

# EUROMEMO

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*Recent Developments in the European Community*

June 1991

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**European summit holds seeds of a common foreign policy.....**the European Community's uncoordinated political response to the Gulf crisis earlier this year earned the Community severe criticism from the international media and even from EC Commission President Jacques Delors. But detractors were not treated to a repeat performance at the onset of the Yugoslavia crisis, which coincided with the recent Luxembourg European Council. EC Heads of State and Government quickly dispatched a troika of foreign ministers to mediate in the situation. Meanwhile in Luxembourg, the summit reviewed a draft EC Treaty which would redefine the European Community's competences as laid down by the Rome treaties in 1957, and discussed progress toward completion of the 1992 single market. The summiters also took a commitment to ensure adoption of all the necessary Community legislation by the end of 1991. **The Final Communiqué of the June 28-29 Luxembourg European Council** also reviewed progress on the extension of 750 million ECU in food aid to the Soviet Union, and announced the opening of negotiations on the European Energy Charter in Brussels on July 15. In addition, the Communiqué's conclusions refer to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, relations with the United States, Canada and Japan and the developing world. Declarations on the Middle East, South Africa, human rights, arms exports and on emergency aid are included in the Communiqué.

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**Women now in foreground of a changing Europe.....**when Margaret Thatcher was elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom more than a decade ago, it was quite a novelty in Europe. In 1991, it is almost commonplace -- Ireland has its first woman president, Mary Robinson, and France, its first woman Prime Minister, Edith Cresson. **The July/August edition of EUROPE**, the magazine of the European Community, examines the origins and effects of this trend that extends well beyond the borders of the Community to Iceland and Norway, where women hold the highest political offices. EUROPE also presents a preview of the upcoming Western Economic (G-7) Summit taking place in London this month and looks at the controversial question of aid to the Soviet Union, which will be highlighted by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting there with the G-7 leaders. EUROPE presents the views of key American and European decision-makers on both sides of this controversial question. This issue's featured EC member state is the United Kingdom, which is quickly shedding its image as anti-Brussels under the government of Prime Minister John Major. EUROPE invites comments from its readers new and old. It is published ten times a year for an annual subscription fee of \$19.95. (Sample copies are available).

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**The ABC of Community Law....**the legal order created by the European Community has become a permanent feature of political reality in the 12 EC member states. Each year, on the basis of the Treaties which established the Community in 1958, thousands of decisions are taken which aim at the creation of "an organized and vital Europe" and "an ever closer union of peoples". A new brochure, **The ABC of Community Law**, explains the structure of the Community and the supporting pillars of the European legal order. Individual chapters focus on the "constitution" of the European Community, the Community as a legal reality, and the position of Community Law in relation to the legal order as a whole. The brochure also discusses cooperation and conflict between national and EC law, direct applicability and primacy of Community law.

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**The ECU Report...** with the intergovernmental conference on economic and monetary union (EMU) now entering its decisive stage, the European Community is coming closer to laying the foundations for a single currency based on the European Currency Unit. A new book entitled "**The ECU Report**" (May 1991) explains in 8 substantial chapters the key economic questions which surround the proposal for a single European Community currency. These include the gains in efficiency and growth, the benefits of stable prices, public spending and budgets, the impact outside Europe. Each concept and term is explained in full making it an excellent handbook on the economic implications of the possible choices ahead for member states of the European Community. Based on an earlier report "One Market, One Money", prepared for the Commission in October 1990, this new report includes a foreword by EC Commission President Jacques Delors and Commission Vice President for Economic and Financial Affairs Henning Christophersen. A summary of report is available. "**The ECU Report**" is available from Unipub, tel. 1-800-274-4888, for \$14.00 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling.

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**The European Community and Japan.....**on his recent visit to Japan, EC Commission President Jacques Delors said that "business cooperation (between Japan and its international trading partners) is not just in our interest; it is our duty if we are serious about wanting to contribute to the new world order". In a **speech to the European Business Community in Tokyo**, the President welcomed the beginning of the opening up of the Japanese market, particularly at the macroeconomic and sectoral levels. But he added that many structural obstacles remain. Unlike the European Community, which expects to have a frontier-free market in place by end 1992, the distribution system in Japan is an effective trade barrier. Pointing out that Japanese investment in the Community is 17 times that of EC investment in Japan, Delors asked if the Japanese strategy is sustainable and called for improved Community access to the Japanese market, particularly in the area of high technology products.

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**Consumers stand to gain from the 1992 single market....**the removal of trade barriers between EC countries by 1993 will result in greater competition, lower prices and a wider range of goods for the EC's 340 million consumers. Their confidence is necessary to the success of the single market in the long-term. To inform EC consumers and protect them against harmful goods, the EC has been developing a Community-wide set of policies since 1987. A new brochure entitled **Consumer Policy in the Internal Market** traces the

development of consumer protection policy in the EC and describes what has been achieved so far, and what the Commission still aims to do in its new 3-year action-plan presented in mid-1990. The booklet includes a foreword by Karel van Miert, the EC Commissioner responsible for promotion of consumer interests.

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**A more united Europe by 2000.....**public support for the European Community is now at a record high among the majority of Europeans who feel that by 2000, the EC will have a single currency, more member states, a common military force and free movement for all. These findings appear in a recent opinion poll carried out by Eurobarometer (Number 35). Seventy-two percent of EC citizens consider membership in the Community "a good thing"; 60 percent welcome the idea of a European citizenship; and 60 percent support the introduction of a single currency. On security and defense matters, 62 percent say the EC should be responsible for common security and defense policy. The surveys for Eurobarometer are carried out in all 12 member states using random-sampling, followed up by telephone and person-to-person interviews.

Recent Press Releases issued during May/June 1991 (in chronological order):

MAY

...UPDATE ON EC AID TO THE KURDS  
...EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IS READY TO NEGOTIATE AIRBUS QUESTIONS  
...EC REVISES ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT 1990/1991  
...1991/1992 AGRICULTURAL PRICE PACKAGE ADOPTED  
...EC LEADS IN AID CONTRIBUTIONS TO IRAQI REFUGEES

JUNE

...EC REACTS TO US-JAPAN AGREEMENT ON SEMICONDUCTORS  
...EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO MEET WITH US CONGRESS AND BUSINESS LEADERS  
...VICE PRESIDENT BANGEMANN TO VISIT U.S.  
...US-EC JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON STANDARDS  
...EUROPEAN LEADERS TO MEET ON JUNE 28-29; 1992 PROCESS ENTERS HOME-RUN  
...EC FOREIGN POLICY LEADERS TO MEET SECRETARY BAKER