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ORAL QUESTION (0-109/81)

with debate pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure
by Mr SCHWENCKE

on behalf of the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education,
Information and Sport

to the Council of the European Communities

Subject: Mutual recognition of diplomas and certificates

Pursuant to the EEC Treaty, the Council is obliged
'to lay the foundations of an ever closer union among
the peoples of Europe ...' and '... to ensure the
economic and social progress of their countries by
common action ...', as stated in the Preamble, and
to 'issue directives for the mutual recognition of
diplomas (and) certificates ...', as stated in the
first paragraph of Article 57.

Regrettably, the Council has by no means adequately
fulfilled its obligations in this respect. Twenty-five
years after the signature of the EEC Treaty, the extent
of mutual recognition by Member States of diplomas and
university degrees is very limited, while neither the
right of establishment nor the freedom to provide
services (Articles 48 and 49 of the EEC Treaty) are
fully guaranteed.

Given these facts, can the Council state:

1. What directives for the mutual recognition of 'diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications' has it issued, and, where it has not been able to do so, which of the Member State governments were responsible?
2. What directives (pursuant to Article 57 of the EEC Treaty) are currently in force in the European Community, and to what extent are they demonstrably successful in making it easier to 'take up and pursue activities as self-employed persons', in particular in the case of the 'medical and allied and pharmaceutical professions' (Article 57(3) of the EEC Treaty)?
3. What measures does the Council intend to take in order to fulfil its obligations under the Treaty, including those concerning the recognition of non-academic certificates, and how soon does it intend to act?