

H. Res. 390

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

November 5, 2003.

Whereas for more than a half century transatlantic policy cooperation and coordination have been essential for the preservation of peace and freedom in Europe, have enabled the development of free and prosperous economies, and helped restore stability and unity in the Euro-Atlantic area;

Whereas a central goal of United States policy toward Europe remains that the development of a Europe united, free, strong, and at peace is in the best interests of the United States and Europe so long as the United States and Europe continue to work as partners, not rivals or counterweights;

Whereas the central pillar of the United States partnership with Europe remains a strong and cohesive Atlantic Alliance;

Whereas the United States and the European community are aware of their shared responsibility, not only to further transatlantic security, but to address other common interests such as environmental protection, poverty reduction, combatting international crime and promoting human rights, and to work together to meet those transnational challenges which affect the well-being of all;

Whereas in recognition of the threats posed by global terrorism, terrorist states, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the nexus of the three, the partnership should be expanded progressively from a transatlantic community of values to an effective transatlantic community of action by developing a collaborative strategy and action plan for dealing with those challenges of mutual interest and concern;

Whereas no policy disagreement, such as the dispute with respect to Iraq, should be allowed to significantly disrupt transatlantic relations nor cause any member of the Euro-Atlantic community to choose between partners;

Whereas a renewed commitment to strengthen the partnership through increased cooperation, communication, consultation and information-exchange is required to achieve our common goals, which will continue to ensure peace and prosperity between the United States and Europe;

Whereas Congress has played a constructive role in this cooperative approach to partnership with Europe through mechanisms such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly, the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly which have for years brought together legislators of both the United States and Europe for discussions of issues of common interest in order to further transatlantic understanding and partnership at the parliamentary level; and

Whereas the House of Representatives welcomes and congratulates the newest member nations invited to join NATO and the European Union and looks forward to broader dialogue through their participation in these

transatlantic parliamentary organizations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) affirms the conviction of the United States that, despite the occasional differences and difficulties, the underlying ties which have historically bound the people of the United States and of Europe remain strong;

(2) accepts the indivisibility of transatlantic security which provides an indispensable link between North America and Europe;

(3) recognizes that both the United States and Europe face new challenges at home and abroad and must strengthen and adapt the transatlantic partnership to effectively meet these challenges;

(4) acknowledges that in order to strengthen the transatlantic partnership there must be a renewed commitment to regular and intensive consultation, information exchange and dialogue between the United States Government and the governments of Europe and the European Union; and

(5) commits on its part to continue to improve the transatlantic partnership by enhancing the communication between the United States Congress and the legislatures of Europe through the formal frameworks of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

and various other formal and informal inter-parliamentary organizations.

Attest:

Clerk.