
Foreign Ministry Proposal to the HSWP Political Committee re: the Reform of the PCC

7 January 1970

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1/PJ – 1970 "A"

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PROPOSAL

submitted to the Politburo of the CC of the HSWP

Subject: The organizational improvement of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty

At the meeting of the foreign affairs ministers in Moscow I suggested to comrade Gromyko that we should examine together whether the time was ripe for the improvement of the foreign affairs work of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty, making it more organized. There were some signs that perhaps the Romanian comrade would also be more willing to accept such a proposal in the present situation. Comrade Gromyko and his colleagues dealt with this problem thoroughly. He asked for comrades Brezhnev's opinion in this matter while we were staying in Moscow, and his response was positive. We received an official response on January 5 in Budapest through the Soviet ambassador to Budapest. In it the Soviet comrades agree with our initiative and support the submission of such a proposal to the other member states of the Warsaw Treaty.

I suggest that we send the attached letter signed by comrade Kádár to the first secretaries of the sister parties. I further propose that the ministry of foreign affairs should be given authorization to take diplomatic steps towards the Romanian comrades – in the course of the preparations of the scheduled meeting of the Hungarian and the Romanian foreign affairs ministers – so that the proposal be received favorably.

Budapest, January 7, 1970

János Péter

Attachment: draft letter

[Translation by Andreas Bocz]