

# European Communities

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## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (0-89/77)

without debate pursuant to Rule 46 of the Rules  
of Procedure

by Mr FUCHS

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Road haulage tax in Austria

Reports that the Government of the Federal Republic of Austria intends to bring in a heavy road haulage tax from 1 July 1978 have caused considerable disquiet within the Community's road haulage industry. This is because it is to be feared that, as a form of transit tax, it will still further seriously impair the competitiveness and the economic situation of transport undertakings in the European Community, especially those in the Federal Republic of Germany.

1. Does the Commission have any further details of the intentions of the Federal Government of Austria?

2. What effects may the planned transit tax be expected to have on the road haulage industry of the EEC, especially that of the Federal Republic of Germany?
3. Should the need arise, what measures does the Commission intend to take to prevent harmful effects on economic relations between the EEC and Austria and to uphold the competitiveness of the transport undertakings of the EEC, restricted as it already is by the heavy burden of taxation, for example in the Federal Republic of Germany?
4. In particular will the Commission open negotiations with the Federal Government of Austria with a view to arriving at a satisfactory settlement of this matter?