

## **Letter of the CC of the Romanian Communist Party Proposing the Improvement of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and the Democratization of its activity, 8 July 1988**

We make these propositions having in mind the changes going on in the international arena and the special emphasis placed by the socialist countries on the problems of disarmament, détente and cooperation in Europe and the whole world, and on the problems of creating conditions under which it may be possible to achieve the simultaneous disbandment of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. We believe it necessary that at its forthcoming meeting, the Political Consultative Committee discuss and adopt a number of measures for the reconstruction and improvement of the leadership of the Warsaw Pact.

The Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party makes the assessment that the current way of working in the PCC of the Warsaw pact member-states is one-sided; it is directed primarily towards the military problems, and the impression is created that the concerns of the leadership of our parties and countries are connected exclusively with these problems and have a predominantly military character.

Based on this analysis, the RCP CC wishes to consult with you on the following proposals, which it intends to put forward at the forthcoming meeting in Warsaw.

The restructuring of the Warsaw Pact PCC in view of the withdrawal from the direction, followed until now, towards military problems; and that a PCC of the European socialist countries that is not linked to the Warsaw Pact – which has purely military aims – but ensures multilateral cooperation of our parties and states in the political and military spheres be established... The PCC should direct its activity primarily toward the appraisal and discussion of substantive issues of the construction of socialism in our countries and their interaction, socio-economic development and the enhancement of the standard of living of our peoples, the strengthening of socialist democracy, forces of peace and socialism as a whole, and in this respect, toward ensuring the defensive capability of the socialist countries;

A Military Defense Committee to be set up as a military organ to the Treaty, composed of defense ministers from each member-state who will be obliged to report to the government and the Supreme Command of the respective country.

*[Source: Bulgarian Central State Archives, Fond 1b, Opis 35, a.e. 108-188. Summary by Vasil Yovchev]*