

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (0-68/76)

with debate pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules
of Procedure

by the European Conservative Group

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject : Extension of fishing zones of Community
Member States and preservation of fish
stocks within the Community's proposed
200-mile exclusive economic zone

Concern is increasingly being expressed at the danger that Community waters are being over-fished by ships of the Member States and of third countries. The Community's present policy on the control of fishing by zones or quotas appears unlikely to resolve the problem and may lead to unnecessary conflict between Member-States. In view of this, will the Commission state :

1. Whether it will consider a more flexible approach towards national fishery limits - either by extending the 12-mile national limits to 50 miles or by allowing for a limit of 35 miles in specified areas ?

PE 46.261

2. What compensation it will offer to those Member States whose interests are most vulnerable if a rigid limit of 12 miles is imposed ?
3. Whether a Community system of policing will be established for the proposed 200-miles Community zone, given that the burden of policing will fall inequally upon Member States ?
4. Whether a modification of the Treaty is intended in order to maintain existing fishery limits indefinitely, after 1982, in the interests of preserving stocks ?
5. Whether all Member States accept the principle of quotas. If so, how will they be enforced and by whom ?
6. Whether it will bring forward proposals for the strict licensing of all vessels fishing within the proposed 200-mile economic zone ?