

## **Soviet Union/Support for the Baltic States**

This Congress,

- A. Stressing the commitment of liberals and democrats to the principles of freedom for all men and women;
  - B. Recalling that 50 years ago this month the peoples of the Baltic States were deprived of their freedom when Stalin, acting in accordance with his pact with Hitler, annexed Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;
  - C. Welcoming the fact that no Member State of the EC has ever granted de jure recognition to the results of this act of aggression;
  - D. Recalling the horrors of the Soviet occupation under Stalin which led to the murder or deportation of about a quarter of the population;
  - E. Stressing that the first free elections in the Baltic States since the 1930s have proved that the longing for independence is as strong as ever;
  - F. Praising the courage and restraint of the Baltic peoples in the peaceful methods they have used to further their cause and the recognition by their leaders that the human rights of non-Balts living in the Baltic states must be respected;
  - G. Recognising that the Soviet Union and other neighbours of the Baltic states have vital interests in the stability of, and in the security arrangements for, this area;
  - H. Welcoming the signs that growing numbers of Russians and other inhabitants of the Soviet Union recognise the justice of the claims of the Baltic peoples;
1. Calls on member Parties of the ELDR to make plain their support for the steady progress towards independence of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;
  2. Urges the Soviet Government to end its blockade of Lithuania forthwith as a prelude to negotiations;
  3. Calls on Member Parties, and their leaders in particular, to stress to representatives of the Soviet Union that the independence of the Baltic States would greatly promote the development of friendly and cooperative relations with the USSR which liberals and democrats in the EC greatly desire;
  4. Instructs its President to transmit this resolution to the leaders and Secretaries-General of all member parties to the Governments of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and to the Soviet Ambassador in Ireland;

### **Resolution:**

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5. Instructs its President to send this resolution to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and the Commission of the European Communities.

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