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Rumania-Czechoslovakia: The treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between Rumania and Czechoslovakia was renewed during the state visit to Prague on 15-17 August of Rumanian party and state chief Ceausescu.

Renewal of the treaty--the first Rumania has renewed with a Warsaw Pact state--highlights both Bucharest's strong public support of the Dubcek regime and the increasing similarity of interests between the two countries. The treaty emphasizes equality and sovereignty, which the two sides assert should be one of the bases for "principled" relations. It also pledges "collaboration" in all fields, calls for consultation "on all important problems related to their interests," and provides binding commitments in the event either is the victim of armed attack.

The accord parallels other recently renewed treaties between Warsaw Pact members by referring to the 1955 Warsaw Treaty and pledging mutual aid against "imperialist, militarist, and revanchist forces." However, the treaty notably does not mention any threat posed by West Germany, with which Rumania has diplomatic ties.

Ceausescu's visit to Prague one week after that of Yugoslav President Tito has revived talk of a restoration of the old Little Entente between Rumania, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia. Like Tito, Ceausescu ruled out any such formal arrangement in the foreseeable future. In answer to a reporter's question, Ceausescu said that "Rumania is not for three-sided or four-sided meetings and is of the opinion that all socialist countries must work out their common goals together."

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