

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (O-99/78)

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

by Mr ALBERS, Mr SEEFELD, Mr HOFFMANN, Mr DELMOTTE and Mr KAVANAGH

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Inland waterways

The European Bargees' Organization (ESO - 7,000 members) has given notice of strike action if the Netherlands Government refuses to make the voluntary North-South rota system into a statutory arrangement.

1. Can the Commission indicate whether or not a statutory rota system for transport between the Member States is incompatible with the EEC Treaty?
2. Does the existence of a statutory rota system in the Netherlands, France and Belgium constitute a violation of the Community's rules of competition?

3. Has the Commission noted the ESO's proposal that the strike should be prevented by setting up a consultative body?
4. Is it prepared to assist in setting up a consultative body by offering its good offices in the present difficult situation?