professional recognition.

**Working structures**

The Standing Conference on University Problems (CC-PU) and the network of national information centres on academic mobility and equivalences (NEICS)

**Duration and results**

This activity is permanent.



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**IV.C.66 - European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage**

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**Description and objectives**

Under this Convention, adopted in 1969, the Contracting Parties undertake to protect their archaeological heritage by every appropriate means. Changes in public attitudes, conservation techniques and the socio-cultural approach to the heritage have revealed a need to review the Convention.

**Working methods**

The Contracting Parties are responsible for implementing the Convention. However, a Committee of experts has been appointed within the Council of Europe framework to negotiate its revision.

**Working structures**

The Committee of experts has examined the provisions of the Convention that may require amendment. The Convention itself does not specify any body for the purpose. Its implementation is nevertheless monitored and facilitated by the Cultural Heritage Committee limited in composition to the Contracting Parties.

**Duration and results**

Revision of the Convention will be completed and the new text presented to the Committee of Ministers for adoption in 1991.

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**IV.C.120 - European Convention on Spectator Violence and  
Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular at Football  
Matches**

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**Description and objectives**

The Convention came into force on 1 November 1985 and is open to accession by non-member States. It requires the Contracting Parties to take all appropriate measures and concerted action in order to prevent and if necessary control violence and misbehaviour by spectators at sporting events. It also aims to encourage the major international sporting organisations (such as FIFA and UEFA) to co-operate with the Contracting Parties for the same purpose.

**Working methods**

The Contracting Parties undertake to confer together in anticipation of any major sporting event likely to provoke spectator violence. They then take the necessary measures with regard to the practical organisation of such events (sale of tickets, allocation of seats, sale of alcoholic beverages, checks on spectators) and to the interchange of information between the organisers and the police authorities of all the European States concerned.

**Working structures**

A Standing Committee (T-RV) is established under the Convention. It meets at least once a year. Studies and research projects on spectator behaviour, stadium design and spectator safety are put in hand in order to further the aims of the Convention.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. Each year a number of studies are carried out with the help of expert groups. The Steering Committee for the Development of Sport (CDDS) is involved in this work.

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**IV.C.121 - Convention for the Protection of the Architectural  
Heritage of Europe**

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**Description and objectives**

This Convention, which was opened for signature in Granada in 1985, aims to protect the architectural heritage as an irreplaceable component of Europe's cultural identity. Experience in implementing it revealed a need to strengthen co-operation between the member States in matters such as information exchange and the joint study of specific problems of conservation and town-planning.

**Working methods**

Implementation of the Convention is monitored by the Cultural Heritage Committee limited in composition to the Contracting Parties. In 1991, the drawing up of the first periodic report required under Article 20 (1) of the Convention will be completed.

**Working structures**

A consultant could be commissioned to prepare the draft periodic report. A group of specialists set up in 1989 will complete its work on the protection of the heritage against natural disasters and will submit a draft Recommendation. These texts will be examined and approved by the Cultural Heritage Committee.

**Duration and results**

It is expected that the report and draft Recommendation will be adopted in 1991. In subsequent years, the Cultural Heritage Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of the Convention.

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**IV.C.135 - Anti-Doping Convention**

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**Description and objectives**

This Convention came into force on 1 March 1990 after several years of work on the part of the CDDS. It aims to prohibit the use of doping in sport, to establish effective controls and encourage sporting organisations and the public authorities to co-operate in conducting education and awareness campaigns directed both at the general public and at athletes. This collaboration is targetted primarily at the major international sports organisations (International Olympic Committee, international sports federations).

**Working methods**

A Monitoring group set up under the Convention is responsible for facilitating its application and encouraging all useful forms of co-operation between the Parties.

**Working structures**

The Monitoring group has as many members as there are Contracting Parties. It meets at least once a year.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. The Monitoring group may make recommendations concerning the implementation and possible revision of the Convention. It may appoint groups of experts to consider specific matters related to the objectives of the Convention.

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FIELD OF ACTIVITIES V

YOUTH

"Europe's future"



FIELD V

## YOUTH

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Young people's commitment and active support have always been regarded as essential to the building of Europe, by which is meant the fulfilment of the objective of "a greater unity between European countries" which member States set themselves when they set up the Council of Europe in 1949. Forty years on, it is clear that the youth of Europe remains firmly attached to the ideals of pluralist democracy and the promotion of human rights, and that these same ideals are gaining ground and extending to European States which have just set up genuinely democratic institutions. Young students and workers who put forward the same demands and expressed the same desires as their Western counterparts, played an important part in the events in Central and Eastern Europe from late 1989 onwards. It is therefore well worthwhile to give a new boost to intergovernmental co-operation - expanded, where necessary, to include representatives of youth movements - in order to "respond to this need and to the expressed aspirations" of the peoples, voiced again today as they were in 1949.

The Council of Europe has three specific instruments enabling it to do so: the European Youth Foundation, the purpose of which is to give financial assistance to the activities of national and international non-governmental youth organisations; the European Youth Centre, which brings together and provides training for leaders and members of youth organisations; and intergovernmental co-operation, carried out through the agency of the European Steering Committee responsible for youth questions. These three instruments have brought the Council of Europe to the fore in Europe in the training of youth movement leaders and organisers and the creation of an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual trust which extends beyond the frontiers of member States and States Party to the European Cultural Convention.

This achievement takes on particular importance at a time of intensified contacts of every kind among European States and of increased freedom of association and movement for the young people of Central and Eastern Europe outside youth organisations, which are in any case destined to lose their once typical monopoly on the supervision and representation of young people.

Other means to promote youth mobility are the creation of a European Youth Card system, aiming at the harmonisation of existing youth cards while respecting the autonomy of the agencies involved, and the co-ordination of national youth card systems, and the introduction of a European voluntary service. Further training and assistance in the youth field in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe shall be provided in accordance with the needs of those countries, in order to facilitate the creation of participatory and pluralistic youth structures.

These objectives imply the development of intergovernmental co-operation, building on the political boost given by the European Ministers responsible for Youth at their 3rd Conference in Lisbon, in September 1990. Activities intended to give a clearer idea of the scope of the problems and of action taken to help young people - mainly involving research and documentation relating to youth and information about local youth policies - will also have to be continued, so that they can lend "logistic support" to more ambitious projects which could get under way in 1991.



**PROJECT V.1****International youth mobility**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

Already a reality for a long time in member States, international youth mobility has received a new boost from the events in Eastern Europe, which have given tens of thousands of people, including the young, the opportunity to travel and spend time in countries which had been difficult to get to in the past, especially for individual travellers.

This being so, including problems such as the lack of appropriate information, overcrowding and the inadequacy of reception facilities, the Council of Europe seems to be in the best position to embark on a wide-ranging multidisciplinary Project on international youth mobility, excluding paid work, the aim of which would be to:

- record the instruments and resources used by member and non-member States to foster youth mobility;
- identify a number of priority subjects, such as information about the conditions for travelling to, entering and residing in the various States, reception facilities, the development of a voluntary service at European level, reciprocal recognition of the status of student or young traveller and social security coverage, particularly in the light of the Council of Europe's legal instruments in this field (Convention on Social and Medical Assistance, European Agreement on Regulations governing the Movement of Persons);
- prepare possible solutions, if necessary in the form of draft legal instruments, bearing in mind the respective responsibilities and powers of national authorities, local government and youth movements and associations.

This Project will take account of the conclusions of the 3rd Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth and of past or present activities of the European Community, with which co-operation in the youth field will be developed.

**Working methods**

The Project will be undertaken on the basis of consultations with governments and certain non-governmental organisations, as well as with some international organisations, such as the EEC, the World Tourism Organisation and EFTA. The collaboration of the Permanent Conference of Local and Regional Authorities in Europe could also be envisaged.

**Working structures**

Three specialised working groups including members of the CDEJ and specialists in the matters being dealt with could constitute the Project Group. These specialists should be competent in subjects such as social security issues, residence legislation and the recognition of qualifications or titles. The CDEJ could then decide on appropriate follow-up activity.

**Duration and results**

1991 should be devoted to the meetings of the three Working groups to implement the work timetable in the light of the conclusions of the Ministerial Conference. The Conference notably recommended that provisions be made by the Council of Europe in its future Programmes to draft an international legal instrument on youth mobility, being aware that only such an instrument can offer the requisite guarantees to ensure the application of co-ordinated measures designed to encourage youth mobility within the framework of a European youth policy.

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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### 1. Funding of the European Youth Centre

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#### Description and objectives

The activities of the European Youth Centre (EYC) comprise seminars, symposia and language courses, as well as statutory and consultative meetings, the whole programme being decided in accordance with Article IV-3(b) of the Centre's Statute.

The 1991 programme will be arranged in a way which enables it to take more account of developments in the States of Central and Eastern Europe, some of which have just acceded to the Cultural Convention and are now therefore taking part in the activities of the European Youth Centre. The particular intention is to:

- double the French and English courses and increase the number of participants in all language courses (French, English, German, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese) for youth organisations' activity leaders and officials;
- continue training courses for youth movements' activity leaders;
- prepare a European Youth Week - which could be held in 1992 - in conjunction with the Parliamentary Assembly, the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE) and, possibly, the European Community.

#### Working methods

The activities of the European Youth Centre are prepared, organised and carried out in close co-operation between the government and youth organisation representatives on the Centre's management bodies. These activities take the form of courses, symposia and seminars in which young people from the widest variety of national and international organisations take part. Appropriate co-ordination will be sought with the CLRAE, the Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity in Lisbon and the European Community.

#### Working structures

The structures are adapted according to the nature of each activity. The only permanent structures are the Centre's statutory bodies and the Secretariat.

#### Duration and results

This is a permanent activity. Under Vote II of the General Budget, the Council of Europe makes a contribution to the EYC Budget equal to the difference between the budget of expenditure and the Centre's own receipts (registration fees, governments' contributions earmarked for specific expenditure and board and lodging).

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## 2. Feasability study of means of extending training and co-operation in the Youth Field

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### Description and objectives

The Governing Board of the EYC and EYF, in collaboration with the CDEJ and the Secretariat, is charged to carry out, on the basis of the fundamental principles of the Council of Europe's youth policy, a feasibility study on the means of extending training and co-operation in the youth field. This study would consider issues such as:

- the development of associative life in the framework of democratic and pluralistic structures,
- the training of leaders of youth organisations,
- intercultural education,
- youth mobility, facilitated by direct contacts between young Europeans.

The rapid development towards pluralist democracy achieved by certain States of Central and Eastern Europe has given rise to a very strong demand from these States for training and education about democratic life and the operation of genuinely pluralist institutions. This need is also felt in the youth sphere, in view of the fact that the organisations which used to have the monopoly on supervising and providing ideological training for young people have disappeared or started working in a pluralist context. The development and intensification of exchanges of every kind among the States of Europe have shown how useful it is, in this context, to have a place like the European Youth Centre, the facilities of which are already in very great demand, where young people can go and where continuing training is available to them. One of the questions thus raised is the possible setting up of a second Youth Centre, which would not be "reserved" for East European countries, but a second working and meeting place, as open as Strasbourg. The possibility could also be examined of creating an itinerant structure, which could be of benefit both to existing member countries as well as new ones.

### Working methods

It seems appropriate for this study to be carried out by a restricted group of experts selected by the Governing Board and working in close co-operation with the statutory bodies of the Centre and Foundation, and the Secretariat. The members of the group could also, if necessary accompanied by the Secretariat, travel and carry out on-the-spot inspections at the invitation of member States or Parties to the European Cultural Convention.

### Working structures

The group would take the form of a group of experts and submit its report to all the statutory bodies in the youth field and, through the agency of the Secretary General, to the Committee of Ministers.

**Duration and results**

The group should have its report ready by the end of 1991, giving the statutory bodies and the Committee of Ministers time to familiarise itself with it and decide on follow-up action during the 1992 budget discussions.

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### **3. Co-operation between the European Youth Cards Conference and the Council of Europe**

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#### **Description and objectives**

The 3rd Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth proposes in its Final Text (recommendation 53) to support the efforts undertaken by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to examine the possibilities of co-operation between the European Youth Cards Conference and the Council of Europe.

The aim of this co-operation is to set up a partial agreement within the Council of Europe or any appropriate institutional means to promote the co-ordination and harmonisation of youth cards, while fully respecting the autonomy of the agencies involved.

#### **Working methods and structures**

The work involved should be carried out by representatives of members of the European Youth Cards Conference, of the governments interested in the matter and of the Secretary General.

#### **Duration and results**

The Secretary General would present her conclusions in the course of 1991, addressed to the relevant bodies involved, including the Committee of Ministers and the Youth Cards Conference, concerning the possibilities of a partial agreement or any other appropriate institutional means designed to implement the above-stated objectives of this activity.

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#### 4. Study on the promotion of a voluntary service at European level

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##### **Description and objectives**

In accordance with recommendations 61 and 75 of the Lisbon Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth, the objective of this activity is to study the provisions and types of action needed to develop a voluntary service at European level. In particular, the study should consider legislative, administrative and financial measures designed to promote and facilitate voluntary work undertaken by young people abroad in such areas as social and development work and the protection of the environment.

##### **Working methods and structures**

The study will be provided by a consultant with a background in voluntary service.

##### **Duration and results**

The consultant should complete the study in the course of 1991 which could then be submitted to the CDEJ for appropriate follow-up action.





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FIELD OF ACTIVITIES VI

HEALTH

"The European dimension of health"



FIELD VIHEALTH  
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The significant progress, for some months now, towards a climate of greater confidence and solidarity in Europe is bound to have an impact on co-operation in improving the quality of life, including protecting and promoting health. This is a field in which the Council of Europe has always occupied a special position, which could develop promisingly in the next few years. By taking fullest possible advantage of its intergovernmental structure and distinctiveness as a promoter of human rights, the Council first made possible, then fostered co-operation between national health authorities and is helping approximate and harmonise national health policy. These accomplishments are essential at a time when both member States and those non-member States which have just acquired democratic institutions are about to embark on organisational reform which will also affect welfare schemes and the functioning of national health systems.

This is an opportunity for the Council to develop a role of its own in analysing and devising a policy to meet the problem of striking a balance in health systems - whether public, private or combined - between equity and efficiency, as well as the challenge to the whole of society from the emergence and spread of diseases which cause widespread anxiety and responses or reactions to which may run counter to the basic rights of the individual. In this context, health education and training are vital, as is prevention of practices (such as alcoholism, nicotism and drug-addiction) which are harmful or dangerous both to the individual and the community.

It is for the Conferences of European Ministers of Health to give a political impetus to intergovernmental co-operation between member States, which is undertaken by the European Health Committee, comprising senior officials in charge of national health policy. One matter which is going to exercise governments in the next few years is training of health staff, because properly trained staff, and sufficient numbers of them, are necessary to meet the demands which scientific progress and the community's increased needs are going to make.

As well co-operation involving all the member States, there is work, under partial agreements between some of the member States, on specific subjects such as action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking in drugs (Pompidou Group), drawing up a European Pharmacopoeia, rehabilitation of the disabled, and the harmonisation of norms on

pesticides, colorings and food additives, detergents, cosmetics and medicines. These activities complement the work which member States carry out under the Intergovernmental Programme, and suitable cross-links have been built in to ensure that all member States have the benefit of the results.

The health field likewise collaborates in multidisciplinary Projects with other Fields such as human rights, education or social action (see Projects VI.2 and VI.3 below).

**PROJECT VI.1****Training and Planning in Health Services****Description and objectives**

The purpose of the Project is to analyse European States' changing requirements as regards health staff and health-staff training, taking into account foreseeable developments in care arrangements, advances in medical technique, research progress, and the emergence and spread of new diseases. As certain of these matters have already received detailed attention in recent years, the plan now is to revert to the study of the problems of training and planning of services, taking account of the conclusions of the 4th Conference of European Ministers of Health, which took place in October 1990 in Cyprus. At the outset, an aspect which should be looked at as a matter of priority is the multidisciplinary approach in the training of health personnel.

A major problem, which sometimes prevents care being as effective as it could be, is that the health professions do not acknowledge each other's provinces and expertise. Because their own training is increasingly specialised and they know little about the training of the other health professions they are going to be working with, effective collaboration can be difficult. A frequent result is duplication of effort or poor care, which result in gaps in provision.

In its initial stage, the Project is accordingly designed to:

- look at current experiments, in member States, with multidisciplinary initial or further training for health professionals;
- assess the effectiveness of this approach both for general training and training in the treatment of specific diseases;
- consider, if appropriate, how such pedagogical experiments might be organised on a wider basis.

Other aspects of the problem will be examined later during the successive stages of the Project.

**Working methods**

The study of national experiments will be carried out in close consultation with directors of health-staff training or heads of hospitals. It may include on-site visits and the holding of research and note-comparing workshops in various countries, with the participation and assistance of national health authorities and specialists from the relevant health professions. The Project will resume the activity on the in-field training of emergency medical assistance staff, started in 1989 and carried out in member States which have so requested.

**Working structures**

Under the Steering Committee's direction and in liaison with national administrations, specific issues will be dealt with in detail by consultants or co-ordinated medical research groups. There could be a workshop in one of the member States with the participation of specialists from various disciplines. The expert committee on the medico-social aspects of child abuse will finish its work in 1991; its conclusions could prove useful in the furtherance of the Project, together with other aspects of the training and planning of services.

**Duration and results**

The Steering Committee will draw up a work plan in 1991 and the activity should last until 1993. The results may take the form of Recommendations to governments, training modules or teaching materials. There might be a case for later extending the activity to include implementation of Recommendations, through, for instance, training courses organised in States which requested them.

## PROJECT VI.2

### Ethical aspects of health

#### **Description and objectives**

New diseases like AIDS and new medical techniques in areas such as grafts and transplants have raised questions of medical ethics, medical responsibility, patients' rights and protection of the community. Building on past and current work in human rights, law, criminology and health, in particular the problems raised by treatment of HIV-carriers, the Project is intended to promote an integrated, multidisciplinary approach to what is a set of inter-related issues, including:

- the general problem of the growing mismatch between health professionals' individual-centred approach and the more community focus of government policy, a mismatch reflected in the contradiction between highly sophisticated, and in some cases extremely expensive, medical techniques available only to the few and the "simpler", basic medicine available to the many;
- the questions relating to the communication of health information in hospitals;
- the specific aspects related to the provision of health care for particular groups (such as institutionalised populations or HIV-carriers), or in particular circumstances (experimental medicines).

#### **Working methods**

The problems the Project will be looking at are generating debate, and sometimes controversy, in the member States. In some cases the approach has been to bring in codes of conduct or guidelines, whereas in other cases debate has developed along more theoretical lines and demands action from the decision-makers in that, for example, it challenges national health service policy of running a public, private or combined system. The Project will have to be flexible and gather together as much comment and material as possible so as to present the clearest possible picture of the problems and options. Therefore, in addition to work by government-appointed experts, it will include discussions attended by specialists from the relevant disciplines (medicine, criminal law, human rights and ethics).

#### **Working structures**

In 1991 a Project Group will agree the shape of the Project, what stages it will have and how it should be carried out. In addition to working parties of government-appointed experts, it will involve conferences and symposia, at which specialists will deal mainly with theoretical matters.

**Duration and results**

The Project might last 3 years and address 3 main subjects: "AIDS, economic and social implications of early intervention and availability of experimental medicines", "Equity and efficiency in the use of health resources" and "Entitlement to health care and the institutionalised populations". Together with these subjects, the question of "Information in hospitals" would also be studied. The results might take the form of guidelines or codes of conduct, which would be incorporated either in Committee of Ministers Recommendations or in other non-binding texts.



**PROJECT VI.3****Prevention and education for health**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

The Project is intended as an operational follow-up to the experience accumulated and conclusions drawn by the Council of Europe at the end of the activity on education for health conducted jointly with the Commission of the European Communities and the World Health Organisation, particularly in the form of pilot projects. The activity ended in September 1990 with a European stock-taking Conference which produced operational guidelines suitable for practical application on a larger scale. This gives the Project a practical dimension which could be of interest not only to member States, particularly at local and regional government level, but also to non-member States wishing, on the one hand, to benefit from the Council of Europe's experience in education for health and, on the other hand, able to show substantial achievements in this area, especially as regards smoking and alcoholism.

**Working methods**

On the basis of the results of the European Conference for the Promotion of Education for Health, which took stock of the pilot projects in Strasbourg in October 1990, teams of specialists should be formed to organise or teach training courses in the member States for specialists who would pass on the principles of the pilot projects to target groups such as teachers, community development workers, families and the media.

**Working structures**

A liaison committee will be set up and could include among its members representatives of the pilot projects conducted so far and specialists nominated by the member States and the international organisations involved in the activity. The liaison committee will lay down the strategy to be pursued in carrying out the Project, together with the CDSP.

**Duration and results**

The Project should span a period of three years and bring home the complex issue of prevention to "multiplier" target groups such as teachers, community development workers, local authorities and government departments.

**PROJECT VI.4****Screening and health education****Description and objectives**

As national health systems become costlier to run, there is an urgent need to develop preventive medicine further, whether in the form of education for health or early diagnosis of certain diseases, in particular chronic conditions. The Project - which is based on certain previous Council of Europe work in this area - is designed to interest national health authorities in greater preventive action as a central part of national health policy. But although prevention is liable to improve health and control of disease in the medium or long-term, any large-scale prevention programme raises medical, financial and organisational problems. The Project will accordingly:

- study the organisational and cost-benefit implications of large-scale screening programmes;
- try to ascertain the social prerequisites for launching large-scale preventive-medicine schemes at local, national or European level.

**Working methods**

The questions relating to screening will need to be dealt with by bringing in specialists from disciplines such as statistics, epidemiology and data protection. The various aspects of the issue will be studied on the basis of a work programme to be drawn up in 1991.

**Working structures**

A multidisciplinary committee of experts will be asked to direct the work on screening.

**Duration and results**

The "Screening" Project should be a 3-year activity lasting from 1991 to 1993. In 1991-92 it will look at general questions of screening. More specific matters, such as neonatal screening or screening for certain diseases, could be looked at in 1992-93. The aim will be to agree guidelines on screening methods and the rules to be complied with in this area.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Co-operation and training in blood transfusion and histocompatibility**

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**Description and objectives**

This is an "operational" extension of co-operation in blood transfusion and histocompatibility under the committees in charge of follow-up to European Agreements Nos 26, 39 and 84 (see "Conventional activities"). Through European Courses and European Conferences on blood transfusion and histocompatibility, the Council of Europe fosters and assists training and refresher training for junior research staff and future specialists in those two fields.

**Working methods**

One European Course is held annually, alternately on histocompatibility (1991) and blood transfusion (1992). A European Conference is held the third year (1993) on a subject to do with one or other discipline. The 1993 Conference is to be on standardisation of histocompatibility tests.

1991 sees the start, as an experiment, of co-operation with Strasbourg University and France's Centre National d'Enseignement à Distance (CNED) to produce audio-visual material for training specialists in blood transfusion. The material could later be made available to other countries.

In collaboration with the European Community, the Council of Europe intends to support blood transfusion programmes in member States which would allow publicity for the Council of Europe's principles in this area and would promote the setting up of operational links between donor associations. The possibility of a European blood-donor card could be investigated.

**Working structures**

The work is managed by the Secretariat, which is responsible, with help from national authorities, for appointing specialists as guest-speakers. The courses are generally held in one of the member States, which bears the general organisational expenses. The Council of Europe makes a small grant to the organising institution and financially assists the participants and/or guest-speakers.

The histocompatibility Conferences are held in Strasbourg at the Council of Europe, which makes its premises available free of charge for two or three days.

#### **Duration and results**

These activities will continue indefinitely. Their purpose is to improve European specialists' knowledge and familiarise them with the contribution which the Council of Europe makes, through its agreements and experts, to progress in the two fields.

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## 2. Organ transplants

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### Description and objectives

Since the 3rd Conference of European Ministers of Health (Paris, 1987), which highlighted the importance and urgency of doing so, the Council of Europe has set up collaboration between national centres co-ordinating organ transplants. As well as solving a number of problems concerning information exchange at international level and observance, in transplantation, of basic ethical principles, this collaboration has also shown the extent of needs as regards exchange of organs. In 1991 an experimental network comprising a limited number of national centres is going to be set up and it is planned that the Council of Europe will help bear the first two or three years' running costs.

### Working methods

The idea is to finance part of the setting-up and starting-up costs of the computerised exchange network between Eurotransplant, Francetransplant, Italtransplant, Swisstransplant, Lusotransplant, Hispanotransplant, UKtransplant and Scandiatransplant. The European Community is also taking part in the financing. A well-known data-processing company could also contribute by making electronic equipment available at preferential rates.

### Working structures

The committee of experts created in 1988 will continue its work on children's kidneys and highly sensitive patients. It will also monitor the network's kidney exchange performance and will be able to put forward proposals for setting up similar collaboration in other cases.

### Duration and results

This activity is planned to continue until 1993. It might lead to the adoption of a number of guidelines on the subject, possibly in the form of Committee of Ministers Recommendations. The modalities of implementation of the network and the use to be made of the Council of Europe's contribution will be regularly communicated to the Committee of Ministers.

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### 3. Fellowships and grants

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#### Description and objectives

Individual Council of Europe fellowships are intended to enable members of medical or paramedical professions and health-service administrators to familiarise themselves with the latest methods in use in the health field in member States so that they can introduce them in their own States.

Co-ordinated research fellowships are also awarded to groups of specialists asked to investigate in depth - in particular through study visits to a number of member States - specific subjects chosen by the European Health Committee or the Committee of Experts on Blood Transfusion and Immunohaematology. The work of each group of experts lasts two years. Work by the Group looking at standards/guidelines for clinical tests on blood products ends in 1991.

Since 1959 the Council of Europe has made a financial contribution towards operation of the European Bank of Frozen Blood of Rare Groups, which is run by the Netherlands Red Cross in Amsterdam. The Committee of Ministers has decided to continue the grant until 1991.

#### Working methods

The fellowships are awarded by the Secretary General, on proposals from a Selection Committee. In 1991 individual fellowships will go to candidates whom national authorities selected in 1990 and who were approved by the Selection Committee.

#### Working structures

The Secretariat administers the granting of fellowships to selected candidates and pays the grant to the Netherlands Red Cross.

#### Duration and results

Through its individual fellowship schemes, the Council of Europe has helped promote European movement and European training of health professions. The grant to the Amsterdam Bank of Rare Blood has enabled the Bank to begin its work, which is now recognised as essential to saving human life in Europe. The co-ordinated research programmes will be re-examined in 1991 in order to increase their efficacy and use in instances where the topics studied do not lend themselves to be the subject of normative texts.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**VI.C.26 - European Agreement on the Exchange of Therapeutic Substances of Human Origin**

**VI.C.39 - European Agreement on the Exchange of Blood-Grouping Reagents**

**VI.C.84 - European Agreement on the Exchange of Tissue-Typing Reagents**

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**Description and objectives**

Operation of these Agreements requires proper co-operation between contracting parties, in particular exchange of information about technical innovation and working methods and a degree of harmonisation in these areas. The aim is to secure optimum implementation of the Agreements and incorporate changes made necessary by scientific progress.

**Working methods**

Member States meet regularly to discuss problems arising in these fields, in particular blood transfusion, quality insurance in transfusion services, and histocompatibility.

**Working structures**

The European Health Committee has set up three committees of experts to monitor implementation of the Agreements and make proposals for any technical updating which might be warranted; those committees are the Committee of Experts on Blood Transfusion and Immunohaematology (SP-HM), the Select Committee of Experts on Automation and Quality Insurance in Blood Transfusion Services (SP-R-GS) and the Select Committee of Experts on Histocompatibility (SP-R-HS).

**Duration and results**

Before the end of 1991 the European Health Committee is to carry out an evaluation of the three committees' work.





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FIELD OF ACTIVITIES VII

ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL PLANNING

"A better environment for all Europeans"



FIELD VII

## ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL PLANNING

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The decade ahead will undoubtedly be dominated by the problems of environment conservation. In fact, as a climate of international confidence and co-operation takes hold and develops in Europe and throughout the world, the extent of the task is becoming increasingly apparent: to reduce if not eliminate the causes of pollution or ecosystem deterioration, to repair the damage done by industrial development or land use policies which wholly or partly fail to respect the environment, to conserve nature and to take account of the public's renewed ecological awareness in planning the policy responses which will determine the future living conditions of people in Europe.

A decisive impetus for affirmation of this new ecological approach has been given by the work of the international Commission chaired by Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, which has highlighted the planetary dimension of the problems and the need for concerted action by all the nations. The Council of Europe's potential contribution is rendered even more significant by the fact that it brings together the industrial countries concerned by these problems and the pluralist democracies where nature and environment conservation is the subject of lively political discussion. The political and technical dimensions thus come together within the Organisation of the 24, which - without trespassing on the powers or prerogatives of other international institutions - has an important part to play in continuing dialogue between the nations and in the finding of solutions which a maximum number of countries can accept.

This is rendered even truer by the fact that the States of Central and Eastern Europe, which are recovering democratic institutions, are experiencing an awakening of ecological awareness as dramatic and widespread in its own way as the disasters caused by years of industrial and land use policies which wholly disregarded environmental impact. These States are now turning to the Council of Europe for technical assistance and scientific expertise and also for help with "democratic management" of the environment, ie the development of instruments and institutions opening the way to national or local policies which match the wishes of the communities concerned.

This is why protection of the environment, balanced regional planning and the conservation of natural species are all different aspects of the same task of promoting quality of life which is central to the Council of Europe's work and looks ahead to a future increase in the number of its member States.

Alongside the traditional intergovernmental structures (Steering Committee and committees of experts), the Conferences of the European Ministers responsible for the Environment and for Regional Planning (CEMAT) constitute political fora which do much to orientate the Council of Europe's work.

**PROJECT VII.1****The European dimension of the environment**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

Damage to the natural habitat is one of the threats hanging over the whole of the continent - and the world - regardless of frontiers. It is universally acknowledged that environmental protection can be implemented effectively only at continental and even world level. While ecological awareness is now well-developed in the West, the East is also starting to realise the extent of the problems caused by 40 years of indiscriminate exploitation of natural resources, be they soil, water or air.

There is thus a pressing need for a European "forum" where States of Western, Central and Eastern Europe could review and discuss all the common problems that the protection of the environment raises in Europe, with a view to possibly adopting a long-term policy acceptable to the whole continent.

**Working methods**

The Council of Europe's network of national correspondents in the ministries and national agencies with which it co-operates on its work programme - covering environment, nature conservation or regional planning - would be used to make contacts and collect information with a view to holding, possibly in 1992, the European Assizes on the Environment, which would be open to member and non-member States, and to international organisations working in this area, such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the European Community, and possibly the European Environmental Agency. NGOs working in these areas would also be invited.

**Working structures**

A Preparatory Committee of leading experts from member and non-member States would be set up to organise the Project and liaise with national authorities. It would be assisted by independent experts, who would be asked to prepare introductory reports for the Assizes.

**Duration and results**

Preparation of the Assizes should take up the whole of 1991, and part of 1992. The Assizes could then be organised at the end of 1992.

**PROJECT VII.2****Soil conservation and protection of the landscape****Description and objectives**

In the last few years, soil conservation has become one of the priorities of environment policy. In fact, indiscriminate land use, the modification or destruction of landscape and the damage caused by toxic infiltration and waste have resulted in general deterioration of soil quality, and in quantitative loss of a resource which is limited and non-renewable. The Council of Europe has already done work in this area, particularly on landscape conservation, the reclamation of waste or fallow land and updating of the European Soil Charter adopted by the Committee of Ministers in 1972.

On the recommendation of the 6th European Ministerial Conference on the Environment, which was held in Brussels in October 1990, the objective would be to develop a step by step action which, starting with a Recommendation, will set up a Work Programme implying concrete initiatives for soil protection and would end up, as appropriate in the light of experience, with the elaboration of a framework-Convention in 1993 and of possible additional protocols ensuring legal certainty for the future.

**Working methods**

These objectives will be pursued in collaboration with various specialists: scientists, planners and experts on law. Plenary meetings might be organised, possibly backed by seminars on specific questions. Consultants might also be asked to contribute to the work of the intergovernmental bodies.

**Working structures**

Under the direction of the Steering Committee for the Conservation and Management of the Environment and Natural Habitats (CDPE), which will generally co-ordinate the Project, a first group of specialists would be set up, working on the basis of the conclusions of the Brussels Conference and in liaison with the senior officials preparing the 9th CEMAT, and dealing with soil protection. A second group of specialists would study all the measures aimed at promoting the reconstruction of rural landscapes in agricultural and intensive farming zones, as well as allowing for the survival of wild flora and fauna in agricultural zones (notably mountainous ones) which man tends to abandon.

**Duration and results**

Being linked with the work of 2 Ministerial Conferences, this Project should run for 3 years, and a progress report might then be submitted to the 7th Conference, which will make the appropriate recommendations to the Committee of Ministers.

### PROJECT VII.3

#### Genetics and ecosystems

##### **Description and objectives**

The biosphere is under attack not only from human activities and the nuisances they cause, but also from the introduction of plant or animal species produced by genetic engineering techniques. In fact, the biogenetic heritage is being simultaneously impoverished and enriched, the disappearance of natural species and habitats being "offset" by new or modified species resulting from the progress of biotechnology.

This Project is intended to cover all the problems raised by the dissemination of new biotechnologies, in liaison with the other international organisations dealing with various aspects of this question, and with scientific centres and institutions in member and possibly non-member States. Its objectives are to:

- establish a contact network of scientific centres;
- possibly encourage the establishment of an international gene bank, based on the principle that phyto-genetic resources are part of humanity's common heritage;
- study the ecological impact of the release into nature of genetically modified organisms and its standard-setting implications (law of industrial property, civil and criminal liability).

##### **Working methods**

A multidisciplinary Project Group will be responsible for the general orientation of the work, which will be implemented with the help of specialists in various fields: biology, ecology, physiology, law. The European Community will also be associated with implementation of the Project.

##### **Working structures**

The existing Group of Specialists on the ecological impact of gene technology (PE-S-CG) will be enlarged to form a Project Group, which will co-ordinate follow-up work on the Project's first conclusions, particularly concerning establishment of a gene bank network, the ecological impact of genetic engineering techniques and the legal issues raised by the creation of "new" organisms (GMOs).

##### **Duration and results**

The various stages of the Project might run for 2 years, 1991 being chiefly devoted to scientific questions and 1992 to legal aspects. Contacts with a view to establishment of the gene bank network would be conducted throughout 1991 and 1992. Apart from co-operation between these banks, the Project should lead to a number of legal instruments - Recommendations or Conventions - on the regulation of genetic engineering.

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Management of protected zones and habitats**

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**Description and objectives**

The European network of biogenetic reserves established by Committee of Ministers Resolution (76) 17 is making a fundamental contribution to the protection and conservation of biotopes typical of the European natural heritage. A powerful incentive for improved management of these zones is provided by the European Diploma, which is awarded to zones of international value and specifically European interest.

**Working methods**

The natural value of protected areas is assessed through inspection by experts and contacts with national authorities and site managers.

**Working structures**

A Group of Specialists is responsible for examining applications for inclusion of sites in the network and for award or renewal of the European Diploma, as well as for giving the CDPE the guidance which it needs to make appropriate recommendations to the Committee of Ministers.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. Inclusion in the European network or award of the European Diploma helps to preserve or enhance sites, thus contributing to the survival of biotopes essential to the maintenance of the ecosystem balance.

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## 2. European Nature Information and Education Centre - NATUROPA

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### Description and objectives

Educating and increasing the awareness of decision-makers and the public are becoming important aspects of environment protection and nature conservation. The NATUROPA Centre will need to step up its efforts to spark European awareness of ecological problems, not just States which already belong to the Council of Europe, but also in those which will shortly be joining, and in non-member States which will be associated with its environmental activities, particularly under the Berne Convention.

### Working methods

The Centre is at present running a Campaign for the conservation of the Mediterranean coastline and a Campaign for the protection of freshwater fish. These Campaigns involve the holding of scientific colloquies in various countries, the publication of brochures and the preparation and circulation of publicity material. The Centre is also planning to organise colloquies to bring environmental issues home to political decision-makers and the public in the various countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The possibility of launching a pan-European nature conservation campaign in 1991 is at present being studied. The bulletin "Newsletter" will continue to provide information on important developments and will serve to liaise between the various networks established to deal with genetic engineering and the educational role of ecological museums. In addition, the Centre will continue producing the magazine "Naturopa" (published in 6 languages) designed to inform the public, specialists and those responsible for the environment.

### Working structures

The Centre forms an administrative sub-division of the Secretariat. A national authority serves as its contact point in every member State. The persons in charge of these authorities/agencies hold annual meetings and set up ad hoc groups as necessary.

### Duration and results

This activity is permanent. It sets out to increase public and specialist awareness of environmental problems in Europe and to establish links of solidarity and co-operation between specialists and scientists in furtherance of the Organisation's purposes.



**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**VII.C.104 - Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats**

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**Description and objectives**

Better known as the Berne Convention, this instrument is intended to protect animal and plant species and their habitats in Europe. This objective is achieved through co-operation between the contracting parties, particularly with a view to updating the list of protected species of plants and animals in Europe and in the non-European States which have ratified the Convention.

**Working methods**

The representatives of the contracting parties meet regularly. Research and other ad hoc activities (colloquies, conferences, symposia, publications) are organised in co-operation with member and non-member States, and financed from appropriations voted by the Council of Europe and funds provided by the contracting parties, the European Community and international non-governmental organisations.

**Working structures**

The Convention established a Committee of representatives of the contracting parties (T-PVS), and this can call on groups of experts. The Chairman of the Committee may travel officially to secure implementation of Article 14, paragraph 1 of the Convention.

**Duration and results**

This is a permanent activity. Through regular updating of the lists of endangered animal and plant species, it helps to provide effective protection for flora, fauna and natural habitats in Europe.



FIELD OF ACTIVITIES VIII

LOCAL DEMOCRACY

"Democracy at the grass-roots"



**FIELD VIII****LOCAL DEMOCRACY**

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Maintaining and strengthening efficient democratic structures at local level has always been part of the Council of Europe's action to promote the development of human rights, one aspect of which is participation in community life. It was in this spirit, and with the same objective, that in 1957 the Council of Europe set up the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE), which to this day remains the only institutional forum for local and regional authorities in Europe.

Recent events in Central and Eastern Europe have proved that there is no effective democracy without basic institutions that are truly representative of the citizens' will: the first institutional reforms in those countries related to local authorities, and the Council of Europe's expertise and help were requested. To some extent, this shows the path to follow over the next few years, as the effort to help non-member countries (especially through the CLRAE and the Demosthenes Programme) will remain a priority for the Organisation. It is therefore important for the Council to pursue activities aimed at strengthening basic democracy.

It will be for the Conference of European Ministers responsible for Local Government, which is to hold its 9th session in Norway in 1991, to initiate and co-ordinate work in this area. Special attention will have to be paid to forms of international co-operation - some of them original - between frontier regions and authorities, which have gathered momentum since the events in 1989 in Central and Eastern Europe. The Steering Committee on Local and Regional Authorities, which is also monitoring developments with the aid of a newly set up group of specialists, could subsequently make a more detailed study of the implications of these institutional developments for the Council of Europe.

**PROJECT VIII.1****Strengthening local democracy**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

The work already done on the participation of foreigners in local public life, on local finance and on the democratic management of local authorities has covered various aspects of the broader problems involved in strengthening local democracy and citizen participation. This Project sets out to build on this foundation and push ahead on other aspects of the democratic and open management of local authorities, ie the bodies through which citizens first exercise their right to play an active part in local life. Its objectives are to:

- collect information on the structures and working methods of local authorities in the member States;
- exchange information on present or projected legislative changes in member and non-member States;
- study specific issues with a view to formulating principles on guidelines to assist national central and local authorities in managing or reforming local government.

**Working methods**

The Steering Committee on Local and Regional Authorities (CDLR) provides a European forum where government representatives can exchange information and develop intergovernmental co-operation in this field. The Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe is associated with its work and represented at its meetings. A fresh political impetus should be given to implementation of this Project by the work of the 9th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Local Government, which is to be held in Bergen (Norway) in 1991.

**Working structures**

General co-ordination of the Project is the responsibility of the CDLR itself, and specific questions, such as representation in elected assemblies and the rights of political minorities, the status of local elected representatives, information for citizens, citizen participation in the running of local public services and in decision-taking other than by voting in municipal elections (parish or local councils, local referenda, etc) might be dealt with by working parties established by the CDLR.

**Duration and results**

All of the Project's studies and conclusions - possibly taking the form of draft legal instruments, such as Conventions or Recommendations - should be available for the next ministerial Conference in 1993 or 1994. The CDLR will determine its work programme accordingly.

**PROJECT VIII.2****Minority languages**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

The purpose of this activity is to draw up a legal charter for regional, minority or less widely used languages. Work is based on CLRAE Resolution 192 (1988), Parliamentary Assembly Opinion No. 142 (1988) and other texts adopted internationally.

**Working methods**

The Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Regional or Minority Languages in Europe (CAHLR) is responsible for carrying out this activity. The Parliamentary Assembly and the CLRAE are associated with the work. The Holy See, the CSFR, Yugoslavia, the USSR and the European Bureau of Lesser-Used Languages are invited to send observers.

**Working structures**

The work is done by the CAHLR itself which, however, uses a drafting group to finalise the texts discussed.

**Duration and results**

The legal form of the charter (Convention or Recommendation) has not yet been decided, as the CAHLR is striving for the moment to reach a consensus on the substance of the problems involved. The work will have to be completed in 1992, but broad consultations should be held on the final text before it is transmitted to the Committee of Ministers.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**VIII.C.106 - European outline Convention on transfrontier  
co-operation between territorial communities or authorities**

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**Description and objectives**

This Convention, which was opened for signature in 1980, is intended to provide a legal framework for transfrontier co-operation between territorial or communities or authorities, particularly in such fields as regional, urban and rural development, protection of the environment, improvement of infrastructure and public services, and mutual aid in cases of disaster. It commits contracting parties to facilitating and promoting this co-operation, which may be formalised on the basis of model agreements appended to the Convention or subsequently prepared by the Council of Europe. It does not affect the contracting parties' freedom to opt by agreement for other forms of transfrontier co-operation or the validity of existing agreements.

**Working methods**

The contracting parties make the internal arrangements needed to allow territorial authorities or communities to conclude appropriate agreements. They try to solve any problems which arise and consult one another as necessary.

**Working structures**

No structures are provided for in the Convention. However, in view of the significance which European transfrontier co-operation has already acquired, and is likely to acquire as a result of developments in Central and Eastern Europe, the Steering Committee on Local and Regional Authorities has decided to set up an ad hoc group of specialists to follow these developments. In fact, member and non-member States are already co-operating in various ways, and their experience might well benefit the entire Organisation. Meetings with representatives of the groups of regions and authorities involved might be organised at the Council of Europe to familiarise them with the Organisation's work.

**Duration and results**

The Convention lays down no time limits. The group of specialists should pursue its work in 1991 and 1992, with the assistance of consultants, particularly for the purpose of preparing, if necessary, the meetings of transfrontier groups.



FIELD OF ACTIVITIES IX

LEGAL CO-OPERATION

"A law to match Europe's future"



FIELD IX

## LEGAL CO-OPERATION

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The Council of Europe's activities in the field of legal co-operation have always been based on the principle of the pre-eminence of law in social and international relations and the concern gradually to narrow the gap between the national legal systems of member States in order to take account of social, economic and cultural changes. Thus over the years a great many European Conventions and Agreements have emerged and now constitute the framework for a genuine European legal area which in many cases extends beyond the circle of member States.

Against an international background characterised by the establishment of a climate of greater confidence and dialogue among European nations, this two-fold feature of the Council of Europe's action is taking on new importance. It situates the Organisation as the main forum for dialogue on democracy and the legal institutions and rules enabling democracy to function, since it brings together member States with pluralistic traditions and those States which have only just acquired democratic institutions. Moreover, from the angle of new European structures, the Council of Europe is still performing a unique function of acting as a framework for drafting and negotiating international agreements on matters other than security, reflecting the degree of convergence between European - and sometimes non-European - States on problems which require new continent-wide solutions.

In the same way, it will be for the Conferences of European Ministers of Justice and the bodies responsible for intergovernmental co-operation respectively to lay down the political guidelines and to set up practical forms of collaboration among European States with an eye to intensifying co-operation in terms of international law, modernising private and public law and providing citizens with the protection which is vital to their their individual and collective well-being as well as to the control of crime.

The role of providing a forum for discussing national legislative policies - in the fields of civil and criminal law - and of promoting international co-operation in the various legal sectors devolves on the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ) and the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC). The latter is assisted by the Criminological Scientific Council, which enables it to monitor the relevant developments in social and human sciences.

In 1991 the CDPC will be studying the implications and costs for the Council of Europe of the possible setting-up of a European University Institute for teaching, training and research concerning prevention of delinquency and aid to victims, as recommended by the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe in Resolution 205 (1989) on the Reduction of Urban Insecurity. Such an Institute might be set up on the basis of institutions already existing in Europe, with a flexible structure embracing training and exchange of experience and documentation.

Furthermore, from 1991 onwards a new role will be assigned to the new Committee of Legal Advisers to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which replaces the Committee of Experts on International Law, with a remit corresponding to the new directions being taken in Europe: the progress made in the CSCE framework, for example in terms of the peaceful settlement of disputes, the development of international law in the context of relations between the Council of Europe and Central and East European countries, and the monitoring of the work of the competent United Nations institutions, including the prospects for the 1990-99 International Law Decade.

**PROJECT IX.0****Legal aspects of the protection of minorities**  
**(Greater Europe)****Description and objectives**

The problem of minorities is one of the most acute and pressing today in Europe. National minorities and ethnic and racial tensions, which have caused several wars in the past, are resurfacing, often in acute form, in Central and Eastern Europe. They represent a threat to Europe's overall stability, and thus to the ongoing process of unification and democratisation of the States thereof, members and non-members of the Council of Europe. The authorities of the countries concerned are waiting anxiously to see what the Organisation can do to help resolve this type of conflict while respecting human rights and the principles of pluralist democracy.

The existence of minorities in a State makes it desirable to offer guarantees for a fair balance between the principle of the unity of the State and the respect of differences. The basis for the protection of minorities is of course political in nature and consists of the building and maintenance of a climate of trust between the different parts of the population, but this should be underpinned by the law.

At the national level, the constitution, laws and administrative practice should contain the necessary safeguards for affirming in a positive manner the rights of persons belonging to a minority (of ethnic, linguistic, religious, or any kind whatever) and for preventing or at least settling any clashes of interest affecting such a minority.

Seen from the international perspective, the situation of minorities in Europe is extremely complex and the result of the distant as well as the recent history of our Continent. Some minorities live scattered over several States but without there being any country where their kinsmen constitute a clear majority. In other cases there is a main country/diaspora situation.

The Council of Europe is the most suitable forum for considering the legal aspects of the protection of minorities through international instruments reflecting the basic elements of an approach based on respect for human rights. In this sense, it can perform a useful function in supplementing, by means of its standard-setting instruments, any specific undertakings and guarantees negotiated and jointly approved at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

**Working methods**

The Parliamentary Assembly and the European Commission for Democracy through Law (set up by the Committee of Ministers on 10 May 1990 through Resolution (90)6) have already begun to study the question and will soon submit a number of practical proposals or even draft texts to the Committee of Ministers.

It will be for the Committee of Ministers to take action on the proposals by setting up committees of government experts, providing States that so wish with the assistance of national experts and Secretariat officials or offering opportunities to pool experience and solutions at round table discussions convened on an ad hoc, national or international basis.

The work already undertaken within the fields of culture, education, social integration and local democracy will of course be continued and carried through. The appropriate co-ordination will in particular be ensured with the activity on regional and minority languages (VIII.2).

#### **Working structures**

With the help of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), it would be possible to set up an informal group of national correspondents qualified to deal with the legal aspects of minority problems. The group could advise the Secretary General and the Committee of Ministers and make an initial study of any recommendations adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly and of proposals made by the European Commission for Democracy through Law. It could also draw up, for consideration by the Committee of Ministers, a paper taking stock of progress made in other international organisations - particularly the CSCE - with regard to the protection of minorities, in order to shed light on the Council of Europe's potential role in the matter.

#### **Duration and results**

As any action in this area will call for careful preparation, the duration and results of the Project will depend on the decisions adopted each time by the Committee of Ministers. At this stage it would seem advisable to provide for ad hoc activities in 1991, subject to an extension and more in-depth study over subsequent years.

**PROJECT IX.1****Territorial asylum, refugees and stateless persons**

The implementation of this activity has been assigned to the Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Legal Aspects of Territorial Asylum, Refugees and Stateless Persons (CAHAR). The CAHAR, which has already drawn up several legal instruments, has prepared and submitted to the Committee of Ministers a draft Agreement on responsibility for examining of asylum requests. It holds regular exchanges of views to further the development of a common approach by member States to the solution of the practical problems with which they have to contend.

The CAHAR's work will be continued with attention, if appropriate, to the conclusions of the Vienna Conference on the Movement of Persons coming from Central and Eastern European countries, which is to be convened in January 1991, and other conferences to be held in its sphere of activity.

**PROJECT IX.2****Administrative law and the rule of law**  
**(Greater Europe)**

The principles behind action by administrative authorities in a State governed by the rule of law have been spelt out in legal instruments issued by the Committee of Ministers, such as Recommendation No. R(77) 31 on the protection of the individual in relation to the acts of administrative authorities, Recommendation No. R(80) 2 concerning the exercise of discretionary powers and Recommendation No. R(84) 15 relating to public liability.

A period of consolidation and development is now necessary during which legal instruments should be drawn up which indicate in a down-to-earth and detailed manner, accessible to both civil servants and citizens, how these principles can be applied in practice. This might be the case for certain principles covered in the aforementioned texts, for example those motivating acts by the administrative authorities or those governing public access to administrative information. The more specific needs of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe call for further consideration of new branches of administrative law closely connected with the rule of law, such as the status of the civil service or the machinery for monitoring acts by the administrative authorities.

The XXIst Colloquy on European Law to be devoted to the subject of administrative law implications of the privatisation of public services, due to take place in Budapest in autumn 1991, might also produce subject-matter for new activities relating to the protection of individuals as clients or employees of a privatised public service: for example, methods for promoting participation by employees and users in the decision-making process in public services, or arrangements for achieving the friendly settlement of disputes (ombudsman, group action, etc).

**Working methods**

Once an activity plan has been drawn up by the Project Group with the aid of a consultant, ad hoc working parties will be set up, each with the task of studying a specific aspect of these questions, drawing, whenever desirable, on the experience of practitioners in the fields concerned.

Appropriate co-operation would be sought with the Venice Commission on Democracy through Law.

**Working structures**

A Project Group will be created to define the broad lines for action over the coming years and to set up the special working parties.

**Duration and results**

This Project could lead to the adoption of legal instruments (Recommendations) and studies by the specialist working parties.



**PROJECT IX.3**Data protection and the rights of the individual**Description and objectives**

The European Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (ETS No. 108), adopted in 1981, set forth the general regulations applicable in the data protection field, for the purpose of protecting the basic rights of the individual while at the same time trying to avoid the setting up of unjustified obstacles to technological development and the free flow of information. On the basis of the principles contained in the Convention, Recommendations have been drawn up on specific subjects such as financial services and public files. In view of the spectacular increase in the number of files held by both public authorities and private industry, and the various kinds of information they contain, capable of being used for a multitude of purposes, this activity ought to be continued with a study of other topical matters (medical files, insurance companies, censuses), with a view to establishing principles agreed by as many States as possible.

**Working methods**

Responsibility for adopting any legal regulations in this field - whether binding or merely indicative - generally lies with the public authorities. However, action here is inconceivable without ongoing dialogue with specialists in information technology, industry and the authorities in the member States which, with varying degrees of power and responsibility, supervise or safeguard the gathering and utilisation of data. The work of the governmental committees of experts will therefore be relayed through contact with the bodies concerned, particularly the European Community, by means of round tables, symposia and joint operations.

**Working structures**

The present Committee of Experts on Data Protection will be the Project group responsible for this activity, assisted by a number of working parties responsible for examining certain matters in a more restricted framework. Ad hoc meetings with national authorities, the EEC and the professional bodies concerned might also be organised.

**Duration and results**

Since the activity is aimed mainly at ensuring that Convention No. 108 is implemented and adapted to new realities, it is virtually permanent. However, in view of the importance of some of the matters that need be examined in the very near future, the provisional work schedule might cover two years.

In 1991 studies will be carried out on medical files, censuses and insurance, and in 1992, international files. Meanwhile, over the same two years, a think-tank will conduct an in-depth study of technological developments, particularly in the telecommunications sector, with a view to reaching conclusions which might be used as the basis for new activities from 1993 onwards. The conclusions may take the form of Recommendations, symposia organised in conjunction with the EEC, and public awareness campaigns.

**PROJECT IX.4****Bioethics****Description and objectives**

New technical and scientific methods in the fields of medicine, biology and biochemistry are confronting mankind with very delicate problems by challenging science, law and ethics. We need only think of organ transplants, human artificial procreation, medical research on the human body and the human embryo, genetic therapy and engineering to realise the extent of the problems and the difficulty of reconciling various, often contradictory concerns.

The Council of Europe is at the forefront amongst organisation which address all these problems at the intergovernmental level, with the three-fold aim of filling the legal gaps, ensuring that the basic principles of human rights are upheld and facilitating harmonious co-operation between such widely varying disciplines as the human sciences, law and ethics.

This Project is aimed at maintaining the Organisation's impetus in this complex field, particularly in the light of the conclusions of the 17th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Istanbul, 1990), which urged the Council of Europe to examine the possibility of formulating an outline Convention open to non-member States, setting forth general common standards for the protection of the human person in the context of the development of the biomedical sciences. The Ministers also requested the Council of Europe to identify other matters demanding urgent priority attention.

Over and above the legal instruments - Conventions and Recommendations - which it may possibly formulate, the Council of Europe is aiming to provide through this Project a unique contribution to the international debate on the subject and to the formulation of guidelines for national legislators, scientists and lawyers in Europe and worldwide.

**Working methods**

This subject is multidisciplinary by definition and so is being examined in detail, under the control of an ad hoc committee (CAHBI), by different specifically briefed working parties. Contact will be made or maintained with the national ethics committees - or similar institutions - which exist in some member States, and international symposia will be convened at regular intervals (the next should take place in 1992). Appropriate co-ordination will be ensured with the work that will be undertaken under Project VI.2 "Ethical aspects of health".

**Working structures**

The CAHBI will be assisted by a number of working parties.

**Duration and results**

As required by the political directives given by the Ministers of Justice, it would seem appropriate that the main effort should extend over two years. The CAHBI would first consider the feasibility of an outline Convention on the Protection of the Human Person before entering into the drafting stage. The main work of the Working Party on Genetics would be to consider a Recommendation on Genetic Screening of Adults and Children. Yearly meetings of the national ethics committees and the 1992 International Symposium might complement this work programme.

**PROJECT IX.5****The efficiency and fairness of criminal justice****Description and objectives**

The slow speed of judicial and particularly criminal proceedings is a feature of the operation of justice in many European States. The most common causes are the increasing number of cases coming before the courts as a result of rising crime rates, the complexity of cases owing to the emergence of new types of offences, for example those connected with computers or with international ramifications, inadequate staffing in State legal services and the continued implementation of excessively slow or obsolete types of procedures. Such delays are in themselves a source of injustice for both the victim and the defendant.

This Project is consequently aimed at finding solutions to the problems facing most European States by applying management techniques with parallels in the economic world. It has the following objectives:

- to take stock of new management techniques used in the administration of criminal justice in the various Council of Europe member States;
- to suggest improvements, bearing in mind the limitations of a "management" approach in terms of the rights of the accused and the safeguards which all proceedings must provide for the parties;
- to establish model training programmes to be implemented at national, and possibly international, level;
- to examine the relations between the media and the judicial system in terms of professional ethics.

This activity derives directly from Article 6 of the Convention on Human Rights, being aimed at facilitating the adoption at national level of measures to prevent the delays reproved by the organs of the Convention. It might also interest a number of non-member States (USA, Canada and perhaps some European States), which should be associated with its implementation.

**Working methods**

The work cannot be carried out without the participation of judicial experts (judges, court registrars, bailiffs, lawyers) and specialists in management, computing and information, who may also shed extra light on the study of the problems. Therefore the approach will be multidisciplinary within the immense field of law and criminal proceedings, it being understood that some degree of flexibility has to be granted to the Project Group in implementing the various stages of the activity. The Group will take into account, and if appropriate incorporate into the Project, the conclusions reached by the Select Committee of Experts on Sentencing which will be completing its work in 1991.

**Working structures**

A Project Group reporting to the CDPC will provide general guidance for the activity and monitoring the work of the various future working parties.

**Duration and results**

The Project might continue for three years, after which conclusions should be collated in the form of Recommendations to governments, handbooks or publications for the professional groups concerned, and training modules for judges, lawyers and officials involved in the administration of justice in the member States. Depending on progress made after 1991, consideration might be given to extending the Project to cover the operation of the structures and procedures of civil and administrative justice, which often face the same problems.

**PROJECT IX.6****Family law****Description and objectives**

The Committee of Experts on Family Law is briefed to examine problems of family law necessitating co-operation at European level. The Committee is currently concentrating on the improvement of proceedings in family courts and other authorities empowered to deal with family matters. The Committee has also been given the task by the CDCJ, following Assembly Recommendation 1121 (1990) on the rights of children, to consider the preparation of a draft European Convention on the rights of the child. Furthermore, the CJ-FA has, inter alia, the important task to deal with the legal protection of disabled adults (partial guardianship) on which several member States are currently preparing draft laws.

**Working methods**

The Committee of experts comprises specialists in family law who are particularly well qualified in the subjects under consideration.

**Working structures**

Working parties reporting to the Committee of experts are set up as necessary to study specific points in greater depth or to draw up texts.

**Duration and results**

The CJ-FA will first have to complete its politically important work on a European Convention to promote the rights of the child. During this period the CJ-FA will also have the task to prepare the 2nd European Conference on family law which will take place in 1992 and which undoubtedly will result in additional topics on family law to be examined by the CJ-FA.

**PROJECT IX.7****Protection of and prevention of damage to the environment****Description and objectives**

Under the aegis of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation, the Committee of Experts on Compensation for Damage caused to the Environment is currently formulating a draft Convention on the responsibility of operators of activities presenting dangers for individuals, property and the environment as such. The Committee is taking due account in its work of Resolution No. 2 of the 15th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Oslo, 1986), Parliamentary Assembly Recommendations 1052, 1060 and 1068, and the work being done in other international organisations such as the OECD, the European Community, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

It also has to be noted that during the 17th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Istanbul, 1990) a Recommendation was adopted which invited the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to commence work on the protection of the environment through criminal law.

**Working methods**

The draft Convention has been formulated by the Committee of experts and its working parties. Consultation with European non-member States might be envisaged in 1991 before the draft is finalised, since it should be accepted by as many States as possible.

**Working structures**

The Committee of experts, which comprises representatives of all member States, is assisted by select working parties.

**Duration and results**

This activity will conclude in 1991 with the adoption of the draft Convention by the Committee of experts and subsequently by the CDCJ, prior to transmission to the Committee of Ministers. A new Project on the protection of the environment through criminal law could be undertaken in 1992. Its preparation could be started in 1991 by an ad hoc working party.

**PROJECT IX.8****Criminological and prison aspects of the control of AIDS,  
including in prisons****Description and objectives**

In accordance with the conclusions of the 16th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Lisbon, 1988), the Select Committee of Experts on criminological and prison aspects of the control of AIDS has examined the criminological aspects of sexually transmissible diseases, particularly AIDS, and considered measures adopted to deal with situations such as the deliberate or accidental spread of the disease by the patient or medical staff, as well as the rights and duties of doctors and other health staff in their dealings with patients.

**Working methods**

The Committee is made up of specialists from national prison administrations, an expert appointed by the European Health Committee, and two other scientific experts.

**Working structures**

The Select Committee works in plenary meetings.

**Duration and results**

A draft Recommendation will be formulated in 1991, covering the following items: information on sexually transmissible diseases in prisons, the treatment of ill prisoners and the prevention of the spread of such diseases, and health regulations directed at HIV-positive and drug dependent prisoners.



**SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

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**1. Colloquies on European Law**

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**Description and objectives**

In order to promote the exchange of information on and a free-ranging comparison of major trends in legal thinking on topical subjects, the Council of Europe organises European Colloquies to give professors of law, judges, lawyers and civil servants opportunities to familiarise themselves with the problems discussed in the Organisation, and enable them to make a scientific and theoretical contribution which is often taken into account in the various activities.

**Working methods**

The Colloquies on European Law deal with themes of general interest in the various areas of law. The Colloquies on legal data processing, on the other hand, deal specifically with the use of computers in the administration of justice, and are particularly aimed at computer specialists, civil servants and judges involved in introducing or using data processing in the administration of justice.

**Working structures**

The Secretariat deals with the preparation of the Colloquies in liaison with the rapporteurs and authorities of the host country which is responsible for organising the events.

**Duration and results**

This activity is permanent. In 1991 will take place the Colloquy on European Law (on the theme: "Administrative law implications of the privatisation of public services", in conjunction with the University of Budapest) and the Colloquy on Legal Data Processing (on the theme: "Interdisciplinary research in legal data bases, in particular as regards data bases on environmental law"), both of which have been scheduled for some time. As from 1992 such events will become biennial and alternate, starting with the Colloquy on Data Processing whose preparation falls within the competence of the Committee of Experts on Legal Data Processing (CJ-IJ). This Committee monitors the development of data processing technology in order to evaluate and promote its application in the legal field.

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## 2. Criminological and Prison Conferences and Colloquia

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### Description and objectives

The purpose of the Conferences of Directors of Criminological Research Institutes is to take stock of research carried out into specific criminological problems, identify priority subjects to be studied in future and contribute to the Council of Europe's intergovernmental activities.

The criminological Colloquia, which bring together specialists from the same institutions, focus more particularly on methodological matters.

The Conferences of Directors of Prison Administrations enable these senior officials periodically to exchange information and experience, discuss specific topical problems which they face and monitor the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation No. R (87)3 on European Prison Rules, this being one of their responsibilities.

### Working methods

All such meetings are organised with the active participation of the CDPC Bureau, its Criminological Scientific Council and the Council for Prison Co-operation.

### Working structures

The Conferences and Colloquia are generally prepared by the Secretariat, the Criminological Scientific Council and the Council for Prison Co-operation (CCP) providing scientific and methodological guidance in addition to their main duty which is to assist the CDPC in discharging its terms of reference. For the latter purpose, the CCP Chairman attends the Steering Committee's meetings.

### Duration and results

In 1991 the Criminological Colloquy is to be held in Strasbourg on "Young adult offenders". In 1992 and 1993 respectively, the Conference of Directors of Prison Administrations and the Conference on Criminological Research are to be held. These meetings will subsequently continue in the same order. Additionally, in 1995 there will be the Conference on Crime Policy, which is held every five years and is an opportunity to define the guidelines of member States' criminal policies in the years to come, as well as for consultation between these States on subjects to be placed on the agenda of the five-yearly United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders.

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### 3. Information and documentation

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#### Description and objectives

Using the networks comprising senior officials, judges and researchers with whom it co-operates, the Council of Europe compiles a vast range of legal documentation which it makes available to the bodies responsible for intergovernmental co-operation and also to member States requiring information or research findings on specific points.

#### Working methods

Almost every member State as well as certain non-member States appoint an expert as their national correspondent to compile, at the request of other member States, information files on current legislation, planned reforms and case-law on subjects of interest to them.

#### Working structures

Liaison with the national correspondents is provided by the Secretariat. The Bulletin is produced under the supervision of the Council for Prison Co-operation.

#### Duration and results

This activity is of a permanent character. It enables a regular exchange of information to take place between national administrations. Some of the information regularly transmitted to the Secretariat is published in the Council of Europe's Prison Information Bulletin.

**CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**IX.C.19 - European Convention on Establishment**

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**Description and objectives**

The European Convention on Establishment relating to individuals seeks to guarantee the nationals of one Contracting Party residing on the territory of another Contracting Party treatment at least equal to that enjoyed by the nationals of the latter in administrative, civil, judicial and tax matters.

**Working methods**

The Contracting Parties take counsel together in order to settle problems of interpretation and application which might arise, and formulate proposals to the Committee of Ministers designed to improve the practical implementation of the Convention or to revise or complement its provisions.

**Working structures**

A Committee set up under Article 24 of the Convention brings together the representatives of the Contracting Parties at least once every two years.

**Duration and results**

This activity is permanent. The Committee held its last meeting in 1989.

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**IX.C.24-116 - European Conventions in the Penal Field**

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**Description and objectives**

Under the CDPC's authority, the Committee of Experts on the Operation of European Conventions in the Penal Field is examining the operation of a number of instruments, viz Conventions Nos. 24, 30, 51, 52, 70, 73, 86, 88, 90, 97, 98, 99, 101, 112 and 116 in the European Treaty Series, in order to facilitate their practical implementation and, where appropriate, taking account of developments in other international bodies such as the United Nations and the European Community, and proposes the requisite changes or other measures to ensure the compatibility of the instruments with such developments. It is in particular working on the formulation of a General Convention on Interstate Co-operation in the Penal Field.

**Working methods**

The Committee takes account of the conclusions of the Conferences of European Ministers of Justice, including the Recommendations adopted at the 15th Conference in Oslo in 1986 relating to the application of European penal Conventions to the problems of drug abuse.

**Working structures**

The Committee of experts works under the CDPC's authority.

**Duration and results**

The drawing up of the General draft Convention on Interstate Co-operation in the Penal Field will take a few years to complete.

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**IX.C.25 - European Agreement on Regulations governing the movement  
of Persons between Member States of the Council of Europe**

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**Description and objectives**

The Agreement, opened for signature on 13 December 1957, is aimed at facilitating the movement of persons by providing that nationals of Contracting Parties are able to enter the territory of other Parties and leave under cover of one of the documents listed in the Appendix to the Agreement.

A recent study has revealed that, in practice, in 21 member States over 140 travel documents are issued, belonging to 23 different categories, most of which do not figure in the Appendix to the Agreement. Furthermore, in view of the developments as regards the movement of nationals from Central or Eastern countries - some of which have expressed an interest to accede to the Agreement - one can expect to face an increase in the number and the diversity of documents presented at frontiers of member States.

Finally, nine out of thirteen Parties to the Agreement are member States of the European Community. The abolition of checks at the internal borders of the Community and the reinforcement of checks at the external borders, the adoption of a common visa policy and other measures taken within the EEC could entail a reconsideration of the European Agreement. Such a consideration could also be an occasion to look at the circumstances which have prevented ten member States from becoming Parties to the Agreement.

**Working methods**

A regular exchange of information and experiences on the consequences of the increased mobility of persons in Europe would enable the monitoring of this development and, if necessary, the drawing up of proposals for a policy to be adopted by the Council of Europe.

Furthermore, based on the example of Resolution (77)26 on the establishment and harmonisation of national identity cards, and Recommendation No. R(83)11 on the international recognition of national identity cards, one could draw up criteria aimed at diminishing the number of current documents. Those criteria and norms could, if the need was felt, be the subject of a Recommendation by the Committee of Ministers. Such a Recommendation could be conceived as a series of guidelines intended to implement and, if necessary, amend the European Agreement on the movement of persons.

**Working structures**

The European Agreement does not provide for any permanent structure. Under the responsibility of the CDCJ, a Committee of experts including high officials of member States and of observers from Central and Eastern European States not yet members, as well as other non-member States traditionally interested in the subject, could meet once or twice a year. The Committee would work in close co-operation with the CAHAR and the CDMG.

**Duration and results**

The activity should be permanent. The Committee could make proposals on the policies to be adopted as regards the movement of persons and, if necessary, draw up draft Recommendations or amendments to the European Agreement.

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**IX.C.43 - Convention on the Reduction of Cases of Multiple Nationality  
and Military Obligations in Cases of Multiple Nationality**

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**Description and objectives**

This Convention provides for compulsory loss of nationality in the case of voluntary acquisition of a new nationality. However, the increasing frequency of situations whereby an individual has effective links with several States has prompted the Council of Europe to reflect on the merits of maintaining this principle in its entirety. The CDCJ has instructed its Committee of Experts on Multiple Nationality to study the matter and, if appropriate, to formulate a legal instrument enabling spouses of different nationalities and their children to maintain dual nationality, and for second-generation migrants born in the host country to acquire its nationality without losing that of their country of origin.

**Working methods**

The aim is not to monitor or facilitate the implementation of the Convention but to settle the problems arising from a new situation differing from that which prompted the Convention's original formulation. The new instrument will therefore be separate from but complementary to that on the reduction of cases of multiple nationality, appropriate rules being set out in order to settle contradictions between the two instruments.

**Working structures**

The Committee of experts has been set up by, and works under the authority of, the CDCJ.

**Duration and results**

A draft Convention will be formulated by the end of 1991.



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- IX.C.65 - European Convention for the Protection of Animals during International Transport**
- IX.C.102 - European Convention for the Protection of Animals for Slaughter**
- IX.C.123 - European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals used for Experimental and other Scientific Purposes**
- IX.C.125 - European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals**
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#### **Description and objectives**

In 1987 the Committee of Ministers approved the Secretary General's proposal to convene an annual meeting for multilateral consultation by the Contracting Parties to a European Convention for the Protection of Animals. Since 1988 this consultation has concerned Conventions No. 65 and 102. In 1992 it should cover Convention No. 123.

#### **Working methods**

The meetings of the Contracting Parties are organised by the Secretariat on the basis of preparatory work carried out by select groups of experts.

#### **Working structures**

The Conventions in question do not provide for committees. The Contracting Parties meet on a voluntary basis with the Secretariat's assistance.

#### **Duration and results**

This activity is permanent. Recommendations have been formulated after the consultative meetings to facilitate the implementation of certain Conventions, including that on international transport of animals.

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**IX.C.87 - European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes**

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**Description and objectives**

The Convention lays down that a Committee made up of representatives of the Contracting Parties shall formulate and adopt Recommendations designed to facilitate the implementation of its provisions. The Committee may also express an advisory opinion on the protection of animals.

**Working methods**

The Contracting Parties have gone into a number of matters arising from the implementation of the Convention and are currently formulating provisions to take account of developments in biotechnology.

**Working structures**

The Committee set up under Article 9 of the Convention also has a Bureau.

**Duration and results**

The activity is permanent. Three Recommendations have so far been adopted, concerning poultry of the species Gallus Gallus kept for egg production, and pig and cattle breeding.

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**IX.C.94 - European Convention on the Service Abroad of Documents  
relating to Administrative Matters**

**IX.C.100 - European Convention on the Obtaining Abroad of Information  
and Evidence in Administrative Matters**

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**Description and objectives**

In order to facilitate implementation of these Conventions, the Contracting Parties hold multilateral consultations at the request of a Contracting State or after the third year following their entry into force. After the first consultation in 1988, the Secretary General is considering convening a second meeting of this type in 1991.

**Working methods**

The representatives of the Contracting Parties take stock of progress in implementation of the Conventions and attempt to find solutions to any problems which have arisen.

**Working structures**

No specific structure is laid down in the Conventions.

**Duration and results**

The activity is permanent. The multilateral consultations may continue to be held every three years, though the Contracting Parties remain free to request an additional meeting at any time.

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**IX.C.105 - European Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of  
Decisions concerning Custody of Children and on Restoration  
of Custody of Children**

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**Description and objectives**

The representatives of the Contracting Parties are invited to meet periodically in order to examine and facilitate the operation of the Convention. Such meetings are regularly held at the Organisation's headquarters.

**Working methods**

Article 28 of the Convention states that the Secretary General shall, on his own initiative, invite the Contracting Parties to hold any requisite consultation.

**Working structures**

The Convention does not provide for any specific body.

**Duration and results**

This activity is permanent. The meetings are generally held annually.

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**IX.C.108 - Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to  
Automatic Processing of Personal Data**

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**Description and objectives**

This Convention is designed to secure on the territory of each Contracting Party for every individual whatever his nationality or residence, respect for his rights and fundamental freedoms, and, in particular, his right to privacy, with regard to automatic processing of personal data relating to him ("data protection").

**Working methods**

The Contracting Parties hold consultations in order to facilitate or improve the application of the Convention.

**Working structures**

A Committee has been set up under Chapter V of the Convention.

**Duration and results**

This activity is permanent. The Committee has, in particular, studied the content of the concept of "equivalent protection" in relation to transfrontier data flows.

