

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

RESOLUTION (85) 6

ON EUROPEAN CULTURAL IDENTITY

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 25 April 1985
at its 76th Session)*

The Committee of Ministers,

Conscious of a European cultural identity ;

Considering the 1954 European Cultural Convention ;

Referring to the European Declaration on cultural objectives, the Resolution thereon and the Resolution on cultural co-operation in Europe, adopted by the 4th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Cultural Affairs in Berlin in 1984 ;

Recalling the 1982 Unesco Declaration on cultural policies ;

Having regard to the 1975 CSCE Final Act and the 1983 concluding document of the Madrid CSCE follow-up meeting as well as the undertakings assumed therein for cultural co-operation and exchanges, especially in anticipation of the Cultural Forum to be held in Budapest in 1985 ;

Acknowledging the co-operation undertaken in preparing European Music Year 1985,

1. Stresses that cultural co-operation makes an indispensable contribution to European awareness ;
2. Is convinced that unity in diversity is what produces the richness of the common European cultural heritage ;
3. Notes that common traditions and European identity as the product of a common cultural history are not delimited by the frontiers separating different political systems in Europe ;
4. Expresses the conviction that a strengthening of cultural co-operation will contribute to greater mutual *rapprochement* of the peoples and states of Europe and thus promote lasting understanding ;
5. Firmly believes that this gives rise to a common interest of all European states in maintaining and developing this heritage and in expanding cultural relations ;
6. Holds the view that Council of Europe member states should take account of this fact and express to Eastern European countries their continued readiness for cultural co-operation ;
7. Instructs the Ministers' Deputies to ascertain and propose with the assistance of the Council for Cultural Co-operation areas where it would be possible to engage in closer co-operation with those states of Europe that are neither members of the Council of Europe nor parties to the European Cultural Convention, and to report back to the Committee of Ministers on this matter ;
8. Recommends that the member states of the Council of Europe take account of the aforementioned considerations and support to the best of their ability the measures advocated by the Council of Europe for intensifying cultural co-operation among all states of Europe.