

The CSCE should develop a body to reflect the increasingly democratic nature of its composition. We propose the establishment of a CSCE Assembly where parliamentary delegations from members states would meet on a regular basis to discuss issues of common concern.

In the security area, the CSCE will have a role in mandating a further round of conventional forces reduction talks. All thirty-five members of the Conference should participate, not just NATO and Warsaw Pact members.

The CSCE should increase its role in verification and confidence-building. There is also a potentially valuable role to be played by the CSCE in crisis prevention and conflict resolution. This could involve the creation of a mechanism to facilitate dialogue, a mechanism that could carry out special investigations and recommend a strategy to resolve the crisis - whether it be mediation, arbitration, or even peacekeeping operations.

If the situation develops into a crisis, the CSCE could initiate mediation activities that could be supported by a permanent Institute for the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes.

Beyond the security field, the CSCE should build upon the other principles and undertakings contained in the Helsinki agreements. As I mentioned earlier this month at the Copenhagen Conference on the Human Dimension, these essential structures of democracy should become a common commitment of members, in particular the right to free elections and the rule of law. Pluralism should also be legitimized through the CSCE process, as should the rights of minorities, freedom of religion and a prohibition on hate propaganda. I am confident that the Copenhagen Conference, which is continuing, should be able to make significant progress in these areas. I perceived among the participants in Copenhagen a firm intention to make democracy, rule of law and the spirit of tolerance - which is the basis of democratic societies - elements of the new Europe's code of conduct.

In the economic dimension, the CSCE may also have a valuable role in the future, building on the tremendous success of the recent Bonn Economic Conference. I believe a permanent CSCE forum for economic dialogue, supplementing the work of the OECD, is worth serious consideration. It is not a case of duplicating the efforts of existing organizations, but of encouraging co-operation and dialogue designed to develop common principles of economic activity.

A CSCE summit is to be held before the end of the year in Paris. This will be a particularly important opportunity to provide the indispensable political impetus to the CSCE's enhanced mission. The first meeting at the highest level since the revolution of '89, this meeting will be an opportunity to celebrate Europe's democratic renaissance.