

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1978 - 1979

14 December 1978

DOCUMENT 532/78

ORAL QUESTION (0-92/78)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

by Mr VITALE, Mr SPINELLI, Mr MASCAGNI, Mr SANDRI and Mr PISTILLO

to the Commission of the European Community

Subject: Calabria

- Considering that at the time, the Commission delivered an opinion against the building of an iron and steel plant in Calabria because of the crisis in this sector, as a result of which the Italian Government abandoned its pledges to tackle employment needs in that region which has the lowest per capita income of the entire Community and the highest unemployment rate;
- Considering that this unfavourable opinion, which was not accompanied by any alternative proposals, has been partly instrumental in increasing the imbalance between Calabria and the other regions of the Community, and that this has created dramatic problems leading to mass demonstrations against both the Italian Government and the Community institutions, which are held jointly responsible for the extremely serious decline of that region which has been hard hit both by the Community's industrial and its agricultural policy;

Does the Commission not think that after showing such severity towards the poorest region of the Community, it should now take with the Italian Government and regional authorities appropriate steps to respond - this time in a positive way - to the Calabrian people's job and income needs, by adopting a new approach to regional policy, using the Regional Fund to attract the industries which are economically best suited to that region, while at the same time making appropriate changes to the common agricultural policy so that effective structural measures can be taken, based on a concept of development as a unified process, in order to set up complete agro-industrial cycles as a basis for comprehensive economic development in the Calabrian region, and enable Calabria to achieve its full economic potential?