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ORAL QUESTION (0-118/78)

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

by Mr GRANELLI, Mr VERNASCHI, Mr BERSANI, Mr BRUGGER, Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI, Mr FIORET, Mr LIGIOS, Mr MARTINELLI, Mr NOE', Mr PISONI, Mr PUCCI, Mr RIPAMONTI, Mr RIZ and Mr SCELBA

to the Foreign Ministers of the nine Member States of the European Community meeting in Political Cooperation

Subject: Participation by Community Heads of State in international summit meetings

The increasingly frequent and official organization of international summit meetings on varying scales but always at the highest level, sometimes convened by certain Heads of State of the European Community and not attended by representatives of all the other Member States, is weakening the political cohesion of the Community and undermining the action taken to develop the Community's external relations in the context of political cooperation between the Foreign Ministers and also at the level of the Community Institutions.

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We therefore ask:

1. What action it is proposed to take to promote prior consultations on matters of joint interest when a summit conference is convened by decision of the Head of a Member State of the Community, and to ensure, in the context of political cooperation and to the fullest possible extent, that an authoritative position can be put forward on such matters, on behalf of the EEC, in all other international forums?
2. What action is considered opportune to develop, through an autonomous decision of the EEC, a permanent dialogue between the Community and all other states on matters of general interest with a view to contributing, through the action of the existing institutional bodies, to a favourable solution to outstanding problems?