

News Release

C-SPAN

Tenth Anniversary

1979-1989

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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C-SPAN BROADENING WORLDWIDE SCOPE FOR THE 1990s

Network Seeks to Observe and Compare World's Legislatures

Washington, D.C., April 3 -- C-SPAN, the public affairs network known for televising the U.S. Congress, is widening its coverage to include other nation's legislatures in the 1990s.

The network's coverage of the European Parliament in April follows its weekly U.S. airing of the British House of Commons begun last fall.

C-SPAN Chairman and CEO Brian Lamb said he hopes to televise the German, French, Israeli, Hungarian, Polish and Soviet legislatures to U.S. viewers as soon as possible. Arrangements to air those lawmaking bodies on C-SPAN are still in the beginning stages, Lamb said.

"I want to keep moving the network forward in its efforts to show our audience other governments and cultures so that we can compare our own system with others around the world," said Lamb, whose network has televised the U.S. Congress live since 1979. "I'm fascinated with the idea of showing many other governments and issues, so we can all learn more about the world."

Since the mid-1980s, C-SPAN has been occasionally airing proceedings from the Canadian House of Commons when debates are of interest to U.S. viewers. The network's first live telecast of the British House of Commons on Nov. 21, 1989, coincided with that body's historic first day of television coverage.

Although the network has shown some taped proceedings from the West German Bundestag and British House of Lords, its telecast of the European Parliament marks C-SPAN's first live coverage of a legislature on the European continent.

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C-SPAN VISITS EUROPE FOR LIVE COVERAGE OF HISTORIC CHANGES

Focus on European Parliament, EC '92 and German Elections

Washington, D.C., March 6 -- C-SPAN will air live programs from France and Germany in April as the network looks at Western Europe's development into a single economy and the issue of German reunification.

The special network programming begins April 3, 4 and 5 from the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France. The 518-member legislative body is considering final steps to merge the EC's 12 member-nations into one economy by 1992.

Live parliamentary coverage will air daily from 8 am to 9:30 am ET and include interviews with journalists and EC officials, said C-SPAN Programming Director Terry Murphy. Highlights of the week's coverage of the European Parliament will air Saturday, April 8 at 1 pm ET, Murphy added.

On April 11, 12 and 13, C-SPAN will telecast live programs from Berlin, West Germany, daily from 8 am to 9:30 am ET. Berlin highlights will air Saturday, April 15 at 1 pm ET.

Featured Berlin coverage will include call-in programs, person-on-the-street interviews and discussions with journalists and government officials about German reunification and its impact on other countries. Germany's national elections this spring will also be a focus of discussion.

"As a public affairs network, C-SPAN looks for the long-term impact of important events," Murphy said. "Now that the world has seen the German people dancing in the streets and smashing the Berlin Wall with hammers on television news, we want to examine the effects these developments will have in Eastern and Western Europe."

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