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# THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

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EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY • EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY • EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY

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STATEMENT BY WALTER HALLSTEIN, PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION  
OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE ROME TREATY

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 25 -- Following is a statement by Professor Walter Hallstein, President of the Executive branch of the Common Market, marking the tenth anniversary today of the signing of the Rome Treaty creating the six-nation European Economic Community.

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"Today Europe celebrates the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome and the birthday of the European Economic Community. In these ten years the landscape of world politics has changed sufficiently to prompt the question of whether the aims and methods written into the treaties of integration still hold good. The answer is an unqualified "yes." Only the securely knit and independent Europe that is made possible by the Community can assume responsibility and maintain its individual character.

"It was the intention of those who created the European Economic Community that it should be the core and vanguard of an all-European community. Wherever freedom and human rights are cherished in the West and in the East, the peoples of Europe are summoned to collaborate in the task of unification. The Community embodies no Europe of fear: it is not an instrument of the cold war, but the Europe of confidence; it reflects not the Europe of Yalta, but a Europe in re-unification; it is not a Europe of poverty, but the Europe of economic and technical progress.

"The Community is moving along the road indicated by the Treaty of Rome. Economic integration is not yet complete; the aim is to build a Common Market of continental scale and to merge the economies of the six Community countries in one great European economy. However, important progress has been made on both scores: the most striking decisions have been those by which the customs union and the agricultural policy are to be established on July 1, 1968. Economic union, by the fact of its existence, provides the member states with an inducement to reach agreement in the other areas of political union, such as non-economic foreign and defense policy, and it makes such agreement easier. Because of a Community constitution, it is possible to find a balanced solution for Europe, even where vital national interests are at stake, which is, in the long run, to the advantage of all.

"The unification of Europe is directed neither against the Soviet Union nor against the United States, but it is in the interests of both. The establishment of a Community order in Europe may accomplish what cannot be achieved by a bipolar system of world powers or by a Balkanized

Europe. It may rid Europe by peaceful means of the dangers inherent in frontiers and eliminate the storm center of Europe from which two world wars have sprung. This would provide a solid foundation for confident cooperation or partnership with the rest of the world.

"The policy of unifying Europe is, in its objectives and in its methods, as correct and as necessary today as it was in 1950 and in 1957. Ten years of progress along the road opened by the European Economic Community have made it clear that provided there are no faint hearts or weak wills, the goal of European self-determination can be reached.

"There is no alternative."

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