
(ii) the wish to confirm the stability of existing alliances and borders;

(iii) the desire to respond to non-member countries' concern that the Community's market should be opened up to them.

Guidelines for Community action

2.2.17. In the framework of the mandate given to the Commission by the Paris Summit,² consensus was reached on the urgency of financial support linked to an agreement with the IMF, which it was hoped would be reached before the end of the year (stabilization fund for Poland and balance-of-payments support for Hungary). Studies of the following measures were to be prepared for the Strasbourg European Council: proposed development and modernization bank for Eastern Europe, European Training Foundation, extension of youth exchange programmes.

Most participants also stressed the need to step up Community action and structures to ensure that the Single Act and economic and monetary union are implemented in full and to strengthen external policy. However, these subjects were, as planned, held over for discussion by the Strasbourg European Council.

Eastern Europe

Informal meeting of members of the European Council

2.2.15. An exceptional meeting following exceptional events, the working dinner of Heads of State or Government in Paris on 18 November was exclusively dedicated to current developments in Eastern Europe and the Community's attitude to them.

Participants were struck by the convergence of views and the shared concern that there should be a joint reaction from the Twelve. The President of the European Council summed up the atmosphere in two words: solidarity and unity.

In this respect the meeting marked an important step in the development of the Community since the Single Act, and in particular in integrating political cooperation and Community activities: guidelines for Community action were drawn up on the basis of a common analysis.

Common political analysis

2.2.16. The developments in East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia were examined. Participants noted:

(i) the will to back up and encourage democratic change;