

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC
COOPERATION
PABSEC

THE THIRD PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Doc. CC (13) 216/94

RECOMMENDATION

3 /1994¹

on

the Ratification and Implementation of the Black
Sea Convention on Cooperation in the Fields of
Culture, Education, Science and Information

I. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

1. Emphasizes the importance of active and broad-scale cultural cooperation for the promotion of better understanding, mutual respect and tolerance among the peoples inhabiting the Black Sea region,
2. Notes with satisfaction the consistent expansion of bilateral and multilateral cultural ties among the Black Sea countries in the period following the signing on 25 June, 1992 of the Summit Declaration and the Bosphorus Statement which established the Black Sea Economic Cooperation,
3. Stresses the fundamental significance of the Black Sea Convention on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education, Science and Information which was signed on 6 March, 1993 by the Ministers of Culture of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine, and ushered in the process of the Black Sea Cultural Cooperation,
4. Expresses its firm belief that the Convention shall constitute a long-term legal framework for this cooperation and shall become a solid foundation for the conclusion in the future of other various bilateral and multilateral cultural agreements ,
5. Welcomes the Signatory States which have already ratified the Convention and thus have made a substantial contribution to the establishment of the legal basis of the Black Sea Cultural Cooperation,
6. Notes that the Convention's ratification and endorsement process carried out in accordance with national legislative procedures is still under way in most of the Signatory States,

¹The Assembly debate on 22 June.1994 (See Doc.CC (12)215/94 - Report of the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee on the Ratification and Implementation of the Black Sea Convention on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education, Science and Information, Rapporteur Mr. Rauf Ismailov)

Text adopted by the Assembly on 22 June,1994 in Bucharest

7. Reaffirms its determination to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the Black Sea Convention on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education, Science and Information as a vital tool for enhancing the human dimension of the Black Sea cooperation process,

II. The Assembly, therefore,

1. Calls on the national Parliaments:

- a. To expedite the ratification process of the Black Sea Convention on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education, Science and Information giving it a deserving priority on the parliamentary agendas and considering a possibility of its ratification before the Autumn Plenary Session of the General Assembly;
- b. To exercise efficient supervision over the implementation of the Convention especially in the cases where it has already been ratified, requesting and evaluating reports from concerned government ministries and agencies;
- c. To provide regular information on the ratification and supervision over the implementation of the Convention to the Assembly;
- d. To provide information through their available means and by using the mass media, to broad public in their countries in order to increase the public awareness and appreciation of the Black Sea Cultural Cooperation based on the regional historical and cultural heritage and common values.

2. Recommends the Governments of the signatory Participating States and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC):

- a. To expedite the endorsement of the Convention by governments in the countries where, in accordance with the national legislative procedures, no parliamentary ratification is needed; provide for the expeditious processing of the Convention's ratification instruments by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the signatory Participating States and the instruments' deposition with the Depository State;
- b. To support and encourage the ongoing and future projects carried out within the framework of the Black Sea Convention on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education, Science and Information;
- c. To create conditions for the maximum involvement in the Black Sea cultural cooperation process, along with the national Ministries of Culture and other government agencies, of all kinds of voluntary and non-government organisations, artists' and writers' associations, sports, youth and children's organisations, private foundations, etc. in order to broaden and diversify the cultural contacts among the peoples living in the Black Sea region;
- d. To facilitate the activities of the Coordination Council established in accordance with the provisions of the Convention in order to oversee and coordinate its implementation.

3. Requests the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee to remain seized of the matter and regularly review the progress in the ratification and implementation of the Convention starting with the Autumn Meeting of the Committee.