

**WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION
(WVF)**



23RD MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

CETINJE (MONTENEGRO), 16-19 JUNE 2014

RECOMMENDATIONS

WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION
6, rue du Docteur Finlay, 75015 Paris – France
Tél. : (+33) 1.40.72.61.00. Fax : (+33) 1.40.72.80.58.
E-mail : wvf@wvf-fmac.org Internet : <http://www.wvf-fmac.org>

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Recommendation 1

70th ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The 23rd Standing Committee on European Affairs,

- 1. Recalling** Resolution 7 concerning the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, adopted by the 27th General Assembly of the WVF held in Jordan on 18-22 November 2012
- 2. Recalling** the approach of the 70th anniversary of victory in the Second World War, and that sufficient time should be taken to formally celebrate this important date;
- 3. Noting** that this anniversary is an event of great importance for the peoples and states of the whole world, as this victory saved humanity from the horrors of fascism and opened the way for peaceful development and the wellbeing of peoples;
- 4. Calling on** all countries to have organisations and committees set up comprising representatives of state institutions and public, patriotic and youth organisations and movements, which should be responsible for putting in place a large scale plan of action to prepare the celebration of this jubilee;
- 5. Recommends** that all veterans' associations of the WVF make themselves promoters and initiators of this celebration and ensure a large media coverage for all related events.

Recommendation 2

“CHARTER OF RIGHTS FOR DISABLED ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL”

The Standing Committee on European Affairs,

- 1. Taking into account** the abundant legislation adopted all over the world concerning moral and material benefits awarded to disabled armed forces personnel*;
- 2. Conscious** of the difficulty of harmonising the above mentioned legislation on a global scale due to the great diversity of national realities,
- 3. Considers,** despite the global financial and economic crisis, that it would be particularly useful to create a universal charter setting out the basic rights of disabled armed forces personnel, as a priority, to protect and defend these vulnerable groups;
- 4. Believes** that the creation of such a charter would be beneficial to the implementation of a global principle of moral and material benefits awarded to disabled armed forces personnel.
- 5. Urges** countries where there are WVF member associations to work in a collaborative way to create this “Charter of Rights for Disabled Armed Forces Personnel”;

* *“Armed Forces Personnel” includes serving and ex-service men and women*

Recommendation 3

**PROTECTING BENEFITS PROVIDED TO VETERANS
DURING THE ECONOMIC CRISIS**

The Standing Committee on European Affairs,

- 1. Acknowledging** that the consequences of the economic crisis affecting the whole world (Europe in particular), but especially the countries with the weakest economies, who have been subject to severe programmes of austerity, which have had a negative impact on the quality of life of veterans in these countries, seriously affecting their pensions, and medical and social support;
- 2. Noting** that the reduction of public budgets in these countries mostly impacts on pensions and pensioners, which is the situation in which the majority of veterans find themselves;
- 3. Considering** that the provision of health care for veterans has suffered cuts and reductions in state support;
- 4. Requests** that the WVF take action with the governments of its member countries to ensure that the annual budget considerations have no impact on the provisions for veterans, especially on their pensions and on other support programmes;
- 5. Recommends** that all prescription medicines, medical services, prosthetics, wheelchairs, etc. be provided in priority and without cost to veterans who need them.
- 6. Also recommends** that protection in terms of medical, social and psychological support should even be delegated by governments to veterans' associations and institutions according to the specific programmes offered by those associations, taking into account the unequivocal demonstration of an infrastructure capable of ensuring such support and outcomes.