

As Professor van Wageningen says, the sense of commitment is an important element in the sense of community. This is why threats by one party to withdraw from the community if outvoted on some question, tend to jolt and weaken the community as a whole: for threatened withdrawal implies so limited a commitment, so feeble a loyalty, to the international system itself.

Probably the most important contribution which political leaders can make to any "expansion in depth" of international community lies in the field of more adequate consultation between friends. For it is consultation alone that can produce democratic unity, and that distinguishes free allies from reluctant camp-followers. In this connection I was somewhat puzzled by Dr. van Wageningen's statement that "the habit-forming effect of international relations has been neither proved nor disproved". Surely the attitudes of awareness, consideration and understanding generosity which prompt consultation with others, can become habitual in international society as elsewhere. These qualities never come easily, but on them the unity and therefore the fate of the free world may well depend.

There is another way in which the United Nations community can be increased in "depth". Although its members are national states, its success depends in the last analysis on the support of the peoples who are in the widest and truest sense the U.N. community. That is why the work done by private organizations within member states, to educate the public about the United Nations, and to enlist their thinking support, is a significant but often overlooked pillar of that community. The present studies connected with a review of the Charter may themselves, by stimulating and increasing public interest, in the United Nations, aid in this vital work.

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