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## E.C. SURVEYS SHOW SUPPORT FOR A UNITED EUROPE

Citizens of the member states of the European Community have consistently supported the concept of a united Europe over the past decade, according to a recent analysis of E.C. opinion polls.

"It is clear that, since the founding of the European Community, a European spirit has begun to grow up amongst its inhabitants," concludes Europe as Seen by Europeans: Ten Years of European Polling, 1973-1983, a booklet published by the Commission of the European Communities. It cites these examples:

--Each year since 1973, a majority of Europeans (from 54 percent to 68 percent) have said membership in the European Community is a "good thing." Among the six founding members -- Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West Germany -- support reached a high of 75 percent in 1974.

--Almost 60 percent of those surveyed in 1975 favored replacing national currencies with a single European currency.

--About three-fourths of those interviewed in 1981 backed the idea of a Community passport.

--In a 1983 survey, 71 percent said combined action through the Community could more effectively fight unemployment than independent action by national governments.

--Almost half of the respondents in 1978 and 1981 surveys said they would be willing to pay more taxes or make some other sacrifice to help another Community country experiencing economic difficulties. (On the other hand, less than 30 percent said they were prepared to make such a sacrifice to bring about the unification of Europe.)

Europe as Seen by Europeans also reports on European views toward

the future, political causes, other peoples and the planned entry of Spain and Portugal to the Community. Surveys found that:

--In 1982, Europeans were most hopeful about scientific and technological developments and most afraid of a rise in crime and terrorism.

--World peace was the only cause in 1982 that a majority said it would support, even if it involved some risk.

--Between 1976 and 1980, Europeans increased their trust in Americans, the Swiss and the Chinese, but became more suspicious of Russians.

Europe as Seen by Europeans: Ten Years of European Polling, 1973-1983 is available free from the European Community Information Service, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 707, Washington D.C. 20037; (202) 862-9500.