

BALTIC ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION

ON IMPROVING THE TEACHING OF HISTORY

The Baltic Assembly,

recalling the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, concluded on 23 August 1939, and its secret protocols as a result of which Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania lost their independence in 1940;

emphasising that the nations of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania fought against the occupation and annexation by the Soviet Union in various ways, seeking to restore the independence of their States and that on 13 January 1983 the European Parliament adopted the Resolution on the Situation in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania which endorsed the requests of the Memorandum of 45 nationals of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania made public in 1979;

recognising the importance of these dates for the history of resistance of the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian nations;

proposing to the parliamentarians of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to solemnly commemorate in 2002 the fifteenth anniversary of the public statements supporting independence of 23 August 1987, in 2003 the twentieth anniversary of the 13 January 1983 European Parliament Resolution on the Situation in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania of, and in 2004 the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 23 August 1979 Memorandum of 45 nationals of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;

noting that educational institutions have a special mission in forming the historical consciousness of the younger generation,

calls on the educational institutions of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, historians and teachers of history to take due regard of the co-operation of the Baltic States during the years of resistance and the importance of the liberation movement in the spirit of the 1975 Helsinki Summit which contributed to the rebirth of the three States and brought the Baltic nations to the Singing Revolution and the Baltic Way.

Vilnius, 25 May 2002