

# European Community

## News Release

PRESIDENT THORN URGES SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES  
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES

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Gaston E. Thorn, President of the Commission of the European Communities, has appealed for a quick end to the dispute between the Community and the United States.

Speaking to the Council of Foreign Affairs in Chicago on 27 September, Mr. Thorn stated that the consequences of failing to reach an agreement in the steel crisis by 15 October would be considerable. "We need a settlement which represents to both sides a fair deal. The basis of a solution has been sketched out. We need it quickly".

"We need it even more because a settlement on this question would be a signal to the world that we are able to go beyond rhetoric and tackle the other disputes dividing the alliance. We have had enough so far of the dynamic of disagreement. What we need now is the dynamic of agreement", he affirmed.

President Thorn, speaking on the theme 'Trouble in the Family', said that the dispute between the Community and the United States had developed to the point where charges, countercharges and recriminations were threatening the relationship.

"President Kennedy once said, 'A rising tide lifts all boats'. But the opposite can happen. In our case, we are not far from the mud at the bottom of the harbour".

President Thorn expressed the hope that the GATT ministerial in November could mark the end of the disputes between the Community and the United States. He called for deeper and more timely consultations between the two alliance partners in order to prevent misunderstandings.

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 **Delegation of the Commission  
of the European Communities**  
Press and Information Service