

EXTRACTS FROM A SPEECH MADE BY ENERGY COMMISSIONER GUIDO BRUNNER
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"The new American non-proliferation act with its often obscure formulations is certainly not a good example of good law-making technique. It is also politically not very clever to wave the prospect of a uranium supply embargo in the face of close allies. Public opinion in the European Community and also the governments concerned have understandably reacted sharply.

Now it is a question of limiting the damage as much as possible. The Commission of the European Communities can contribute to this by announcing their readiness to talk to the Americans. In this way an embargo on uranium exports could be avoided. We should not forget that the European Community must for the next few years continue to take up to fifty percent of its enriched uranium, and up to one hundred percent of its highly enriched uranium from the United States.

The indication of our readiness to talk cannot however be made without conditions. We cannot negotiate under pressure. We are not ready to enter substantial negotiations either before the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) talks are concluded. These will take at least another two years.

I hope that an answer by the Commission to the Americans along these lines will be made possible at the meeting of the heads of government in Copenhagen."