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INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY
OF THE ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY IN 1969
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At the Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party of March 17-19, about whose proceedings we have informed in our supplement No. 5, the "Information of the Executive Committee of the CC of the RCP on the International Activity of the Romanian Communist Party, in 1969, and the Plan of the Party's Foreign Relations for 1970" was approved. We publish the text released in the Romanian press.

INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY OF THE ROMANIAN
COMMUNIST PARTY IN 1969 AND THE PLAN OF FOREIGN RELATIONS
FOR 1970

During the year that has elapsed - the information points out - the international activity of the Romanian Communist Party and of our State has powerfully developed: the relations at Party and State level with the socialist countries have intensified and diversified, by meetings and talks between Party and State leaders, exchanges of delegations and swap of experience, the participation in a series of international meetings; the number of communist and workers' parties of other countries with which our Party entertains relations has increased; the contacts with socialist parties have been expanded; the links of solidarity with the national liberation movements and the democratic parties of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, with other anti-imperialist forces, have strengthened to a great extent. Our Party entertains and develops at present relations of collaboration with 90 communist and workers' parties, with 22 national liberation movements and democratic parties, with some 20 socialist parties and other progressive political formations.

Emphasizing that, in keeping with the general line and the decisions of the Tenth Congress, the RCP focusses its foreign policy on the friendship and alliance with the socialist countries, the information writes that in 1969 the Party and Government of our country have developed relations of multilateral cooperation with all the socialist states. Recalled is in this connection that in 1969 Romanian Party and State delegations, at head with Nicolae Ceaușescu, participated in the Budapest Meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the states in the membership of the Warsaw Treaty (in March), in the 23rd (special) session of the CMEA, held in Moscow (in April), as well as

in the Moscow meeting of the party and state leaders of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania and the USSR (in December). These meetings occasioned a useful exchange of opinions and demonstrated that, in spite of some differences of opinions and appreciations, positive results can be obtained, when the the discussions are conducted in the spirit of esteem and regard for the opinions of others and with the wish of finding mutually acceptable solutions.

The Central Committee, which was informed at the respective time about the content of the talks, highly appreciated the way in which the Romanian delegations acted, voicing the standpoint of the Romanian Communist Party, the constructive contribution they made in the debate and in solving important problems of common interest.

Besides the discussions conducted during the above-mentioned meetings, leaders of our Party and State, at head with Nicolae Ceaușescu and Ion Gheorghe Maurer, had meetings with leaders of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, at head with Leonid Brezhnev and Alexei Kosygin, as well as with leaders of the Polish United Workers' Party at head with Wladyslaw Gomulka and I. Cyrankiewicz. Meetings also took place at Timișoara and the Iron Gates, between Nicolae Ceaușescu and Iosip Broz Tito, as well as between the prime ministers and between other party and state leaders of Romania and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

A delegation led by Ion Gheorghe Maurer had talks in Peking, last autumn, with Chou En-lai and with other leaders of the Chinese Communist Party, on problems of socialist construction in the two countries, the expansion of the Romanian-Chinese relations, the evolution of international life, the situation of the communist movement.

The relations of friendship and fraternal solidarity between the RCP and the Working People's Party of Vietnam, between Romania and the Vietnam Democratic Republic, as well as the relations with the National Liberation Front and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam have kept developing. Our Party and State give multilateral support and assistance to the heroic Vietnamese people in its righteous struggle against American aggression.

A steady expansion, in various domains - the information further writes - was registered in the relations with the Republic of Cuba, with the Communist Party of Cuba. Developing are the relations of cooperation with the Workers' Party of Korea, as well as with the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party.

Attaching, just as in the previous years, great importance to the swap of experience with the communist and workers' parties of the socialist countries, the RCP sent in 1969 delegations of activists to the USSR, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Cuba, Mongolia; in their turn delegations of activists of the communist parties of the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, the German Democratic Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia and Yugoslavia, arrived in Romania for swap of experience. At the same time the exchanges of delegations between frontier counties and towns of Romania and the neighbour countries have been expanded.

The information further spotlights that the RCP considers that, in spite of the differences of views which can exist and exist among the communist parties, decisive is not what separates them, but what is common to them and unites them - the supreme interests of the cause of socialism and of the anti-imperialist struggle. Setting out from this, our Party has made permanent efforts so that the dif-

ferences of views should not affect the relations at party and state level, but on the contrary, measures should be promoted for the intensification and diversification of these relations. In keeping with the firm conviction of our Party's leadership, the information stresses, the fundamental condition for the development of the relations of internationalist solidarity among the socialist countries, among the communist parties, is the unabated observance of the Marxist-Leninist principles, of independence and sovereignty, fully equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs, mutual advantage and socialist internationalism. We emphasize on this occasion too that the Party and Government of our country promoted and will promote in the future too, with full consistency, these principles in the relations with the socialist countries, with the other fraternal parties. Recalling that Romania is expanding her collaboration with the CMEA member socialist countries, with the states in the membership of the Warsaw Treaty, as well as with the socialist countries which are not in the membership of these organizations, the information reasserts the stand of the RCP, which - in promoting the relations among the socialist countries, among the communist parties - sets out from the internationalist outlook, which corresponds to the interest of communism in the world, namely not to limit the cooperation links to a group of socialist states, but to ensure the deepening of cooperation and collaboration among all the countries of the world socialist system, in the interest of the unity of this system.

The information further outlines the activity of the Romanian Communist Party along the line of steady expansion of the relations of collaboration and internationalist solidarity with the fraternal parties of non-socialist countries.

A positive appreciation is given to the evolution of relations of fraternal friendship and close collaboration with the Italian Communist Party, the continuation of the exchanges of opinions and of consultations - at leadership level - in various issues of the international communist movement. The traditional relations of warm fraternal friendship linking our party to the Communist Party of Spain have deepened. A positive evolution is also registered in the relations with the French Communist Party, whose congress was attended by a delegation of the RCP, which conducted useful talks on the occasion.

A special contribution to the expansion of the relations of the RCP with the communist parties of the European countries was made by Nicolae Ceaușescu's meetings and talks with leaders and delegations of these parties, as well as the visits paid by delegations of our Party to a series of West-European countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Federal Germany, San Marino and Sweden. During 1969, a delegation of the EDA Party of Greece was guest of our Party.

The previous year also marked an important expansion in the relations of friendship and solidarity with the fraternal parties of Latin America. The meetings at leadership level with the representatives of those parties, the visits paid to Romania in 1969 by delegations of the communist parties of Guatemala, Argentina, Ecuador, Venezuela, as well as the participation of a delegation in the Congress of the Communist Party of Chile, are an expression of the friendly relations of mutual esteem and understanding established between the Romanian and Latin-American communists.

Our Party concerned itself with the expansion and diversification of its relations with the communist parties of Asia. Recalled are the contacts and meetings at the level of party leadership, the bilateral consultations, the

exchanges of delegations and information between the RCP and the Communist Party of Japan, as well as the visits and fruitful talks conducted with representatives of the two communist parties of India and the Communist Party of Australia.

Our Party militated for the expansion of its comardely contacts and relations with the communist parties of the Arab countries - Morocco, Jordan, the Lebanon, Syria, Irak and Sudan. Spotlighted are the good relations with the communist parties of Réunion, Mauritius and others.

The participation in the preparations for and the proceedings of the International Meeting of the Communist and Workers' Parties, was a contribution of great importance to the development of the relations of the RCP with the other communist and workers' parties. The information recalls our Party's stand towards that meeting and the conclusions on its results, the high valuation attached to the principled and constructive position, expressed in the speech and the statement made by Nicolae Ceaușescu at the meeting, to the way in which the delegation fulfilled the mandate entrusted by the Central Committee, to the active contribution of our Party to the woking out of the documents of the meeting, to the expansion of solidarity relations with the communist parties.

The information further points to the significance of the Tenth RCP Congress, as a ~~first~~ great international event, soon after the meeting - in which delegations participated or messages were sent on behalf of 85 communist parties and liberation movements, including both parties which had attended the Moscow meeting, and others which did not take part in it; the possibility was thus corroborated by practice, that the representatives of the fraternal parties meet, in spite of divergencies.

During 1969 Romania was visited by representatives of the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity, the Socialist Party of Belgium, the Socialist Democratic Party of Sweden, the Democratic Union of the People's Party of Denmark. At the same time, Romanian delegations conducted talks with leaders of the Labour Party of Great Britain, the Italian Socialist Party, the French Socialist Party, the Labour Party of Norway, the Japanese Socialist Party, the Italian

Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity, the Socialist Party of Chile. It is in the spirit of its internationalist policy, that our Party has widely developed its links of solidarity with the national liberation movements of the countries where the oppressed peoples are fighting for liberty and independence, for the right to independent development, for the liquidation for good and all of colonialism and neo-colonialism, movements to which Romania is giving large political and material support. Talks and meetings took place in 1969 with representatives of the Arab Socialist Union of the UAR, the Democratic Party of Guinea, the Democratic Union of Somalia. Leaders of our Party, Nicolae Ceaușescu, had meetings and talks in 1969 with leaders of the national liberation fronts of Angola, Mozambic, Guinea-Bissau and Laos.

The relations of the RCP with the fraternal parties have been materialized in other forms too, such as participation in congresses, exchanges of lecturers, information and documentary materials, workers in the field of press and party schools, exchanges of activists for holiday. Pointed out is also the fact that our Party, which is represented in the editorial collegium of the "Problems of Peace and Socialism" journal, sent a delegation to the meeting of the editorial council held in Prague in October 1969, to express its standpoint on the activity of this publication. Representatives of the RCP recently participated in the Sofia meeting of secretaries of Central Committees of communist and workers' parties of some socialist countries, presenting our party's concept in connection with the forms of collaboration among the fraternal parties in the field of theoretical and ideological activity.

The plan of foreign relations of the Party for 1970 was then set forth, a plan which is grounded on the guidelines of the foreign policy established by the Tenth Congress: the steady development of the relations of friend-

ship and collaboration with all the socialist countries, with all the world states, irrespective of their social system; the expansion of the links with all the communist and workers' parties; the manifestation of active solidarity with the national liberation movements, the enhanced contribution to the cause of the unity of all the anti-imperialist forces.

Exchanges of visits and meetings at various levels with the fraternal parties of the socialist countries are envisaged for 1970.

The information points out that RCP delegations will correspondingly participate in party congresses and state jubilee manifestations to which they will be invited.

Concomitantly with the actions organized in Romania in connection with V.I.Lenin's birth centenary, representatives of the Party, of public organizations, men of science, art and culture, actively participate in international scientific sessions and symposia.

Aiming at the further expansion of the relations along the line of studying the experience acquired in party activity, the plan envisages for 1970 the sending and invitation to Romania of a large number of delegations of fraternal parties of all the socialist countries.

Envisaged are also measures for the expansion of exchanges of delegations, of contacts, talks and mutual information with the communist and workers' parties of the non-socialist countries of Europe, Latin America, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, with the view to strengthening internationalist solidarity and the unity of the communist movement.

In keeping with the RCP policy of active solidarity with and multilateral support for the national liberation movements, envisaged is the intensification of the friendship relations with the democratic parties of the young sovereign states, with other anti-imperialist political

forces. At the same time the contacts and dialogues with the socialist parties, especially on the issues of security in Europe, will continue.

The information stresses that, in the spirit of the demands of peaceful coexistence, in keeping with her general political line determined by the attainment of this major imperative of our epoch, Romania will continue to make sustained efforts for the strengthening of international collaboration and cooperation, will expand her relations with all the states, irrespective of social-political system, on the basis of the observance of the universally valid principles of sovereignty, equality, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage; reasserted is Romania's determination to make her full contribution to the achievement of European security, to registering progress along the path of general disarmament, primarily by the removal of nuclear danger, to the political solution, by means of negotiations, of the problems facing mankind today, to the promotion of detente and the strengthening of peace in the world.

The intensive activity carried on by the RCP within the communist and working-class movement, its active and constructive position in the international issues, the consistent promotion of the principles on which the relations of solidarity in the communist movement should be based - the information stresses - proves that our Party is fulfilling with full responsibility its duties to the working class, to our socialist nation, as well as to the international working-class.

In conclusion, the information spotlights the idea that in the present conditions, the RCP considers as a lofty internationalist duty that nothing should be undertaken by anybody that might aggravate the difficulties of the communist movement. The Central Committee of the RCP appreciates

that the anniversary of V.I.Lenin's birth centenary must be a powerful impact for surmounting these difficulties, for the normalization of the relations among the socialist countries, for the remaking and strengthening of the unity and solidarity of the fraternal parties.

As far as it is concerned, the RCP reasserts its determination to do everything that depends on it for strengthening the fighting solidarity of the communist and workers' parties, for the unification of all the contemporary progressive and democratic forces, of the whole anti-imperialist front, in the service of the cause of peace, democracy, national independence and social progress.

Within the March 27 meeting of the proceedings of the fourth session of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in its sixth legislature, Foreign Affairs Minister Corneliu Mănescu read the "Report on the International Activity of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in 1969". We publish the text of this speech.

REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY OF THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA IN 1969, DELIVERED BY CORNELIU MANESCU,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AT THE SESSION OF THE GRAND
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF MARCH 25-27, 1970

Dear Comrades,

On the instructions of the Government, I have the special honour of informing our high Assembly of the international activity carried on by the Romanian State in 1969.

The foreign policy of our country develops in dialectical unity and in full harmony with the home policy, serving the building of the multilaterally developed socialist society. The important successes obtained by the Romanian people in the building up of its new life, in the steady advancement on the road of progress and civilization, is an outstanding contribution to the consolidation of socialism, to enhancing its prestige and power of attraction.

In the spirit of the consistent policy of the Party and the State, of profound responsibility for the destinies of the Romanian people, for the future of mankind, our country has made its contribution to the promotion of the relations of collaboration among all states, to the solution of the major problems of international life, to the establishment of peace and security in Europe and in the whole world.

The Tenth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, goes down in the life of the people as an event of historic importance, highly assessed the foreign policy of our Party and Government, established its objectives and guidelines.

The whole activity of the Romanian Government of implementing the foreign policy proceeded under the permanent guidance of the Party and State leadership, directly under that of comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the State Council of

the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Considering that the real normalisation of international life, the consolidation of peace and security call for the development and strengthening of bilateral links, Romania acted and acts perseveringly for the amplification of relations with states throughout the world. In 1969, our country established diplomatic relations with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, with Bolivia, Chad, Niger, Malaysia, Uganda and New Zealand. Romania has today diplomatic and consular relations with 95 states.

Romania founds her relations with all states on the principles - that gain increased importance in international life and wider and wider support on the part of the peoples - of the observance of national independence and sovereignty, equal rights, mutual advantage, non-interference in internal affairs, the right of each state to independently decide its home and foreign policy.

Unswervingly centering her foreign policy on friendship, fraternal alliance and multilateral collaboration with the socialist countries, Romania carried on an intensive activity of deepening and extending her political, economic, cultural and scientific relations with the socialist states.

On this line are the meetings of comrades Nicolae Ceaușescu, and Ion Gheorghe Maurer with comrades Leonid Brezhnev and Alexei Kosygin, with the comrades Wladyslaw Gomulka, Marian Spychalski and Jozef Cyrankiewicz. Likewise, two meetings took place between comrades Nicolae Ceaușescu and Iosip Broz Tito, as well as interviews between the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Chairman of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Contacts and talks, at different levels were held with the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the

German Democratic Republic and the Hungarian People's Republic.

Our country's relationships with the People's Republic of Albania have developed in a spirit of mutual understanding, and possibilities exist for their further expansion.

The meetings and talks held have led to the deepening of collaboration, spotlighted fresh possibilities for expanding bilateral relations, to the advantage of all sides, occasioned useful exchanges of views on problems that are of interest to the European socialist states, have been a valuable contribution to strengthening their unity, to the promotion of the cause of socialism, peace and collaboration among peoples.

The links of collaboration have developed between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the People's Republic of China. Last autumn, talks were held in Peking between comrade Ion Gheorghe Maurer and comrade Chou En-lai and other leaders of the People's Republic of China, on problems concerning socialist construction in the two countries, the development of bilateral relations and the international situation.

Our country's relations with the Vietnam Democratic Republic and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam proceeded to the background of multilateral support given by the Romanian people to the heroic Vietnamese people in its just fight against American aggression.

The relations between Romania and the Mongolian People's Republic and the Korean Democratic People's Republic have developed positively.

The relationships with the Republic of Cuba have developed on multiple levels.

Preoccupied to steadily improve the legal framework in which the relations with the socialist states proceed,

the Romanian Government concluded 75 new instruments of collaboration and cooperation, in the most varied domains of activity.

Romania makes her active contribution to the expansion of economic collaboration and cooperation within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, whose member she is. She concomitantly intensifies trade exchanges, collaboration and cooperation in the economic sphere with all the socialist countries.

Our country develops relations of collaboration, in the military domain, with the Warsaw Treaty member-states, whose member she is, and is ready to fight alongside of the friendly armies in case of an aggression by the imperialist forces unleashed in Europe against a member state of this Treaty. At the same time, Romania extends her collaboration with the armies of all the socialist states.

In 1969, Party and State delegations, led by comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu, took part in the special C.M.E.A. session, in the meeting of the Consultative Political Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states as well as in the December Moscow meeting, of the Party and State leaders of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania and the USSR.

These meetings, as well as the other meetings of the socialist countries in which Romania took part, have proved that when the problems are approached in a principled and comradely spirit, of mutual esteem and receptivity to the opinions and interests of each state, it is possible to reach understanding that is acceptable to all sides, and in this way to make an important contribution to raising mutual collaboration onto a higher stage, to strengthening solidarity between the socialist countries.

It is our firm conviction that, on building up their mutual relationships on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and Socialist internationalism, on comradely mutual assistance, on the norms of the relations between the socialist states, overcoming the present difficulties, the socialist countries - united by the community of system, of ideology and aims - can offer all the peoples a model of understanding and multilateral cooperation, can exercise a favourable and more powerful influence on the evolution of international relations and the development of the contemporary world.

Proceeding from the vital interests of our people, from the general interests of socialism, the Romanian Government is determined to do henceforth too, everything that depends on it for the intensification of fraternal collaboration with all the socialist countries.

In the conditions of the existence of states with different social political systems, the sole rational solution for organising international life, in conformity with the people's aspirations for progress and prosperity is the collaboration among all the countries of the world, their peaceful coexistence, founded on the observance of the unanimously recognised fundamental principles of international law.

The growing economic potential and the enrichment of our country's cultural patrimony in the context of a world characterized by the massive penetration of science and technique in all the spheres of human activity and the accentuation of the international division of labour make not only possible but also objectively necessary the development of Romania's relations with all the states of the world and her active participation in the constant amplification of exchanges of material and spiritual assets.

The Romanian Government has acted for the expansion of political contacts, of economic, technical, scientific and

cultural exchanges with all states, showing concern for ensuring the consistency and stability of our country's external relations, on mutually advantageous bases.

Last year, 76 new understandings, agreements and conventions of collaboration in various domains were concluded with states having different social-political systems.

Contacts, exchanges of visits and talks took place with heads of state and government, with outstanding political figures of a big number of countries. The President of the State Council comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu visited Turkey, Iran and India, and received the visits of the President of the United States of America, of the President of Austria and of the President of Finland.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers comrade Ion Gheorghe Maurer visited England and Belgium and received the visit of the heads of government of the Netherlands, Sweden and the People's Republic of Congo.

The visits enumerated and the contacts at other levels concluded with positive and concrete results, determining the expansion of the bilateral relations, the intensification of collaboration in different domains. They occasioned useful exchanges of opinions on important international problems, contributed to a better acquaintance with the stands and points of view, to improving the general political climate.

As a European country, vitally interested in the peace and security of the continent, Romania promotes a policy of broad cooperation with all the states in Europe.

We are pleased to note that the political, economic, technical-scientific and cultural relations between Romania and France are steadily developing. The meetings between the heads of the two states constituted and will constitute important episodes in this evolution. We consider that every condition is created for the traditional Romanian-French relations to steadily develop, in the interest of both peoples, of international detente and understanding.

Romania's relations are intensifying with the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Switzerland, the Northern countries and with other states of Europe.

Our country's links with Turkey are steadily developing. The forthcoming visit to our country of President Cevdet Sunay is looked forward to with satisfaction; this visit will undoubtedly contribute, just like the visit to Turkey of the President of the State Council Nicolae Ceaușescu, to expanding multilateral collaboration between the two countries.

In 1969, Romania's relations with countries on other continents continued to develop.

Romania's relations with the countries of Latin America have expanded and have good prospects. Fresh agreements have been concluded for economic and technical-scientific collaboration; government commissions have been set up and actions undertaken for long-term cooperation with Chile, Colombia and Venezuela, inclusive of the setting up of mixed societies for mining and oil exploitations.

The intensification of mutually advantageous links with states in Asia and Africa is a constant preoccupation of the Romanian government. Romania's relationship have made favourable progress with Japan, links with Pakistan have developed, and progress has also been made in the relations with the countries of Oceania. In Africa, contacts have been strengthened with the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Tanzania, Zambia and with other countries. Our people, that itself has known the vicissitudes of foreign domination, nurtures strong sympathetic feelings for the efforts of the peoples on those continents, for their progress and welfare, for the consolidation of their economic and political independence.

Within the framework of this policy, Romania resolutely supports the aspirations of the Arab peoples for their independent and democratic advancement on the road of economic and social progress.

The Romanian Government has always paid attention to the development of relations with the Arab countries. As is known, last year, some undesired moments intervened in Romania's relations with some Arab states, which in our opinion were generated by the fact that the stand of our country, which consistently acts for the promotion of relations with all the states of the world, was not fully understood.

The efforts made by the Romanian Government to surmount these moments have met with favourable response from the Arab states and led to the achievement of positive results.

We consider that possibilities exist at the present for the full normalisation of relations with all the Arab countries and their development in the interest of the Romanian people and of the Arab peoples, of the cause of peace. As far as the Romanian Government is concerned it is determined to do everything that depends on it in this respect for strengthening friendship between the Romanian and Arab peoples.

Comrade Deputies,

The accomplishment of European security is one of the major and constant preoccupations of the Romanian Communist Party and of our State. Peace and security in Europe has been for a long time a primordial demand of the peoples of the continent. For the Romanian people, that suffered tremendous human and material losses in the two world wars, the achievement of security in Europe is a vital question, a condition of the greatest importance for its peaceful labour, devoted to the building of the multilaterally developed socialist society.

Favourable conditions are shaping lately, for the question of European security to be brought from the sphere of the desiderata and declarations of intention to the sphere of practical actions.

It is a fact that in Europe the process of normalising inter-state relations is developing, as also that of rapprochement among peoples, of solving the outstanding problems by peaceful means. Government circles, influential political figures in a growing number of European countries show interest for the lessening of tension, for removing the barriers raised in the path of collaboration, for the identification of the paths for establishing a climate of detente, peace and good neighbourhood in Europe.

In the last few months political contacts and talks took place between representatives of the governments of the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany, of the Governments of Poland and the Federal Republic of Germany,

and recently the first meeting took place between the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic Willi Stoph and the Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany Willy Brandt, a further meeting at the same level also being agreed upon. The Romanian Government, which consistently speaks up for the solving of all international problems by means of contacts and negotiations, welcomes these talks. We express our hope that they will lead to positive results, on the line of normalising inter-European relations, the recognition and observance of the frontiers existing in Europe - the Oder-Neisse and the frontiers between the two German states included -, the recognition of the German Democratic Republic in compliance with the norms of international law, ensuring the participation of the two German states, on equal footing with the other states, in the debate and solving of European and world issues.

An active factor of this renewing process in the political life of our continent, Romania militated, by all the actions she undertook, for the building up of European security on a system of clear-cut commitments, without any ambiguity, assumed by all states, regardless of their economic, military, and human potential as well as of concrete measures that should generate confidence, full certitude for each state concerning its security, territorial integrity, the guarantee that it is sheltered from any danger of aggression or other acts of the use of or threat with force.

The implementation of security in Europe requires on the part of all the countries of the continent persevering, multi-form and convergent efforts, an active policy of developing mutual links. Considering that European security presupposes a steadily denser network of bi and multilateral relations between the countries of the continent, meant to serve their economic and social progress, the Romanian Government acts for the broad development of the political, economic, technical-scientific inter-European relations, for their firm grounding on the unanimously recognised principles

of international legality and ethics.

Proceeding from the ideas included in the Bucharest declaration, adopted in 1966 by the Warsaw Treaty member states by which important proposals were formulated concerning the strengthening of security and collaboration in Europe, inclusive of the initiative of convening an all-European conference, Romania has made her active contribution alongside of other socialist countries, to the drawing up of the Budapest Appeal and of the documents of the Prague meeting of the Foreign Affairs Ministers as well as to other joint actions meant to contribute to the establishment of security in Europe. The Romanian Government holds that the proposals formulated in the documents adopted at these meetings are a realistic basis for the preparation and holding of the conference of European states. It also understands to give proof of receptivity to any constructive proposal concerning the establishment of the agenda, as well as other aspects involved by the organisation of the conference.

It is the deep conviction of the Romanian Government that European security cannot be but joint work of all the states of the continent, that by its establishment all the countries of Europe should benefit in fully equal conditions.

In this spirit, the Romanian Government militates so that the implementation of European security, inclusive of the preparation and convocation of the conference, all states of Europe should participate directly without discrimination and exceptions as well as other interested states. In our concept, the preparation of the conference must not be limited to a restricted group of states or set in the pattern of from bloc to bloc relations, but on the contrary it is necessary that this process should lead to the overcoming of the present division of the continent in opposed military groupings, to the establishment of a climate of confidence and understanding among all the European countries.

The actions undertaken by our country, the top-level visits and meetings, the permanent contacts at other levels with the European countries, the useful exchanges of opinions held on these occasions resulted in appreciations and conclusions that converge to demonstrate the importance and topicality of channelling the general preoccupations on the path of practical and concrete achievements.

The numerous and difficult problems accumulated in Europe are not of course susceptible to be solved in a single stage, the accomplishment of security on the continent being a process of duration. A first conference could contribute to the establishment of an atmosphere of trust among the European states, to the creation of favourable conditions for a gradual approach and stage by stage solution, from simple to complex, of the outstanding problems.

Romania shows permanent concern for the establishment in the Balkan area of a climate of confidence, good-neighbourhood and fruitful cooperation.

It is well-known that in the past the Balkans were considered "the powder barrel of Europe", the field of confrontation of interests alien to the aspirations for friendship and peaceful collaboration of the peoples of this region. The old method of the imperialist powers of setting the peoples one against the other in order to dominate them, facilitated by the policy of the internal reactionary circles, that made themselves the instruments of the imperialist manoeuvres, affected for many years the inter-Balkan relations.

The Romanian Government considers that every effort must be made so that, by drawing the necessary lessons from the historical experience and acting in accordance with the vital interests of the Balkan peoples, truly normal relations, based on the principles of good neighbourliness be established in this area. This preoccupation is illustrated by the consistent efforts of our country to develop political, economic

and cultural relations with all the states of the region, by initiatives concerning multilateral Balkan collaboration, by the 1957 and 1959 proposals of the Romanian Government concerning the transformation of the Balkans into a zone of peace, without any nuclear weapons, proposals that are still most topical.

We are convinced that there are conditions for the improvement of mutual relations among the Balkan states, for the development of multilateral peaceful collaboration by the active contribution of all the countries in this area, in accordance with the interests of the Balkan peoples, of the cause of peace and security in Europe and in the world.

As shown by comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu, "our country will do everything also in the future to make its contribution for ensuring a climate of peace and security in Europe and in the world, will devote its efforts to the sustained promotion of international collaboration and cooperation in the interest of world civilization, of the progress of all the peoples and the whole of mankind".

Dear Comrades,

Our country attaches special importance to general disarmament and, first and foremost, to nuclear disarmament. Most important on this line are the banning of the use of nuclear weapons, the cessation of underground tests with such weapons, the creation of denuclearized zones through international agreements, accompanied by adequate guarantees, the cessation of production, and the reduction and liquidation of the stock-piles of nuclear weapons and of their delivery means.

As a member-state of the Geneva disarmament committee, Romania unabatedly militated, alongside of other socialist countries, of the other peace-loving countries, for the adoption and carrying through of concrete disarmament measures, meant to lead to the gradual reduction and, finally, to the definitive elimination of arms and of the armed force from

the sphere of international relations.

The carrying through of efficient disarmament measures is, in our opinion, the more necessary as the arms race shows increasingly serious proportions, the production of new types of arms and fighting means, both nuclear and classical ones, continues, and the negotiations on disarmament register only modest results. The burden of arming lies increasingly heavy on the living standard of the peoples, endangers international peace and security, threatens man and his accomplishments, achieved by hard work as a result of the endeavours of many generations. Arms continued to be used by the imperialist, reactionary circles as instruments of the policy of strength against the peoples' liberty and independence. This situation demands that every state actively participate, make increased efforts for the achievement of practical measures for the cessation of the arms race and for disarmament.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania considers that general disarmament alone is the radical path for the integral solving of the very difficult problems the arms race generates and feeds, for all the peoples' peace and security. The agreements concluded so far on collateral actions of disarmament, such as the Nuclear Weapons Non-Proliferation Treaty, recently ratified by our country, although aimed at limiting the development of atomic arming, do not include practical measures for the cessation of production, for the liquidation of the nuclear weapons stockpiles, do not provide the guarantee that the nuclear weapon will not be used in a possible war.

Fully aware of the responsibility incumbent on all states for the future of mankind, at the present session of the Geneva Disarmament Committee, our country has advanced proposals for the achievement of concrete disarmament measures. As you know, comrade deputies, our proposals refer to the freezing and reduction of the military budgets of all states; the assuming, by an international document having obligatory power

and universal vocation, of firm commitments of refraining from force or from the threat with the use of force, of non-interference, under any form or any circumstance, in the internal affairs of other states; the renouncing of military manoeuvres on the territory of other states, the banning of the creation of further military bases and of the location of further nuclear weapons on foreign territories, measures for the dismantling of the foreign military bases; the creation of denuclearized zones in various parts of the world, inclusive of the Balkan area; the working out of a programme of actions and measures of the disarmament decade; the ensuring of an adequate framework for the participation in the committee debates of all states wishing to express their stand in connection with the disarmament questions, the intensification of the rhythm of negotiations and the improvement of the activity, structure and working forms of the committee.

Convinced that, the efforts of all peace-loving states, of all the peoples, can lead to the materialization of the demand of vital importance represented by general disarmament, and first of all, by the banning and liquidation of nuclear weapons the Romanian Government will most resolutely militate henceforth too, for the attainment of this major desideratum of mankind.

Comrades,

The increased contribution of every state to the solving of international questions is a characteristic feature of contemporary political life. Naturally, we understand the special responsibility the big countries have internationally in the solving of the problems facing mankind. But it is an indisputable fact that today the world's major problems can be solved only in the conditions of the parti-

cipation and pooling of the efforts of all states, big or small. In the present epoch, each state, each nation is responsible for the establishment of a climate of detente, trust and cooperation among peoples, for the promotion of relations free of the spectre of force, for the negotiated settlement of disputes.

Voicing the unanimous feelings of the Romanian people, the Government speaks up for the undelayed cessation of the war in Vietnam, for the withdrawal of the troops of the United States of America from South Vietnam, for the cessation of any interference in the internal affairs of the Vietnamese people. We also maintain that the formation of a coalition government which should allow for the democratic and independent advancement of South Vietnam has to be ensured, for the peaceful solving of the conflict in Vietnam. The Romanian Government makes a point of affirming on this occasion too that our country will grant in the future as well its entire material, political and moral support to the heroic Vietnamese people in its righteous fight for the defence of its national being.

The appearance of new elements of tension in the South-East region of Asia arouses anxiety just as the intensification of the American bombing of the Laotian territory as well as the situation created in Cambodia following the recent coup d'etat, they complicate and aggravate the situation in the respective area, prejudice the people's liberation movement, their fight for the defence of the national liberty and independence.

The Romanian Government repeatedly considered that the continuation and the aggravation of tension in the Near East negatively affect the international situation, and maintain a serious hotbed of war, generate anxiety. The course of events in that area spotlights the fact that the intensification of military hostilities and repressions,

no matter wherefrom they come, aggravates tension and removes the prospects of solving the conflict further away, hamper the free and independent development of the respective peoples. Such actions can be advantageous only to the imperialist circles, which are interested in the maintenance and consolidation of their positions in that part of the world. It is in this spirit that the Romanian Government expressed its disapproval of the Israeli air attack on civilian objectives in the UAR and causing casualties among civilians. Romania considers that the November 1967 resolution of the Security Council provides a rational basis for the peaceful solving of the situation in the Near East. She speaks up for the withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories, the observance of the right of each and every state in that region to free existence and territorial integrity, for the solving of the Palestine refugees question, in keeping with their legitimate interests.

The agenda of international life still includes the task of definitive liquidation of colonialism and neo-colonialism. The Romanian people watches with sympathy and actively supports the irreversible process of the peoples' liberation from imperialist domination, of the consolidation of their political and economic independence. Romania condemns the racial discrimination practiced in South Africa and supports the righteous liberation fight of the peoples in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia and on other territories still under colonial oppression. Solidary with the Zimbabwe people, the Romanian Government resolutely condemns the illegal act of proclamation by the racist authorities of Salisbury of the so-called "Republic of Rhodesia" and declared that it did not recognize it.

Romania will militate in the future too for the unabated assertion and promotion of the inalienable and

imprescriptible right of the peoples to decide their own fate, their economic and social advancement path, to be masters of their own resources and use them to the benefit of their progress, of international cooperation and security.

Comrade deputies,

During the last quarter of a century, the weight carried by the activity of international organizations in the world arena has increased concomitantly with the development of the bilateral relations and contacts.

Romania attaches great significance to the international organizations, especially to the United Nations Organization, to their role in expanding inter-state cooperation, in the observance of international law, in the efforts for peace. Our country, a member of 41 international governmental organizations and of 268 non-governmental organizations, actively contributes, on this line too, to the development of inter-state cooperation.

This year occasions a summing-up of the activity carried on by the United Nations Organization during the 25-year period since its foundation. In order to meet the peoples' hopes and demands, it is necessary for the whole U.N. activity to be firmly based on the principles laid down in the Charter. These principles have universal vocation, they are binding in the relationship among all states of the world, without any restriction, condition or exception.

The Romanian Government considers that the United Nations Organization must faithfully reflect the realities of the contemporary world, must become truly universal. It speaks up for the restoration of the lawful rights to the People's Republic of China in the U.N., as well as in the other international organizations. In its opinion, the admission of the two German states to the U.N. would be on the line of strengthening international peace and security,

would have positive effects on the organization's activity.

Acting in the spirit of our foreign policy principles, the Romanian delegations to the 24th Session of the U.N. General Assembly and to other international meetings, actively promoted the stand of the Socialist Republic of Romania on the major international questions and participated in the elaboration of important resolutions directed towards the carrying through of the decolonization process, towards the expansion of political and economic cooperation among states. Romania's contribution was materialized also in the adoption of some resolutions referring to the education of youth in the spirit of respect for human rights and liberties, and its participation in the national development, to the improvement of public administration, for the requirements of development.

Continued were Romania's initiatives concerning industrial cooperation among the European states, the removal of obstacles and of discriminations barring the road of normal development of inter-european relations. Initiated were also actions of cooperation with international organizations in domains of primordial importance: informatics, operational research and the use of electronic computers in the development process.

Meetings and seminars arranged by the U.N. and specialized institutions, jointly with our country took place in Romania. Romanian representatives were elected to important functions in the United Nations Organization as well as in other international governmental organizations.

Comrade Deputies,

While approving the international activity carried on by the Romanian Government in 1969 we also approve the whole foreign policy of our state.

The central element of this policy will be in the

future too the friendship, the fraternal alliance and multi-lateral collaboration with all the socialist states. Our country will further militate for the expansion of contacts and the intensification of the exchanges of delegations at various levels, for the strengthening of the unity of the socialist countries. The Romanian Government will act in the future too for the development and diversification of economic collaboration and cooperation with countries in the membership of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, with all the socialist countries. It will pay attention to the development of the relations of collaboration on a military plane with the Warsaw Treaty member-states, with the armies of all the socialist states.

Romania will participate, alongside of the other socialist countries, in the efforts directed towards the promotion of normal relations of peaceful collaboration among all states of the world, towards the consolidation of trust and understanding among peoples.

At the same time, while consistently implementing the principled policy of our Party and State, the Romanian Government will develop relations of collaboration, on multiple planes, with all states of the world, irrespective of their social-political system. With this aim in view, measures will be taken for the identification of the most adequate forms of cooperation, in keeping with the specific feature of each country, in conditions of equality, on the basis of mutual respect and advantage.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania will act for the intensification of the relations of economic and political collaboration with the young states endeavouring for the consolidation of their independence, for a free and independent development, for the removal of all forms of neo-colonial exploitation.

Romania will further base her relations with all

countries of the world, on the unabated observance of the principles of national independence and sovereignty, equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage, the peoples' right to decide their own fate.

For the attainment of the major objectives of security and collaboration in Europe, Romania will work for the establishment on the continent of an atmosphere of detente and mutual understanding, for the solving of the existing problems and the full normalization of the inter-European relations. The Romanian Government will perseveringly act for the convening of the all-European conference on security and cooperation, will initiate new actions meant to ensure the direct and effective participation of the states on the continent to all the stages of the preparatory organization and holding of the conference, in the entire work of building security in Europe.

While continuing and developing its previous initiatives, our country will henceforth too attach special attention to the establishment of relations of peaceful collaboration and good neighbourhood among the countries of the Balkan Peninsula, will militate for the turning of the Balkan area into a zone free of nuclear weapons, in keeping with the vital interests and aspirations of the peoples of that region.

Considering disarmament as an essential component of security, Romania will resolutely speak up for the realization of practical steps towards general disarmament, first and foremost of nuclear disarmament, as well as for the implementation of partial or regional disarmament measures, the Balkan area included. Romania will continue to manifest initiative and spirit of responsibility within the Geneva Disarmament Committee and the United Nations Organization, so that the results of the disarmament nego-

tiations should meet the hopes and expectations of the peoples.

Our country will contribute to the activity of the international governmental and non-governmental organizations in the membership of which she is, for enhancing their role in the approach and solving of the great problems of contemporaneity through the active mobilization of the efforts of all the states of the world in the common work of expanding collaboration, of maintaining and consolidating peace.

Understanding to unite her efforts with those of the other peace-loving states, Romania will actively cooperate with all countries for seeking out and apply the most adequate peaceful ways and means for the solving of the outstanding questions, for the establishment of lasting relations of collaboration among peoples, based on the strict observance of the precepts of international ethics and legality.

The Romanian Government will militate for the thwarting of the aggressive actions of imperialism, for the extinction of the hotbeds of tension and conflict, for the elimination of any manifestation of interference in the internal affairs of other states, of using force or the threat with force in inter-state relationship.

Together with all the progressive and anti-imperialist forces, Romania will act for the definitive liquidation of any form of oppression and racial discrimination, for the ensuring of a free development of young states, in keeping with their national and social aspirations.

Expressing the feelings animating our whole people, comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the State Council, said: "We wish that our friends throughout the world, among all peoples, all those who endear progress, who endear peace,

should know that they have a reliable friend in the Romanian people which will do its utmost for the triumph of collaboration among peoples, of world peace".

The principledness and correctness of the foreign policy of our Party and State, confirmed by events, by life itself, are reflected in the resolute and permanent support of the entire people, which actively participates in the shaping and implementation of this policy. The masses' endorsement of the foreign policy is the expression of the conviction that the government's international activity is aimed at serving the present and future supreme interests of the country. Our people knows that if socialist Romania has won a dignified and respected place in the world, this is the historic merit of its tested leader - the Romanian Communist Party.

The prestige and respect enjoyed today by our country and leaders in the world prove Romania's contribution to the cause of peace and security, the wisdom and experience of a people determined to spare nothing for the defence of its revolutionary gains, for living in peace and good understanding with all peoples.

Fully aware of the lofty responsibility incumbent on it, giving expression to the people's unanimous will, the Romanian Government will promote in the future too a foreign policy put in the service of the interests of our socialist nation, of the cause of socialism and peace in the world.

Within the March 27 proceedings of the Plenary Meeting of the National Council of the Socialist Unity Front of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the text of the document "On European Security" was approved. The text of this document is reproduced here.

ON EUROPEAN SECURITY

In its plenary meeting of March 27, 1970, the National Council of the Socialist Unity Front has examined and approved the activity of its Executive Bureau in 1969, as well as the draft plan for international relations in 1970.

The National Council considers that one of the main problems facing today the European peoples is the establishment of security on our continent. Public opinion in Europe, ever more political and professional organizations, outstanding personalities of public life, cultural, artistic and other personalities, broad masses of the working people in all European countries increasingly share this conviction and consider that the undelayed establishment of a climate of peace, propitious for the development of many-sided cooperation among the European peoples is imperiously necessary. The solving of European security accounts for a most important stage in the promotion of peaceful coexistence among all the countries on our Planet.

The National Council highly values the actions undertaken on this line by the Romanian Communist Party and by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in the spirit of the 1966 Bucharest Meeting Declaration and of the Budapest Appeal of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

The National Council considers that the necessary conditions for the convening of an all-European Conference on security are developing more and more.

Convinced as it is that security is a common cause of all peoples, big or small, the National Council maintains that in the preliminary stages of the Conference and in the ensuing stages, the authorized representatives of the countries concerned must participate with fully equal rights, whether

they belong or not to military blocs or participate in other bi or multilateral arrangements. The Council is also convinced that both in the preliminary period and during the Conference proceedings all constructive proposals will be carefully examined, which will prove useful for the cause of understanding and security of the European states.

On the basis of the conclusions of the debates, and taking into account its programme targets and the necessity of making its contribution to the organization of the Conference aimed at establishing peace in Europe, the National Council of the Socialist Unity Front

- instructs the Executive Bureau to undertake action for the establishment and development of relations with kindred political bodies, with political parties, social, cultural and scientific organizations, with representatives of parliaments and personalities of all compartments of social life in the European countries that may be interested in preparations for a conference of European governments, dedicated to the solving of the European security problems;

- recommends the mass, public and professional organizations, the cultural and scientific unions in Socialist Unity Front membership to establish and to intensify their relations with the organizations, associations, civic, cultural and scientific unions in all European countries, that campaign or want to act for the mobilization of the broadest circles of public opinion, of parliaments and governments for the organization of a conference on European security.

The National Council of the Socialist Unity Front is fully convinced that the Romanian people will, in the future too, make its contribution to the promotion of cooperation among all countries, to the establishment of security in Europe, in the whole world.

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