

Annex 3 Draft

Joint Statement of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the SED, the State Council and the Ministerial Council of the GDR, on the results of the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Member States of the Warsaw Treaty on 28 and 29 May 1987 in Berlin

The Politburo of the CC of the SED, the State Council and the Ministerial Council of the GDR took note of the report of the delegation of the GDR on the Berlin Meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Member States of the Warsaw Treaty and expressed their full agreement with the results of the Berlin Meeting of the highest political body of the Warsaw Treaty. They thank the General Secretary of the CC of the SED and Head of the State Council of the GDR, Erich Honecker, for the work done by the delegation led by him.

On the basis of a comprehensive analysis of world developments, the allied socialist states have agreed on how to proceed and decided to take a number of important steps to put a stop to the arms race here on earth and to prevent it in outer space. Real results in the field of disarmament are possible and indispensable today, in order to create a stable and lasting foundation for peace and in order to free mankind from the nightmare of a nuclear disaster. The chances for achieving these have improved. They must be exploited resolutely without delay.

The conclusion of an agreement on the elimination of the American and Soviet intermediate-range missiles in Europe would be a breakthrough toward world-wide

disarmament. At the same time, it would open up the path to a Europe in which security, cooperation and understanding would predominate.

The results of the Berlin meeting are an encouragement for all forces of reason and realism. They provide room for the continuation of an active dialogue with all who are willing to contribute to peace. The deeply humanistic nature of the policy of socialism, as it began to unfold seven decades ago with the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, is revealing itself once again to the entire world.

With the document on military doctrine, the States of the Warsaw Treaty are underscoring the exclusively defensive nature of their alliance; at the same time, they thereby affirm the seriousness of their peace strategy. Their action is determined by the conviction that under the present circumstances, acceptable resolutions of contentious issues can only be reached in peaceful ways, by political means. The socialist states do not require any more or any less security than any other state. They therefore declare that they are maintaining their military strength only at a level that is absolutely necessary for maintaining the security of their peoples. The document is at the same time an open call to NATO for mutual restraint in the military sphere. It is an offer to strengthen the path of mutual confidence-building with perseverance and courage. The military doctrine of the Warsaw Treaty is in full agreement with the highest principle of the policy of our party and our state: to do everything so that war will never again proceed from German soil, but instead, only peace.

Further steps toward deepening the cooperation between the fraternal parties and states were discussed at the meeting. The GDR will, as always, do everything in its power to contribute to the implementation of the jointly agreed foreign policy. In this sense, it will

resolutely proceed together with the ČSSR with the initiatives to establish a nuclear-weapons-free corridor and a chemical-weapons-free zone in Central Europe.

The meeting was given particular weight through the participation of the General and First Secretaries of the fraternal parties in the events marking the 750th anniversary of Berlin. The leading representatives of the allied socialist states emphatically honored the historic changes that have taken place in the capital city of the GDR, the city of peace, and expressed their high appreciation for the realization of the complex measures of reconstruction that have shaped the capital of the socialist German state.

The Politburo, the State Council and the Ministerial Council are certain that the citizens of the GDR fully and completely agree with the resolutions of the Berlin meeting of the Political Consultative Committee and will continue in their daily work to fortify our state, and with it, peace and socialism.

[Translation from the German by Ursula Froese]