

PRIME MINISTER

Paper on the Future of the European Community

You told Chancellor Kohl that we would produce a paper on the various ideas which you and he put forward for the future development of the Community. *in its relations with the outside world*

I should like to get officials working on this but would be grateful for any guidance.

No  
/  
Yes

Do you want this to be produced quickly in order to influence Chancellor Kohl and perhaps others before the Brussels Summit? Or do you want it to be produced later in the year so that you and he can discuss it when he comes to Chequers?

Do you have any particular ideas on the substance - or would you prefer to see a draft first?

We could, if you wished, try to deal with:-

- a) The European contribution through NATO to the defence of the West. *and how we suffer because of those who do not have their proper share of the burden*
- b) Increasing the links between the Community and other democracies across the world. *in any share*
- c) Using the Community to strengthen links with Eastern Europe.
- d) ~~Preserving~~ *or developing* essential technologies in Europe.

e) *A full appreciation A.S.C. of U.S. interests (she looks east, west & south) and her need for staunch support*

f) *Possible role in Middle East*

g) *Foreign Policy consequence of strategic trade routes & sources of raw materials.*

1 March 1984





File BF 288  
cc Ch Exch Spue

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 March 1984

PAPER ON THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

As you will recall (my letter of 28 February), the Prime Minister told Chancellor Kohl that we would produce a paper on the future of the European Community.

I have discussed this further with the Prime Minister. Mrs. Thatcher does not envisage the paper being produced in time to influence our European partners before the Brussels Summit. She regards it as a longer term exercise and would like the paper to be produced later in the year so that she and Chancellor Kohl can discuss it when he visits Chequers on a date to be arranged.

The Prime Minister envisages the paper concentrating primarily on the future of the Community in its relations with the outside world. Among the matters with which she thinks it should deal are:-

- (a) The European contribution through NATO to the defence of the West (this section should bring out clearly the burden of the defence contribution undertaken by the United Kingdom in contrast to those who do not undertake what might be regarded as their proper contribution or, indeed, do not contribute at all);
- (b) Increasing the links between the Community and democracies across the world;
- (c) Using the Community to strengthen links with Eastern Europe;
- (d) Preserving and developing essential technologies in Europe;
- (e) The relationship between the Community and the United States (this section should contain an assessment of United States global interests and preoccupations, illustrating the extent to which American interests in the trans-Atlantic relationship are balanced or counteracted by her interests to the West and South);

/ (f) NR

- (f) The relevance to the Community of strategic trade routes and sources of raw materials;
- (g) A possible role for the Community in the Middle East.

I should emphasise that the above represents merely the Prime Minister's preliminary thoughts. I am sure that Mrs. Thatcher would wish you to feel free to include other material and to treat the above subjects in such a way as to suggest a coherent policy for the future of the Community's external relations.

E. J. COLES

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office.