

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

RECOMMENDATION No. R (92) 12

## OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS TO MEMBER STATES

### ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 21 September 1992  
at the 480th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Considering that as a result of migration flows during recent decades, substantial populations of different national or ethnic origins from those of the host society, and who initially came as temporary migrants, have now settled down permanently in most of the member states of the Council of Europe;

Convinced, therefore, that the integration of lawfully resident migrants and populations of immigrant origin must be an important objective of government policy;

Convinced that governments have a vital part to play, in co-operation with regional and local authorities and non-governmental organisations, especially immigrant associations and solidarity organisations, in creating the conditions for good community relations;

Considering that the Council of Europe has carried out a comprehensive multidisciplinary project on community relations;

Having regard to the final report of the community relations project entitled "Community and ethnic relations in Europe";

Having regard to the resolution adopted at the 4th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Migration Affairs.

Recommends that governments of member states adopt explicit policies on community relations questions and ensure that they are put into practice across the whole range of government action, it being understood that such policies should be based on the following principles:

1. security of residence for lawful migrants, especially those who have lived in the host country for many years;
2. determined action to bring about real equality of opportunity, especially in the fields of training, employment and housing, and to combat all forms of discrimination;
3. the taking of effective measures to combat racism and xenophobia, including both well-designed measures in the field of information and education and the enactment of appropriate legislation;
4. the encouragement of the fullest possible participation of migrants and persons of immigrant origin in the life of the society of the country in which they live;
5. an attitude of openness towards the cultures and customs brought by migrants in so far as they are compatible with national law.