

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1 9 8 3 - 1 9 8 4

4 July 1983

DOCUMENT 1-490/83

ORAL QUESTIONS

pursuant to Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME on 5 and 6 July 1983

1. Question by Mr. NORMANTON (H-749/82) (x)

Subject : The Lebanon

The European Community has consistently called for the total evacuation of all foreign forces from the Lebanon, recognising that both Israeli and Syrian troops are in the Lebanon against the wishes of the legitimate government of that country.

The EEC has a number of cooperation agreements with third countries, including with Israel and Syria, both of these agreements being identical.

Can the Council of Ministers give an assurance that the Community at all times adopts an even-handed approach when dealing with these two States engaging in the Lebanon conflict, and that this has applied and will continue to apply in particular to the two cooperation agreements and their financial protocol.

28.1.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

2. Question by Mr. ADAM (H-83/83)^(x)

Subject : Civil service inertia

In its statement on internal market problems to the European Council Meeting in Brussels (22/23 March 1983) the Commission concluded that the lack of progress was caused by "civil service inertia".

How far does the Council concur with this view ?

12.4.83

3. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-153/83)^(x)

Subject : Questions on activities of COREPER

In view of the fact that the Council has agreed that a delegation of the Political Committee of Parliament should meet members of COREPER, will the Council extend the Parliamentary accountability of COREPER so that the Presidency will in future answer questions by Members on the activities of COREPER ?

17.5.1983

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

4. Question by Mr KALOYANNIS (H-158/83) (x)

Subject: Censorship of speech, democratic dialogue and the press by the Greek Government by means of the mass media

Last week in Greece, the government controlled television network refused to allow the leader of the official opposition, Mr Evangelos Averof, to appear and state his party's opinions on Greek issues of general interest. Moreover, the same week, the government controlled radio station in its programme 'Review of the Press' grossly distorted the leader of the newspaper Kathimerini which read 'Disagreement between ministers Arsenis and Varfis on EEC memorandum' (in the radio broadcast the following headline only was given: 'Disagreement on EEC memorandum'). The subheading which said that the Prime Minister had refused to accept the resignation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs was also left out. Does the Council intend to seek an explanation from the Greek Government or, at least, from its minister responsible and inform the European Parliament on the matters referred to above?

18.5.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

5. Question by Mr. MARSHALL (H-837/82)

Subject : Full diplomatic recognition of Israel by Greece

In view of the Association Agreement between the Community and Israel does the Council not agree that it is appropriate that Greece should accord Israel full diplomatic recognition ?

4.3.83

6. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-25/83)

Subject : Economic relations between Europe and Israel

Following publication of the report by the Committee of Inquiry in Israel and now that peace negotiations between Israel and Lebanon seem to be moving ahead, does the Council intend, as it should, to normalize economic relations with Israel in respect both of trade relations and of the financial aid which has been frozen since June 1982 ?

10.3.83

7. Question by Mr. MORELAND (H-86/83)

Subject : Draft Directive of lorry weights and dimensions

When does the Council envisage adopting the proposals on lorry weights and dimensions ?

14.4.83

8. Question by Mr ISRAEL (H-155/83)

Subject: Setting-up of a monetary guarantee fund

What would the Council's response be if the Commission were to propose the setting-up of a guarantee fund designed to maintain a stable dollar rate in Europe by means of effective intervention on the foreign exchange markets?

17.5.83

9. Question by Mr BONDE (H-217/83)

Subject: Majority decisions in questions considered to be of vital importance by one of the Member States

In its pamphlet 'Samtidsorientering' (information about contemporary life), the Commission of the European Communities informs Danish schoolchildren that the Community's Member States have agreed NOT to apply majority decisions in questions which are considered to be of vital importance by only one of the Member States.

Does the Council share this view?

3.6.1983

10. Question by Mr O'DONNELL (H-199/83)

Subject : European Regional Development Fund

What are the reasons for the delay in approving the new guidelines for the E.R.D.F., and when is a decision likely to be reached ?

7.06.1983

11. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-206/83)

Subject: Second financial protocol with Israel

Is the Council considering any change in the position it adopted at its meeting in Luxembourg in June 1982 on suspension of the second financial protocol with Israel and postponement of the meeting between the Community and Israel at ministerial level, and are there any negotiations in progress that might result in a change in that position?

9.6.83

12. Question by Mr. ROGALLA (H-127/83) (X)

Subject: Checks at internal frontiers

Can the Council state what position has been reached in the deliberations on the Commission's proposal for a resolution on the simplification of checks at internal frontiers and, in so doing, indicate the main subjects of contention, say which national delegations have expressed what reservations and state what procedures have been or remain to be completed (at negotiating, expert, COREPER, Council level, etc.) and when will the negotiations as a whole be completed ?

8.6.1983

(X) Former written question No. 600/83, converted into a question for question time

13. Question by Mr PAPAEFSTRATIOU (H-221/83)

Subject: EEC citizens' right to vote in the Member State
in which they are resident

In view of the forthcoming elections to the European Parliament in 1984 and having regard to the principle of the freedom of movement for citizens of the Community within the Member States, what action does the Council intend to take to enable citizens to vote who are resident in a Member State different from their state of origin? Is the Council aware that the delay in taking a decision on this matter constitutes an important obstacle to progress as regards the freedom of movement laid down in the Treaties?

10.6.1983

14. Question by Mr EISMA (H-222/83)

Subject: Part-time working in the European institutions

According to the answer to my written questions 1422/82 and 1423/82¹, only about 1.8% of staff are working part-time in the Community institutions.

The Council has moreover rejected a proposal to introduce 75%-time working.

Given the consensus that the redistribution of work should be encouraged, not least by promoting part-time work, does the Council agree with me that it is setting a bad example and what steps is it considering in order to improve matters?

10.6.1983

¹OJ C 29, 3 February 1982, p. 14

15. Question by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (H-224/83)

Subject: Residence permits for Italian workers in Germany

Can the Council say whether the decision by certain regional governments in Germany (this has occurred in the region of Nuremberg in particular) to grant only a three-month extension to unemployed Italian workers applying for the renewal of their residence permits, is consistent with the principle of the free movement of workers in the countries of the European Community?

10.6.1983

16. Question by Mr ALAVANOS (H-240/83)

Subject: The problem of Greek dried grape production

With the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council amending Regulation (EEC) No. 516/77, the Commission is in essence depriving Greek dried grape producers of acquired rights, abolishing state-organized concentration and intervention prices, imposing production quotas, etc. What measures does the Council intend to take in response to the Commission's proposals, which affect the rights of Greek producers?

20.6.1983

17. Question by Mr EPHREMIDIS (H-241/83)

Subject: Worsening trade balance between Greece and the EEC

In the first two years after Greece's accession (1981 and 1982), the Greece-EEC trade balance deteriorated by a figure many times greater than that of Greece's net profit from financing by the Community budget.

What measures does the Council intend to take to tackle this worsening trade balance between Greece and the EEC?

20.6.1983

18. Question by Mrs HAMMERICH (H-248/83)

Subject: Nordic Passport Union

Will the Council assure the Danish electorate that the Nordic Passport Union will continue undiminished and unaltered?

21.6.1983

19. Question by Mr PEARCE (H-251/83)

Subject : Public meetings of the Council

In view of the increased influence that the Council has acquired over the years at the expense of the Commission, will it now consider having its meetings held in public and, if not, what arguments for this refusal can it advance which would hold water in a modern, free and democratic society ?

22.6.1983

20. Question by Mrs VAN HEMELDONCK (H-253/83)

Subject: Regulation of waste transport within the EEC

At their meeting of 16 June 1983, did the Environment Ministers instruct the COREPER to draft a regulation on this problem; if so, when will the Council adopt this regulation? Has the Council decided to accept the European Parliament's resolution of 8 June 1983 on the transfrontier shipment of hazardous wastes inter alia as regards compulsory permits from all the countries concerned?

22.6.1983

QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TEN MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION

21. Question by Mrs EWING (H-520/82) (x)

Subject : The repression of trade unionists in South Africa

Will the Foreign Ministers condemn the South African regime's increasingly brutal repression of trade unionists in that country?

5.11.82

22. Question by Mr KALOYANNIS (H-173/83) (x)

Subject: Threat by Turkish Cypriot leader Mr Denktas to proclaim independent state in occupied northern section of Cyprus

As is known, Cyprus, as a sovereign state with a single recognized government, has had links of cooperation with the EEC for years. However, since the recent United Nations resolution, which was completely objective but unfavourable to the Turkish side, Mr Denktas, with Members of Parliament from the Turkish Community, is now threatening to proclaim the northern section of Cyprus, which is occupied by Turkish troops, a separate state, and to make the Turkish pound legal tender in that area. In view of the fact that if these threats are carried out it will, apart from anything else create complications in the cooperation agreement between Cyprus (under the official Cypriot Government) and the European Community, as well as provoking a dangerous upheaval in the S.E. Mediterranean, can the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation state what steps they propose to take to prevent such occurrences?

25.5.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

23. Question by Mr BONDE (H-180/83)

Subject : The Commission's role in EPC

Will the Foreign Ministers confirm that the Genscher-Colombo Plan, in its present form as an official declaration, does not in any way extend Commission participation in European political co-operation beyond what was decided in the London declaration of 1981, and, if so, does this mean that:

- the Commission may only take part as an observer
- the Commission may only put forward proposals in areas covered by the provisions of the Treaty of Rome
- the Commission may not, without specific authorization from the Council, incur expenditure for foreign policy or security policy purposes
- the Commission may not take part in meetings where purely EPC matters are to be discussed ?

18.5.83

24. Question by Mr BØGH (H-182/83)

Subject : EPC and the Council of Ministers

Will the Foreign Ministers explain what steps will be taken at future meetings of the Council of Ministers, the European Council, COREPER and working parties to ensure that EPC matters

- do not appear on the same agenda as matters coming under the Treaties
- are not discussed together with Treaty matters
- are not prepared together with Treaty matters
- are not financed in whole or in part out of the EC budget?

18.5.83

25. Question by Mrs HAMMERICH (H-184/83)

Subject : Economic aspects of security policy

Will the Foreign Ministers give a specific and detailed account of how the concept of 'the political and economic aspects of security policy' differs from other aspects of security and military policy, and will the Foreign Ministers confirm, in particular, that the following matters fall outside the economic and political aspects of security :

- arms production
- the arms trade
- the establishment of an arms agency
- matters dealt with in NATO
- matters which may affect Irish neutrality
- studies of defence problems
- nuclear missile deployment
- civil defence
- coastal surveillance?

18.05.1983

26. Question by Mr HABSBERG (H-176/83)

Subject: Situation in the Baltic states

Are the Foreign Ministers meeting in EPC aware that the general human rights situation in the Baltic states has in recent times palpably worsened, as for instance the Swedish Foreign Minister, Lennart Bodström, was forced to conclude, are they aware of the sentence imposed on three members of the Estonian Helsinki Group and do they share the view that it would be incumbent on the Community, as a signatory of the Helsinki Final Act, to take action on this matter, in accordance with the European Parliament resolution of 13 January 1983¹?

26.5.1983

¹OJ No. C 42 of 14.2.1983, p. 74

27. Question by Mr BETTIZA (H-177/83)

Subject: Withdrawal of foreign forces from the Lebanon

A short time ago, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, Elias SALEM, visited the Community capitals in an attempt to persuade the governments of the Ten to use their influence over Syria to secure the withdrawal of that country's forces from the occupied territories, as an essential precondition for the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over the entire national territory; what action has been taken on this initiative by the Foreign Ministers meeting in Political Cooperation?

27.5.1983

28. Question by Mr LEZZI (H-193/83)

Subject: African Security Conference

The Italian Foreign Minister has recently revived the proposal for an 'African Security Conference' which, as happened in Europe with the Helsinki Final Act, would, with the modifications necessary to take account of the actual situation in Africa, enable specific measures to be taken to preserve the security of African countries and to develop fruitful cooperation.

What action do the Foreign Ministers of the Ten Member States meeting in political cooperation plan to take to implement the Italian Minister's proposal?

6.06.1983

29. Question by Mrs PRUVOT (H-195/83)

Subject: Boat people

What effective action do the Ministers believe is possible at European level to ensure that the Boat people, who have already suffered great hardship tribulation, find permanent homes?

7.6.83

30. Question by Mr KYRKOS (H-197/83)

Subject : Statements by Mr Denktash on the proclamation of
an independent Turkish Cypriot State

Do the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation intend to take precautionary measures in the face of the repeated threats made by the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Denktash, to the effect that he will proclaim an independent Turkish Cypriot State in Cyprus? If not, what would be the measure of their responsibility should Mr Denktash carry out his threat?

7.6.83

31. Question by Mr. PENDERS (H-198/83)

Subject : Action on Parliament's resolution on Middle East

Following the Foreign Ministers' answer to my question H-34/83 (1), will they state what specific decisions they have taken in regard to Lebanon on

- the stationing in Beirut and other parts of the country of an international peace force in which the EEC Member States would participate, possibly to replace UNIFIL;
- the disbanding of the militias;
- the re-establishment of an effective Lebanese police force and Lebanese armed forces ?

What offer has been made of Member State contingents for a peace-keeping force, possibly under UN auspices ?

7.06.1983

(1) Provisional edition of Debates, 18.05.1983, p.215

32. Question by Mr LAGAKOS (H-202/83)

Subject: Threats by Mr Denktash to proclaim and 'independent Turkish Cypriot State'

In view of the fact that the Greek Government has sent a letter to the EEC on the threats by Mr Denktash to proclaim an independent Turkish Cypriot State, can the Foreign Ministers explain what their position is in response to these threats, particularly in the light of the recent decision on the Cyprus question adopted by the UN General Assembly?

7.6.83

33. Question by Mr DENIS (H-211/83)

Subject: South African aggression against Mozambique

In view of the renewed violent attacks on Mozambique by the apartheid regime in South Africa, in which a number of children and civilians lost their lives, do the Foreign Ministers not consider that it is now time to take concerted and effective action against the Pretoria regime, as called for in the resolutions adopted by the ACP/EEC Joint Committee in Kingston, Rome and Harare?

10.6.1983

34. Question by Mrs DURY (H-236/83)

Subject: United States embargo on sugar purchases from Nicaragua

Since the United States has imposed an embargo on sugar purchases from Nicaragua, can the Foreign Ministers indicate whether measures are being envisaged to assist the latter country?

16.6.1983

35. Question by Mr ALAVANOS (H-239/83)

Subject: Support for Evren's military junta in Turkey

At the recent UN General Assembly, seven of the ten Member States of the EEC refused to support the resolution tabled by the non-aligned countries on the solution of the Cyprus problem, which was adopted by a large majority of the member countries of the UN.

Do not the Foreign Ministers think that this position is tantamount to indirect but clear approval of Turkish military intervention in Cyprus and, furthermore, a policy of support for the junta of Evren together with the economic and other aid already provided by the EEC and NATO and bilateral agreements? And, having regard to the whole-hearted support given to the United Kingdom in the colonial matter of the Falklands, how do they justify their refusal to support the just international Cypriot cause, thus showing, moreover, complete indifference for the keen legitimate interest of Greece, a Member State of the EEC?

20.6.1983

36. Question by Mr EPHREMIDIS (H-242/83)

Subject: Soviet Union proposal for nuclear disarmament throughout Europe

Given that, in the event of a nuclear conflict, Europe and its peoples, who have already witnessed and suffered from two world wars, will be the first to be subjected to its catastrophic effects, what is the position of the Foreign Ministers towards the new peace proposal put forward by the Soviet Union for nuclear disarmament throughout Europe so that the peoples of Europe may be delivered once and for all from the nightmare of a nuclear holocaust?

20.6.1983

37. Question by Mr ADAMOU (H-243/83)

Subject: Safety of N. Kianouri

The European Parliament's resolution on the sending of a Red Cross delegation to Iran (Doc. 1-418/83) calls on the Council to take steps to secure the safety of Mr N. Kianouri and others detained with him.

What measures do the Foreign Ministers intend to take in this direction?

20.6.1983

38. Question by Mrs SCAMARONI (H-604/82) (x)

Subject: Globalization of aid to the Third World

Will the 'globalization' of aid to the Third World referred to in the memorandum simply involve the regrouping of various development measures or will it involve changes in the terms of reference of the Commission and Parliament linked with new arrangements for negotiations with the developing countries?

14.12.82

39.

Question by Mr. LALOR (H-677/82) (x)

Subject : Inflation and employment

Can the Commission explain why, despite the underlying trend of falling inflation in the Community, the rising unemployment rate is expected to continue and what new action does it propose to tackle this problem ?

4.1.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

* (x)

40. Question by Mr. HOPPER (H-82/83)

Subject : Subsidies granted by British Airports Authority

Will the Commission inform the House what steps it has taken to investigate the subsidies granted by the British Airports Authority to Stanstead Airport, in accordance with the undertaking given by Mr. Contogeorgis to Parliament during the December part-session ?

11.02.1983

* Former oral question without debate (O-175/82), converted into a question for question time

41. Question by Mr. MORELAND (H-55/83) (x)

Subject : Information Technology

Could the Commission give an undertaking that it will use its own purchasing, and encourage Member States purchasing procedures, to strengthen the competitive capability of the truly European Information Technology and industry in the short term, as well as developing long term initiatives such as the ESPRIT programmes ?

25.03.1983

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

42. Question by Mr MOUCHEL (H-72/83) (x)

Subject: Difficulties in trade in cattle and meat sector products
between Greece and its Community partners

Since January 1981 the Greek authorities have imposed a very much reduced profit margin on their cattle and meat dealers and have also been strictly controlling the granting of foreign exchange.

The combined effect of these two measures has been seriously to disrupt exports from Community countries to Greece in the cattle and meat sector and to put the Greek importer in a very precarious situation.

What is more, the Greek authorities have recently imposed stamp duty equal to 3.6% on imports of cattle and meat sector products, which is tantamount to an import tax.

Could the European Commission indicate what measures have been taken to get these obstacles to free trade abolished?

6.4.83

43. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-130/83) (x)

Subject : Controls on imports into the EEC of cut flowers from third
countries

Large quantities of the cut flowers imported at low prices onto the French market, particularly from the Netherlands which accounts for 90% of French imports, actually come from outside the Community, e.g. from Latin America.

In view of the difficulties facing the horticultural industry, particularly in the Mediterranean regions, can the Commission indicate whether current Community regulations allow for controls on the origin of cut flowers imported into the EEC and whether it will take the necessary steps to rectify the distortions of competition and the deflection of trade caused by these imports, which have serious consequences for producers ?

3.5.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

44. Question by Mr ENRIGHT (H-138/83)^(x)

Subject: Sale and control of seeds

Is the Commission aware that EEC Regulations concerning the sale and control of seeds are totally inappropriate in respect of the different climatic conditions; discriminate in favour of large firms and against small specialist firms and smallholders; prohibit, for no good reason whatsoever, the growing of successful varieties of garden vegetables by individual households in Leeds; have failed to consider the effects of these Regulations on UK vegetable growers, professional or amateur, in the context of the negotiations for enlargement of the EEC?

6.5.83

45. Question by Mr ISRAEL (H-154/83)^(x)

Subject: Creation of a monetary guarantee fund

Does the Commission intend to propose that a European Guarantee Fund be created in an attempt to maintain a stable European exchange rate against the dollar by effective intervention in the exchange markets?

17.5.83

46. Question by Mrs NEBOUT (H-157/83)^(x)

Subject: Transparency of state aid in the textile and clothing sector

Can the Commission state whether it has drawn up a list of state aid and interventions in the textile and clothing sector and, if not, when it intends to do so since transparency of aid is a precondition for any Community industrial strategy?

18.5.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

47. Question by Mr PINTAT (H-171/83) (x)

Subject: Duty-free imports of petroleum products

Can the Commission confirm that the quotas for duty-free imports of refined petroleum products from outside the Community have been flagrantly exceeded without the corresponding taxes being levied: in the event of this practice become established other than to safeguard supplies in exceptional circumstances, would it not be proper to consider such duty-free purchases as prejudicial to the continuing existence of an independent and competitive European refining industry?

25.5.83

(x) Priority by reason of being carried over from preceding Question Time pursuant to the President's decision of 14.12.76

48. Question by Mrs EWING (H-113/83)

Subject : Commission's inaction on a European Parliamentary Report

In view of Commissioner Tugendhat's categorical assurance that the Commission supported the proposals for an Agricultural Development Programme in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland; having regard to the British Government's promise to study Commission proposals attentively, and bearing in mind Commissioner Dalsager's assurance that such proposals could be finalised within a matter of weeks; will the Commission convince the European Parliament that it is justified in regarding the pursuit of a European Parliamentary Resolution as a waste of time ?

25.4.83

49. Question by Mrs LE ROUX (H-141/83)

Subject: Fall in the price of pigmeat

In its report on the state of the agricultural markets in the first quarter of 1983, the Commission acknowledges that since 1 January 1983 the price for slaughtered pigs has fallen to only 79% of the basic price. This drop, which is even greater in France as a result of monetary compensatory amounts, is catastrophic for producers. In a few weeks they will lose a year's income and their debt burden, which is already too high, will become unbearable.

Despite the gravity of the situation, the Commission merely notes that 'there seems little chance of improvement in the market in the next few months'. This passivity is quite unacceptable as the Commission is partly responsible for this state of affairs! EAGGF expenditure on pigmeat in 1982 was 27.8% lower than in 1981.

Why does the Commission not take speedy steps to halt this trend and safeguard the earnings of producers (dismantling of MCAs, market support measures, import restrictions)?

6.5.83

50. Question by Mr. BALFE (H-149/83)

Subject : Equal Pay Directive No 117/75 (1)

Is the Commission aware of the new draft order to implement equal pay for work of equal value, has HMG consulted the Commission regarding its adequacy in terms of the Equal Pay Directive No 117/75 and what is the view of the Commission regarding the draft order's conformity with the Directive and in terms of improving the chances for women in Britain to pursue their right to equal pay for work of equal value?

16.05.1983

(1) O.J. No L 45 of 19.2.1975, p. 19

51. Question by Mr GALLAND (H-152/83)

Subject: Implementation of Article 947

The new Article 947, headed 'Energy aid to developing countries', provides for the installation in those countries of photovoltaic solar-powered water pumps.

Can the Commission state what procedure is being followed to implement this measure effectively and to ascertain the needs of the countries involved; whether the developing countries concerned (particularly those in equatorial areas) have been informed of this new possible source of Community aid; whether preliminary studies have been carried out or are in progress, taking account of the environment, climatology and infrastructure and, if so, in what countries and at what locations?

17.5.83

52. Question by Mr BONDE (H-179/83)

Subject : The Commission's role in EPC

Will the Commission confirm that the Genscher-Colombo Plan, in its present form as an official declaration, does not in any way extend Commission participation in European political co-operation beyond what was decided in the London declaration of 1981, and, if so, does this mean that:

- the Commission may only take part as an observer
- the Commission may only put forward proposals in areas covered by the provisions of the Treaty of Rome
- the Commission may not, without specific authorization from the Council, incur expenditure for foreign policy or security policy purposes
- the Commission may not take part in meetings where purely EPC matters are to be discussed?

18.5.83

53. Question by Mr BOGH (H-181/83)

Subject : EPC and the Council of Ministers

Will the Commission explain what steps will be taken at future meetings of the Council of Ministers, the European Council, COREPER and working parties to ensure that EPC matters

- do not appear on the same agenda as matters coming under the Treaties
- are not discussed together with Treaty matters
- are not prepared together with Treaty matters
- are not financed in whole or in part out of the EC budget ?

18.5.83

54. Question by Mrs HAMMERICH (H-183/83)

Subject : Economic aspects of security policy

Will the Commission give a specific and detailed account of how the concept of 'the political and economic aspects of security policy' differs from other aspects of security and military policy, and will the Commission confirm, in particular, that the following matters fall outside the economic and political aspects of security:

- arms production
- the arms trade
- the establishment of an arms agency
- matters dealt with in NATO
- matters which may affect Irish neutrality
- studies of defence problems
- nuclear missile deployment
- civil defence
- coastal surveillance ?

18.5.83

55. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-165/83)

Subject: Obstacles to passage across frontiers

Has the Commission noted, in recent weeks, a growing number of obstacles to passage of both goods and persons across frontiers, and what is its response to this deteriorating situation?

19.5.83

56. Question by Mr. MARSHALL (H-168/83)

Subject : State subsidies to SEITA

What is the amount of subsidy paid to SEITA by the French Government during the past three fiscal years? As the French industry has to compete with other Community manufacturers of cigarettes, are these subsidies not a distortion of competition? What steps does the Commission intend to take to ensure that competition is fair between all Community manufacturers?

24.5.83

57. Question by Mr. O'MAHONY (H-194/83)

Subject : Integrated Operations in Favour of Dublin

In view of the adoption by Parliament of the von der Vring Report on Integrated Development Operations (1), what action will the Commission propose to implement the policies called for, particularly in relation to Dublin, as proposed in the Cluskey Resolution (2) on Community aid for Dublin?

24.05.1983

(1) Doc. 1-104/83

(2) Doc. 1-953/81

58. Question by Mr CLINTON (H-232/83)

Subject : Milk Marketing Boards

Can the Commission please say if the United Kingdom Milk Marketing Boards charge or apply different prices for milk on the basis of the destination of the resulting products, e.g. sale on the domestic market, intervention or export and whether the Commission considers this practise to be contrary to the rules of the common market organisation in milk and the rules governing these Boards ?

26.5.1983

59. Question by Mr KIRK (H-185/83)

Subject : Customs duty on plywood for packaging

Is the Commission aware that the Community packaging industry needs to be put on an equal footing, from the competition point of view, as regards the use of plywood for packaging, given that, for example, Swedish packaging producers are able to import packaging plywood from third countries (mainly Eastern European) at a rate of duty of only 2.7% and can sell it on to the EEC area duty-free, whereas direct imports to the EC are subject to 11.5% duty, and will the Commission take steps to establish competitive equality, either by removing the duty on packaging plywood (which is not produced in the EC) altogether or by placing some kind of equalizing tax on imports from, for example, Sweden?

31.5.83

60. Question by Mr PAPAEFSTRATIOU (H-186/83)

Subject: Inordinate increase in transit charges for goods vehicles
in Yugoslavia

What measures has the Commission taken or does it propose to take to deal with the problem created by the Yugoslavian Government's decision to almost triple transit charges for goods vehicles passing through that country, which is linked to the Community by a special agreement?

Does not the Commission think that measures must be taken as a matter of urgency since this decision has severely adverse effects on the cost of transporting agricultural and other produce from Greece to other countries in the Community and vice versa?

31.5.1983

61. Question by Mr KAZAZIS (H-187/83)

Subject: Tripling of transit charges by Yugoslavia

On 14 March 1983, Yugoslavia arbitrarily decided to increase transit tax for goods vehicles and buses passing through its territory. In view of the fact that this increase will make Greek products even less competitive in the EEC and, in particular, will reduce trade between Greece and the Community, would the Commission state what measures it intends to take within the framework of the cooperation agreement between the EEC and Yugoslavia to contend with this abrupt and unacceptable increase in transit tax?

31.5.1983

62. Question by Mrs MARTIN (H-188/83)

Subject: Position of women working in family businesses without pay

Can the Commission inform Parliament of the action it has taken or plans to take in response to the call for:

- recognition of the occupational status of women working in family businesses without pay,
- a directive permitting the financing of replacement services in agriculture to enable women working in agriculture to be free to undergo training and participate in social life,

contained in the resolution of 11 February 1981¹?

31.5.1983

¹ OJ No. C 50, 9.3.1981

63. Question by Mr. JOHNSON (H-189/83)

Subject : Wildlife in the Kalahari region of Botswana

At its meeting of December 17, 1982 the Council resolved that the environmental impact of Community development policies should be a priority area for EEC concern . In this context is the Commission aware of the responsibility borne by the EEC for the present wide-scale destruction of wildlife in the Kalahari region of Botswana and will the Commission examine, in cooperation with the Botswana wildlife, particularly the Kuke fence ?

1.06.1983

64. Question by Mr VAN AERSSSEN (H-190/83)

Subject: Procurement policy of Télédiffusion de France

In an official note the General Manager of Télédiffusion de France has recommended clearly and unequivocally that the procurement policy of TDF should be to consider French firms exclusively - in infringement of the EEC Treaty.

Does the Commission regard this attitude - of giving preference in all circumstances to French rather than foreign products including those from other Member States of the Community - as legal and if not, what steps does it intend to take to put a stop to such action?

1.6.1983

65. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-191/83)

Subject : Starvation in Ghana

Is the Commission aware that persistent drought and extensive fire damage to crops in Ghana have made the problem of starvation still more acute, and does it propose to set up an emergency food aid programme (particularly grain and milk products) to alleviate, as a first step, the most pressing needs?

2.06.1983

66. Question by Mr. O'DONNELL (H-200/83)

Subject : Unemployment in Ireland

In view of the serious and worsening unemployment situation in Ireland, especially among young people, and the urgent need to formulate and implement special employment creating strategies at national and regional levels based on the development of the country's indigenous resources, would the Commission be prepared to give special assistance to the Irish authorities in formulating the necessary employment creating strategies and, if so, what type of assistance.

7.06.1983

67. Question by Mr LAGAKOS (H-201/83)

Subject: Establishment of Community bodies in Member States of the EEC

Can the Commission state in which Member States Community bodies have already been established and whether it intends to propose that Community bodies be established in Greece and, if so, in what sector?

7.6.1983

68. Question by Mr HABSBERG (H-203/83)

Subject: Distortions in East-West trade

In view of the statement by the Berlin Senate Director, Mr Günter Rexrodt, revealing one-sided preferential treatment in the importation of fuels from the GDR into Berlin for a company 'friendly towards the GDR', REX-HANDELS-GESELLSCHAFT SCHULTE-FROHLINDE GmbH & Co. K.G., securing the firm millions in profits, the Commission is asked the following:

Does the Commission not consider such action to be a one-sided political distortion of competition, in breach of the letter and spirit of the Treaties of Rome, and is it prepared to submit proposals to effectively counter the distortions arising from the monopolistic structure of the COMECON states?

7.6.1983

69. Question by Mr. MEGAHY (H-208/83)

Subject : Workers participations and consultations

Will President Thorn please state whether there is any evidence that Commissioner Andriessen attempted to amend the Fifth Company Directive on workers' participation in the interests of the Anglo-Dutch multinationals Unilever and Royal Dutch Shell, as claimed in the Financial Times of 20 April 1983, or that Commission Vice-President Tugendhat advised the Confederation of British Industry to lobby Commission Vice-President Ortoli and Commissioners Narjes and Andriessen as likely opponents of the Vredeling Directive on worker consultation, as suggested in the Multinational Service Fortnightly of 17 May 1983?

8.06.1983

70. Question by Mr DENIS (H-210/83)

Subject: Reduction in American sugar purchases from Nicaragua

What position does the Community intend to adopt within GATT in respect of the dispute between Nicaragua and the United States over the recent 90% reduction in sugar purchases by the American Government, which is in violation of the GATT general agreements and in particular runs counter to the efforts made by the Community in granting aid to Nicaragua to assist its development? In particular, does it intend to oppose the American practice of using trade relations as a political weapon against a developing country?

8.6.1983

71. Question by Mr BORD (H-212/83)

Subject: Lack of qualified engineers in the electronics industry

Following the communication from the Commission to the Council concerning new technologies and vocational training, could the Commission say whether it intends to take effective action to remedy the lack of highly-qualified electronics engineers in the Community and what measures it considers most appropriate for this purpose?

8.6.83

72. Question by Mr Konrad SCHÖN (H-213/83)

Subject: Community policy in Nicaragua

In his reply to Mr HABSBURG¹, Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, failed to answer the question asking whether the Community did not also have any humanitarian projects in Nicaragua.

I put this question again: does the Community not have any humanitarian programmes in Nicaragua?

8.6.83

¹Verbatim Report of Proceedings, 8 June 1983 (Provisional Edition)

73. Question by Mr GAUTHIER (H-225/83)

Subject: EEC's nuclear programme

In view of the notion being propagated in some official circles - notably in France - that there is a danger of nuclear over-capacity, does the Commission not consider it urgently necessary to remind the Member States of the importance in terms of energy strategy of the Community completing its nuclear programme in accordance with the objectives for 1990 laid down by the Commission in its proposals to the Council, and also to stress the grave consequences of cutting back nuclear programmes?

8.6.1983

74. Question by Mr. ROGALLA (H-226/83)(X)

Subject: Checks at internal frontiers

Can the Commission state what position has been reached in the deliberations on the Commission's proposal for a resolution on the simplification of checks at internal frontiers and, in so doing, indicate the main subjects of contention, say which national delegations have expressed what reservations and state what procedures have been or remain to be completed (at negotiating, expert, COREPER, Council level, etc.) and when will the negotiations as a whole be completed ?

8.6.1983

(X) Former Written question No. 599/83 ,converted into a question for question time

75. Question by Mr FERNANDEZ (H-214/83)

Subject: Agricultural consultative committees

In its answer to my Written Question No. 1377/82 of 7 January 1983¹ the Commission agreed that it attached 'great importance to the establishment of effective cooperation with those working in all the sectors covered by the common agricultural policy'.

Its recent decision to suspend the meetings of the agricultural consultative committees until further notice is in total contradiction with this statement of principle.

Is the Commission prepared to revoke this unjustified decision and continue to consult representatives of the trades and professions concerned?

9.6.1983

¹OJ No. C 34, 7.2.1983, p.10

76. Question by Mrs POIRIER (H-215/83)

Subject: Fertilizer prices

Workers in undertakings manufacturing fertilizers have taken protest action against fertilizer imports which constitute unfair competition to French fertilizers.

The gas prices charged by the Netherlands to producers of nitrogenous fertilizers (reduced by 30%) are largely responsible for this situation.

Is the Commission aware of this situation and is it prepared to take action, if necessary by referring the matter to the Court of Justice, in order to restore normal conditions of competition?

9.6.1983

77. Question by Mr NYBORG (H-218/83)

Subject: Pilot projects for coastal protection

In the summer of 1981, the Commission undertook to implement a coastal protection policy.

How long do the inhabitants of exposed coastal areas still have to wait before concrete pilot projects for coastal protection are started as proof of the Community's sincerity?

10.6.1983

78. Question by Mr BETTIZA (H-220/83)

Subject: Organization for the geo-environmental study of land

In view of the serious damage to land caused by natural disasters, does the Commission think it would be advisable for local authorities to have at their disposal an organization for the geo-environmental study of land, run by specialized staff capable of providing scientific and technical advice on the fundamental choices concerning land use? If so, will it initiate an exploratory study to take stock of the present situation and the possibility of extending the field of application of an organization of this kind?

10.6.83

79. Question by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (H-223/83)

Subject: Residence permit for Italian workers in the Federal Republic of Germany

Can the Commission say whether it is compatible with the principles of freedom of movement in the countries of the European Community for some regional governments in the Federal Republic of Germany (cases have been reported in particular from the Nuremberg area) to grant extensions of residence permits for 3 months only when unemployed Italian workers apply for the renewal of their permits?

10.6.1983

80. Question by Mr WELSH (H-233/83)

Subject: National assistance leading to an increase in nylon manufacturing capacity in Belgium

Is the Commission aware of the proposed agreement between the Belgian Government and the Belgian company Beaulieu under which the latter will acquire the fibre producer Fabelta and does it consider that this agreement respects the provisions of the Commission Directive of July 1977 renewed on 11 August 1981 which inter alia forbids state aids for the purpose of expanding fibre capacity?

16.6.1983

81. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-234/83)

Subject: Energy investment in the developing countries

What steps does the Commission intend to take to give special attention to the flow of resources, particularly official development assistance, for energy production in the developing countries, in the light of the decision reached on this matter at the Williamsburg Summit?

16.6.1983

82. Question by Mr GONTIKAS (H-237/83)

Subject: Inadmissible and deliberate distortion of facts through
the press by the Athens Information Office

Does the Commission agree with the statements published by the Athens Information Office (in an article signed by A. Hatziantoniou) with regard to the intentions and aims of the New Democracy Government concerning Greece's accession to the EEC and, if not, what measures does it intend to take - or has it taken already - against those responsible for the publication of this insulting article against New Democracy?

16.6.1983

83. Question by Mr de FERRANTI (H-244/83)

Subject : Abolition of Excise Duties which produce relatively
little revenue

What action is the Commission proposing to take to abolish the duties on matches and lighters in Denmark, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom in view of the anomalous position as reported in the first issue of the "Kangaroo News" in February 1983 and the stated intent to abolish excise duties which produce relatively little revenue (Written Question No 280/82 in June 1982 (1) ?

20.6.1983

(1) O.J. C 188, 22.7.1982, p. 18

84. Question by Mrs DE MARCH (H-249/83)

Subject: Community regulations on flowers

The European Community takes 40% of world imports of cut flowers and imports from third countries have risen at an annual rate of 30% in recent years. Growers in my region are directly penalized by these imports against which they enjoy no protection.

Does the Commission intend to propose a new Community regulation on flowers in order to improve the organization of the market and provide better protection against imports?

21.6.1983

85. Question by Mr PEARCE (H-250/83)

Subject : European Trade Marks Office

Does the Commission agree that, in the bids for the proposed European Trade Marks Office to be located in one or other of the Member States, the Member States that propose candidate cities in less favoured areas, i.e. in areas where Regional Development policies are being pursued, will, other things being equal, stand a better chance of success in their application than Member States which propose cities which have no need of regional aid ?

22.6.1983

86. Question by Mr. TYRRELL (H-258/83)

Subject: Selected Distribution Agreements

In view of the Commission's long-standing policy of prohibiting distribution agreements which distort competition by restricting parallel imports, recently upheld in unequivocal terms by the European Court of Justice in the Pioneer Case, will the Commission explain why it intends to give exemption from EEC Competition rules for the selective distribution agreements of SABA,⁽¹⁾ which will have this effect?

27.6.83

(1) O.J. C140 28.5.83