



Final Communiqué of the meeting

Building the future: Towards a Culture of Peace

Greece-Turkey ** Turkey-Greece**

UNESCO House, Paris, France, 13 May 1998

We, the participants invited to the meeting "Building the future: Towards a culture of peace - Greece-Turkey **** Turkey-Greece" by UNESCO held at its Headquarters on 12-13 May 1998, came together in our personal capacities as citizens and journalists, fully cognisant of the necessity to promote a culture of peace, to discuss how we can contribute as professionals to the improvement of the communication, mutual understanding, free and independent circulation of information between our two countries and accurate coverage of events related to Greek-Turkish relations without having the ambition to solve bilateral problems, old or new.

Upon broad deliberations, the following proposals were made :

1. Exchange of articles, editorials, etc. in each others newspapers concerning a wide range of subjects of common interest with a view to further a better mutual understanding;
2. Establishment of a network for the exchange of information through different means of communication including the Internet which could be particularly useful in periods of crisis in order to report accurately on the events;
3. Exchange of internships for young journalists;
4. Elaboration and implementation of joint media projects (joint articles, talk shows, editorials, etc).
5. Support for joint projects in other areas such as education and culture.
6. Creation of a permanent procedure to monitor the coverage of events of mutual concern, established on a voluntary basis and open to other journalists from either of the two countries who are willing to participate. It will meet as often as possible and report on the ways events are covered from the point of view of language and substance.

We also recommend that UNESCO organize a follow-up meeting, if possible before the end of 1998, to examine the progress on the implementation of the above-mentioned proposals. UNESCO will establish a permanent secretariat to prepare the next meeting, to create the network and to support initiatives taken by the participants of this meeting, and if necessary to establish the partnerships.

This information is provided by

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