

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1978 - 1979

31 August 1978

DOCUMENT 286/78

ORAL QUESTION (0-43/78)

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

by Mr DONDELINGER

on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Protection of the purchasing power of frontier workers

In its answers to several written questions¹ and one oral question² the Commission has stated that it has no

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- No. 226/69 by Mr Califice (OJ No. C 133, 18.10.1969, p.4)
 - No. 391/69 by Mr Richarts (OJ No. C 24, 27.2.1970, p.2)
 - No. 320/73 by Mr Bousch (OJ No. C 106, 6.12.1973, p.19)
 - No. 425/75 by Mr Bordu (OJ No. C 292, 20.12.1975)
 - No. 581/76 by Mr Ansart (OJ No. C 27, 3.2.1977)
 - No. 630/76 by Mrs Iotti (OJ No. C 27, 3.2.1977)
 - No. 798/76 by Mr Giraud (OJ No. C 127, 31.5.1977)
 - No. 306/77 by Mr Van der Hek and Mr Albers (OJ No. C 214, 7.9.1977)
 - No. 721/77 by Mr Bangemann (OJ No. C 88, 11.4.1978)

- ² European Parliament Debates, No. 211 (January 1977), p.39

intention of recommending measures to remedy the unfavourable effects of fluctuations in exchange rates, for example through a compensatory mechanism.

The European Communities publication entitled 'The incidence of fluctuations in the rates of exchange on the calculation and payment of social security benefits for migrant workers'¹, specifically states that the losses suffered by any group of migrant workers must be regarded as a personal risk arising from the freedom to choose employment within the Community and that there is accordingly no reason for this extra financial burden to be assumed by the Community.

Nevertheless, certain national delegations felt that it would be expedient to seek a solution to this problem on a Community basis by drawing on the resources of the European Social Fund.

Does not the Commission consider that this situation is an injustice to persons who are in no way to blame for the effects of fluctuating exchange rates, contrary to the objective set out in Article 2 of the Treaty of Rome of promoting 'an accelerated raising of the standard of living', and that the Commission should seek ways and means of eliminating all forms of injustice?

¹ V/1120/177, October 1977