

OPS cc MASTER

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 49A/83

18th April, 1983

Subject: SOVIET UNION: Human Rights.  
CSCE. May 1988.

Dear Prime Minister,

The Heads of State and Government of Austria, Cyprus, Finland, San Marino, Sweden and Yugoslavia, which participate in the Madrid follow-up meeting of the CSCE, have agreed to address to you this letter in order to share with you their deep concern regarding the present state of affairs of the said meeting and the CSCE process as a whole.

This process was initiated in the 1970's with the aim of bringing Europe closer to genuine peace, strengthened security, improved cooperation and a better observance of human rights. All these aims were incorporated into the Helsinki Final Act of 1975.

The Final Act should, despite setbacks and shortcomings in its implementation, continue to serve as the basis for the relations between all the 35 nations of Europe, the United States of America and Canada.

The representatives of these states have now spent nearly three years in Madrid in search of a common agreement from that meeting, in order to give substance and meaning to the CSCE follow-up process.

The genuine seriousness of approach of all the participating states has at no moment been put into question. Yet, in spite of all the efforts made in this exercise, it has not been possible to reach the desired agreement.

The neutral and non-aligned states, on whose behalf we address this letter, now fear that the Madrid meeting has reached a point where continued and protracted negotiations will no longer serve the aims of bringing us closer to a common understanding, but rather lead to an erosion of the basic aims and purposes set forth by the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland

It is for this reason that eight neutral and non-aligned countries have recently made a proposal in Madrid for a substantial and balanced concluding document. It is a compromise endeavour and cannot as such fully satisfy all demands. Yet, it contains a number of concrete commitments in all fields of the CSCE process, including the strengthening of military security and the promotion of human rights. Consequently, they believe that its provisions would enhance the implementation of the commitments of the Helsinki Final Act and engage all 35 nations in new, concrete action designed to meet the important challenges of our time.

The neutral and non-aligned states in question share the serious belief that a political decision must now be made without delay regarding the outcome of the Madrid meeting and thus the future role of the CSCE process in Europe. A positive conclusion would demonstrate a renewed resolve by us all to enhance stability and strengthen continuity. Failure to reach agreement in Madrid would, we fear, be detrimental to the entire process and thus adversely affect the political development in Europe itself.

Our states have spared no effort to do their own share in bringing the goals of the 1975 Final Act into reality. They realize the limits of their own contribution regarding the present efforts in Madrid. Yet, they consider it as their right and duty to make an appeal for a shared responsibility by all participating states in this endeavour.

Bruno Kreisky, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria

Spyros Kyprianou, President of the Republic of Cyprus

Mauno Koivisto, President of the Republic of Finland

Adriano Reffi and Massimo Roberto Rossini,  
Captains Regent, San Marino

Olof Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden

Petar Stambolic, President of the State Presidency of  
the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia