

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

15 December 1980

DOCUMENT 1-686/80

Oral Questions

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME

on 15 and 17 December 1980

QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1. Question by Mr COMBE (H-438/80)

Subject: Effect of Japanese imports on the Community colour television industry

Given that the Community's electronics industry is an important source of innovation for all sectors of European industry, that the colour television industry is an essential element in the aforementioned Community industry, that the most important component of a television set is the tube and that 48% of all television tubes in the world are manufactured in Japan, what does the Commission intend to do to protect Community manufacturers of television tubes against the inroads of the Japanese industry which is pursuing a policy similar to that already pursued in other fields?

2. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-485/80)

Subject: Projected loan from the oil-producing countries

The Finance Ministers of the Nine having, at a meeting in Müllerthal, devised a new loan plan to help Community countries in balance of payments difficulties, can the Commission state whether the Müllerthal projected mechanism is different from the procedures hitherto applied under what is known as the ORTOLI facility?

3. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-490/80)

Subject: Greece's entry into the Common Market

With Greece due to become a Member State of the European Community in January 1981, does the Commission intend to impose on Greek iron and steel undertakings the same measures adopted recently in respect of the Community iron and steel industry?

4. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-492/80)

Subject: Commercial, financial and technological strategy
in the motor vehicle sector

In order to avoid a repetition of previous errors made in the iron and steel and shipbuilding sectors, does not the Commission feel that it should pursue a coordinated commercial, financial and technological strategy in the motor vehicle sector?

* Will not be called if item 273 is kept on the agenda.

5. Question by Mrs VAYSSADE (H-501/80)

Subject: Protection from harmful exposure to lead

The setting up of a lead battery factory by General Motors in Sarroguemines has given rise to grave concern among the people affected on both sides of the border.

Could the Commission give details of the progress made in enforcing the Directive of 29 March 1977 on the biological screening of the population for lead?

6. Question by Mr TURCAT (H-505/80)

Subject: The establishment of European standards for telematics

What is the Commission doing, and what does it intend to do, about establishing European standards to promote telematic communication within the Community, the setting up of European data banks and the market in European products, in order thus to safeguard the economic and cultural independence of the Community?

7. Question by Mr PRAG (H-448/80)

Subject: Preferential gas prices granted to Dutch tomato growers

Will the Commission state what progress has been made in the matter of removing the very substantial artificial cost advantage given to Dutch tomato growers - calculated by the National Farmers Union at some 40 000 EUA per hectare of glass, or 0.17 EUA per kilo of tomatoes relative to British growers - by the preferential price at which natural gas is sold to them by Gasunie for the heating of glasshouses?

8. Question by Mr MICHEL (H-468/80)

Subject: Project for further nuclear power stations in Chooz

With reference to the statement by the President-in-Office of the Council in the European Parliament on 17 September 1980¹ that the establishment of the various power stations is the Commission's responsibility, I would ask the Commission to indicate when it delivered, or intends to deliver, an opinion, pursuant to Article 37 of the EAEC Treaty, on whether the proposed establishment of further nuclear power stations in Chooz may lead to radioactive contamination of the water, soil or airspace of another Member State. In addition, has the Commission discussed all the aspects of this investment project which are related to the objectives of the EAEC Treaty, pursuant to Article 43 of that Treaty, and if not, when does it intend to do so?

9. Question by Mr MEGAHY (H-474/80)

Subject: Prevention of influence on domestic politics by EEC officials

What safeguards exist to prevent EEC officials from seeking to influence the domestic politics of the various Member States?

(1) Debates No 1-260

10. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-499/80)

Subject: Appointment of a new director of forestry

When will a new director of forestry be appointed in the Commission?

11. Question by Mr MARSHALL (H-514/80)

Subject: Doorstep sales of eggs

Is the Commission aware that many UK housewives (including the Honourable Member's wife) prefer to buy their eggs from farmers who deliver to their own homes and would the Commission accept that the proposed ban on doorstep sales (reported in the British Farmer and Stockbreeder, 4/10/80) would be contrary to the wishes of consumers and be yet another interference with the freedom of trade?

12. Oral Question by Mrs Tove NIELSEN (H-517/80)

Subject: Excessively high fares on scheduled flights

In the light of the excessively high fares charged by most European airlines on their scheduled flights within the Community, a policy that is highly detrimental to consumers, is the Commission prepared to carry out an inquiry into the relationship between the fares charged on different routes and the costs to the different airlines of providing services on those routes?

13. Question by Mt DIANA (H-587/80)*

Subject: The forestry policy of the European Community

1. The Commission of the European Communities submitted to the Council on 6 December 1978 a communication on the forestry policy in the European Community. A common policy in this sector would have close links with requirements of an industrial nature (supplies by forestry industries), with the agricultural and regional policies, taking account of the fact that many forestry areas and marginal agricultural areas are in poor regions of the Community, and with the policy of the environment because of the role of forests in the conservation of soil, water, flora and fauna.
2. The European Parliament expressed its opinion on these proposals in a resolution of 11 May 1979 in which it emphasized 'the serious and urgent nature of the problems in the forestry sector having regard to the Community's growing timber requirements and its dependence on non-member countries for supplies', approved the proposals and invited the Commission to draw up a genuine, common forestry policy.
3. Two years after the Commission's communication to the Council and eighteen months after the approval of the European Parliament's opinion, the situation does not seem to have made any progress whilst it is apparent that the organization of services dealing with this sector has been weakened by the departure, a long time ago, of the person in charge of the forestry division, who has not yet been replaced.
4. The Commission is therefore asked what initiatives it intends to take:
 - to ensure effective coordination of national forestry policies,
 - to give a new impetus to a Community forestry policy,
 - to make provision to reinforce its secretariat by, inter alia, appointing someone to head the Division for Forestry and the Environment.

* Former oral question with debate (0-62/80) converted into a question for Question Time

14. Question by Mr WELSH (H-527/80)

Subject: Review of the operation of the Multifibre Arrangement

Will the Commission make a statement to Parliament on the results of its discussions in Geneva on 21 - 23 October and the timetable for renegotiation of the Multifibre Arrangement?

15. Question by Mr Christopher JACKSON (H-535/80)

Subject: Use of transport infrastructure or UK 'supplementary measures' funds for the A249

Is the A249 from the M2 to Sheerness included in the Community list of "bottlenecks" for which aid is envisaged and, if not, in the view of the Commission is improvement of the A249 a project which appears to satisfy the conditions envisaged for the Community infrastructure aid and/or for the use of monies from the UK 'supplementary measures'?

16. Question by Mr PAISLEY (H-536/80)

Subject: Integration scheme in Belfast

Will the Commission make a statement upon what proposals it has received from the United Kingdom Government for the integration scheme in Belfast and in response to the offer of £ 100 million for Belfast made by Commissioner Burke in Belfast in October 1980?

17. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-538/80)

Subject: Summertime

Will the Commission do all in its power to encourage the Nine and as many of their European neighbours as possible to retain in 1981 the uniform system of summertime, which was at last introduced in 1980, in spite of the summertime blackmail practised by the GDR?

18. Question by Mr PEARCE (H-539/80)

Subject: Agricultural Models

Will the Commission state what form of economic models it uses to forecast the consequences of its actions both in the agricultural sphere as a whole and in individual agricultural sectors, and how it would compare its techniques and performance in this field with those of the United States?

19. Question by Mr WALTER (H-541/80)

Subject: Reduction in the discharge of waste from the titanium dioxide industry into the sea

The aim of the Council Directive of 20 February 1978 on waste from the titanium dioxide industry is to prevent and gradually reduce pollution caused by such waste with a view to eliminating it altogether. What are the Commission's targets, with regard to the time-scale and the quantities involved, for reducing the discharge into the sea of waste from the titanium dioxide industry?

20. Question by Mrs WEBER (H-542/80)

Subject: Disposal of waste from the titanium dioxide industry

The Council Directive of 20 February 1978 on waste from the titanium dioxide industry refers to the 'discharge into surface water, ground water and the sea, and dumping at sea'. What quantities of such waste are at present disposed of in this way each year by the Member States of the Community?

21. Question by Mr WETTIG (H-543/80)

Subject: Significance of the directives on waste from the titanium dioxide industry

Member States of the European Community are repeatedly granting authorization for the discharge of waste from the titanium dioxide industry into the sea. Does the Commission consider that this authorization by the Member States is compatible with the directive on waste from the titanium dioxide industry and with the Oslo and London Conventions, and how does the Commission view in this context the provisions of the German law of 11 February 1977 on the disposal of substances at sea, according to which authorization may also be granted, on the grounds that it is essential to the public interest, for the discharge of substances which constitute a possible threat to the marine ecosystem?

22. Question by Mr van MINNEN (H-544/80)

Subject: Commission proposal on the surveillance of the environment affected by the titanium dioxide industry

Article 7 of the directive on waste from the titanium dioxide industry instructs the Commission to submit to the Council, within one year of notification of the directive, a proposal on the procedures for the surveillance and monitoring of the environments concerned. The directive came into effect on 20 February 1978. Has the Commission submitted the proposal referred to, and if not, why not?

23. Question by Mr SCHMID (H-545/80)

Subject: Programmes to reduce pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry

The directive on waste from the titanium dioxide industry requires the Member States to draw up programmes for the progressive reduction and eventual elimination of pollution caused by waste from existing industrial establishments. Which Member States submitted their programmes to the Commission by the specified deadline of 1 July 1980?

24. Question by Mr MUNTINGH (H-546/80)

Subject: Damage caused to fishing resources by waste from the titanium dioxide industry

There has recently been increasing scientific evidence of the damage caused to fishing resources by the discharge of waste from the titanium dioxide industry into the North Sea. In view of this situation, is the Commission prepared to take steps to urge the Council of Ministers to put a stop to the discharge into the sea of environmentally harmful waste from the titanium dioxide industry by the beginning of 1982?

25. Question by Mr BARBARELLA (H-588/80) (x)

Subject: Reports of alleged irregularities in the fixing of export refunds for agricultural surpluses

With reference to the reports circulated by various press organs of alleged irregularities in the management of the system of export refunds for agricultural surpluses, can the Commission state

1. Whether there are any grounds for such reports?
2. If so, what measures it intends to take?
3. Whether it considers it advisable to review the procedure for fixing refunds, and what criteria it intends to apply?

(x) Former oral question with debate (O-64/80) converted into a question for Question Time

26. Question by Mr SCHINZEL (H-550/80)

Subject: Transport of horses for slaughter

Is the Commission aware that when animals are transported in the Community, particularly horses intended for slaughter, at least 10% of them die in a pitiful way during their miserable journey of several days - from exhaustion, hunger, thirst, or trampled to death by their terrified companions? What measures does the Commission intend to take, pursuant to the agreement signed by the Community partners on protection of animals for slaughter in international transport, to deal with those responsible for the anguish suffered by the horses during their last journey? Is the Commission also aware that there is a legal provision which expressly states that healthy horses may not be exported from Greece, and yet horses with injuries which have clearly been inflicted intentionally (broken legs, loss of sight, etc.) arrive as animals for slaughter at Italian ports? What action does the Commission intend to take against the citizens of the new Community partner who are responsible for this situation?

27. Question by Mr DOUBLET (H-554/80)

Subject: Commission forecasts of trends in the price of petroleum products

Since the conflict between Iraq and Iran seems to be developing into a protracted struggle, how, in the Commission's view, will price trends for petroleum products be affected? Moreover, in view of the apparent tensions on the Rotterdam open market, would it not agree that it should abandon its previous policies and recognize that this test market should at long last be regulated so that a greater degree of consistency might be achieved in the interests of producers and consumers alike?

28. Question by Mrs FOURCADE (H-555/80)

Subject: Interruption of the meeting between the Textiles and Clothing Trade Union Committee and the delegation from the Commission

Can the Commission explain why it interrupted its meeting with representatives of the Textiles and Clothing Trade Union Committee and what were the main differences of opinion that induced it to take such a course of action? When does it expect to resume negotiations with the representatives in question with a view to formulating an effective strategy preparatory to the conclusion of a new multifibre agreement?

29. Question by Mr VIE (H-557/80)

Subject: Explanation of the divergent trends in consumer prices in the nine Community countries

Can the Commission explain why consumer price trends in the nine countries of the Community have differed so markedly over the past two or three months?

30. Question by Mr FANTON (H-559/80)

Subject: Level of agricultural producer prices for the 1981-82 marketing year

Does the Commission intend to take account of the very substantial increase in 1979 in both agricultural capital equipment and in the ordinary consumer goods and services essential to agriculture in its price proposals for the 1981-82 marketing year? Moreover, will its proposals make allowance for the need to bring farm incomes up to the level of incomes of other categories of the working population?

31. Question by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (H-561/80)

Subject: Antibiotics contained in frozen products

A new danger to the health of the consumer has been discovered in Italy, namely the presence of an antibiotic - tetracycline - in certain packets of frozen fish which, as a precautionary measure, were immediately impounded.

What measures does the Commission intend to adopt to ban the practice of including antibiotics in frozen foods and in other products (such as cheese) to prevent them from perishing?

32. Question by Mrs EWING (H-563/80)

Subject: The Common Fisheries Policy

Will the Commission comment on the up to date situation in negotiations for a Common Fisheries Policy?

33. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-565/80)

Subject: Redundancy Payments

Does the Commission believe that the level and method of payments to employees made redundant in the Community should be harmonised and does the Commission intend to produce proposals to this effect?

34. Question by Mr CLEMENT (H-567/80)

Subject: EEC-Argentina relations

Why does Argentina not wish to renew its agreements with the EEC?

35. Question by Mr DE LIPKOWSKI (H-568/80)

Subject: Stocks of petroleum products

What has been the situation with regard to stocks of petroleum products since the outbreak of war between Iraq and Iran; has there indeed been a fall in stocks or have states instead been inclined to increase their demand on the world market?

36. Question by Mr VAN AERSSEN (H-572/80)

Subject : Association Agreement with Cyprus

Now that the Commission has requested the Council to give it a mandate to negotiate the second stage of the Association Agreement with Cyprus, I should like to know why the Commission did not at the same time inform the European Parliament and its appropriate committee of this important step, notwithstanding the fact that repeated calls have been made for greater cooperation between the Community institutions ?

37. Question by Mrs ROUDY (H-573/80)

Subject: Sterilization of women exposed to lead

An American chemicals company, the Bunker Hill Company, has recently been fined \$10,000 by the American occupational safety and health authority (OSHA) for pursuing a recruitment policy which stipulates that women workers must be sterile in order to be accepted for jobs involving exposure to lead.

In the light of this information, is the Commission prepared to propose standards for protection against the risks associated with exposure to lead, applicable equally to men and women, and to ensure that women who are likely to occupy jobs involving exposure to lead are not faced with the alternative of either having themselves sterilized or not being accepted for the jobs in question?

38. Question by Mr HUME (H-576/80)

Subject : Commission proposals to assist farming
in Northern Ireland

In view of the difficulties which have arisen over the second part of the Commission's recent proposals to assist farming in Northern Ireland, will the Commission propose instead a transport subsidy to assist the carriage of grain for animal feedstuffs from areas of the Community where there is surplus production, to Northern Ireland?

39. Question by Mr RUFFOLO (H-580/80)

Subject: Earthquake in southern Italy

Will the Commission be setting up a special fund of a size commensurate with the scale of the disaster in southern Italy to enable it, through a regulation, to assist in the reconstruction of infrastructures and the architectural heritage?

40. Question by Mr HORD (H-581/80)

Subject : Refunds on the export of agricultural products to Iran

During the debate in the European Parliament on 13th December 1979 on the Amending and supplementary budget No 3 for 1979 Mr Gundelach, the Vice President of the Commission, stated" ... that for the time being, as I already said, there are no exports of butter to Soviet Russia, there are no exports to Iran."

In answer to written question No 408/80 (1) by Mr Dankert on the subject of refunds on the export of agricultural products to Iran, Mr Gundelach on behalf of the Commission drew the Honourable Member's attention to the attached table showing a total of 254 m ECUs value of exports from the EEC to Iran during 1979 with 36.6 m ECUs of this total relating to butter, just over a third of which was exported in the last quarter of the year.

Would the Commission confirm which of these two statements is the correct one?

(1) OJ No C 201. 6.8.1980, p. 18

41. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-582/80)

Subject : Experts

The Commission rightly calls upon outside expert help on a great range of matters on which it lacks technical knowledge. One area in which it bases its judgements on such external advice concerns its decisions on whether or not to provide financial support for demonstration projects in the energy sector.

Is the Commission aware of the fact that some of the experts it consults are connected with organisations which themselves submit projects and that, given the limited financial resources available from the Commission, there may be a conflict of interests. What action does the Commission propose to take to ensure that the experts it consults do not discourage applications for financial assistance from firms and individuals with whom these consultants are not linked?

42. Question by Mr ALBERS (H-583/80)

Subject: Visa requirement for Turkish workers

Will the Commission endeavour to secure changes in respect of the particularly harmful effects of the policy pursued by various Member States in the matter of visa requirements for Turkish workers, especially for the benefit of those who, because of their prolonged stay in the European Community and contribution to productivity, deserve to be regarded as fellow European citizens and to be given permanent residence and work permits?

43. Question by Mrs LENTZ-CORNETTE (H-589/80)

Subject: Seismological research at European level

In view of the most recent earthquake catastrophe in Italy, can the Commission state what consideration has actually been given up to now at Community level to forecasting such catastrophes and how far it has considered coordination of seismological research, particularly in the Mediterranean area?

44. Question by Mr COLLINS (H-590/80)

Subject : Toxic Shock Syndrome

Is the Commission aware that a newly identified, sometimes fatal illness called Toxic Shock Syndrome has been linked in the U.S. with tampons and that there is growing concern among women in Britain about the possible dangers of the use of tampons ?

Would the Commission state what proposals they intend to implement, if any, to allay the fears of thousands of women concerned about tampon-related toxic shock ?

-
45. Question by Mr COTTRELL (H-592/80)

Subject : Product liability

According to the explanatory statement of Art. 2 of the Draft Directive on product liability producers, whose contribution to a defect product is not defective, are not liable under the Directive. Does the Commission accept that this exclusion includes printers who has printed a text correctly even if it contains a defect - and if so will the Commission amend the Draft Directive accordingly to avoid all doubts ?

-
46. Question by Mrs DESMOND (H-595/80)

Subject : Delay in decisions relating to disadvantaged areas schemes

Can the Commission say what are the reasons for the delay, and how soon can a decision be expected relating to the extension of the disadvantaged areas scheme to various regions in Ireland, in particular Mid-Cork?

47. Question by Mr CLINTON (H-597/80)

Subject : Export Refunds

Does the Commission accept that the structure of export refunds on live cattle and beef products from the Community is such as to militate against the processing of beef in Ireland, by favouring of exportation of the raw material accordingly is the Commission prepared to alter the structure of export refunds on the different products, i.e. live cattle, carcass, boneless beef etc. in order to correct this distortion ?

48. Question by Mr MAFFRE-BAUGE (H-598/80)

Subject: Manufacture of alcoholic blends imitating wine

As a result of fraudulent practices, products not entitled to the designation 'wine' are marketed in the Member States of the EEC despite the provisions of current legislation which specify that these products can only be marketed in third countries. Does the Commission not therefore consider that there is a need for Community legislation prohibiting the manufacture of alcoholic products imitating wine?

49. Question by Mr RADOUX (H-600/80)

Subject: European Monetary System

Can it be inferred from the communiqué of the Heads of State and Governments published at the Luxembourg summit on 1 and 2 December 1980 that the European Monetary System will not become institutionalized as planned in March 1981, and is it true that it has already been decided to defer by two years, from 1981 to 1983, the transition from the '1979 arrangement'?

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

50. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-466/80)

Subject: Construction of a building for the General Secretariat of the Council

With reference to the article by Philippe Lemaitre in 'Le Monde', 7 October 1980, I should like to ask the Council the following question on the subject of the construction of a building for its General Secretariat:

Does the Council not think it is high time, in view of:

- the continuing difficulties surrounding the plans submitted by five different construction firms, all of which failed to pass the scrutiny of the Staff Committee who rejected all five plans as impracticable;
- the recommendation of the Court of Auditors which believes that, because of the tremendously high rents that have to be paid, the Community institutions should build their own working premises;

to take in hand the construction of a new building for the General Secretariat of the Council and to earmark Community funds for the construction of a functional office building which the Community will own?

51. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-471/80)

Subject: Consultation procedure and setting up of a committee in the field of transport infrastructure

What benefits does the Council believe has accrued and will accrue from its decision of 20th February 1978 to institute a consultation procedure and set up a committee in the field of transport infrastructure?

52. Question by Mr DAVERN (H-479/80)

Subject: Beef Market

Does the Council agree with the views expressed in a recent study by the German Ministry of Agriculture, which states that the EEC beef market is now close to self-sufficiency and that concessions on imports in future should only be granted in extreme cases?

53. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-480/80)

Subject : Aid to the wood processing and
construction industries

Since the Council has not been asked to consider any proposal from the Commission on possible financial aid to the wood processing and construction industries, does it have any proposals in mind for this sector, which is of fundamental importance to the future of the European economy?

54. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-491/80)

Subject: Technological contradiction

Is not the desire to seek to improve the competitive position of the Community's motor vehicle industry at any price in contradiction with the current surplus production capacity, which is likely to increase in the future?

* Will not be called if item 273 is kept on the agenda.

55. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-493/80)

Subject: Hormones in feedingstuffs

Can the Council indicate whether the problem of hormones in feedingstuffs had already been raised earlier at Council level, in particular when the Directive of 23 November 1970 concerning additives in feedingstuffs was adopted?

56. Question by Mr CRONIN (H-502/80)

Subject: Dangerous and illegal chemical waste being dumped off the Irish coast

Will the Council take immediate steps to ensure that the Irish seas are not used as a dumping ground for highly dangerous and illegal waste by other European countries, particularly chemical waste including PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) which can be passed through the food chain and into humans?

57. Question by Mr TURCAT (H-504/80)

Subject: Long-term space policy

What does the Council intend to do in the area of long-term space policy on launchers and space stations, over and above previous projects and statements of general policy?

58. Question by Mr SEAL (H-307/80)

Subject: Aid for Crisis-hit Industrial Sectors

In view of the extremely serious situation in certain sectors of Community industry, in particular textiles, will Council now approve the Commission's proposed regulation on industrial restructuring and conversion operations which it has had before it since 31st October 1978, and given the fact that Parliament has on a number of occasions given a favourable opinion on proposals in this area, will Council give them first priority in future?

59. Question by Mrs EWING (H-431/80)

Subject: Crisis in the Scottish boat-building industry

Whereas preferential interest rates offered to the fishing industries of other Member States and third countries have operated to the detriment of the Scottish boat-building industry now in a state of crisis, and whereas the Scottish system of EAGGF grant allocations lacks the certainty and efficiency of systems operating in other EEC countries (including Northern Ireland), thus exacerbating the problem, what steps does the Council propose to take to investigate this situation and alleviate it?

60. Question by Mr ADAM (H-435/80)

Subject: Energy Supply Costs

What action does the Council propose to take to ensure that energy supply costs to Community industries do not result in unfair competition within the Community or from outside?

61. Question by Mr MICHEL (H-467/80)

Subject: Project for further nuclear power stations in Chooz

In view of the progress made with projects such as the one for further nuclear power stations in Chooz and of the serious damage which the implementation of these projects could entail, particularly in a neighbouring country, and bearing in mind the explanations provided by Commissioner Davignon at Parliament's sitting of 15 September 1980¹, in answer to my question on the same subject, does the Council not feel that it should consider much more conscientiously the proposal for a regulation concerning the introduction of a Community consultation procedure in respect of power stations likely to affect the territory of another Member State, on which the European Parliament delivered an opinion as early as 7 July 1977? In the meantime, could it indicate to the European Parliament how far it has progressed with this matter and the deadline it has set itself for reaching a decision?

¹ Debates No. 1-260, p. 22

62. Question by Mr McCARTIN (H-586/80) (x)

Subject: Free movement of goods and services in border areas in Ireland

The breaking of road links by the British authorities with Cos. Donegal, Leitrim, Cavan and Monaghan seriously impede long established commerce and the free movement of goods and services between both sides of the Irish border. Will the Council request the British Government with a view to having these wholly unnecessary road blocks removed, so that the provisions of the Rome Treaty for the free movement of goods, services and persons may be fully applied in these areas?

(x) Former oral question with debate (O-61/80) converted into a question for Question Time

63. Question by Mr WELSH (H-526/80)

Subject: Renegotiation of the Multifibre Arrangement

Further to the Council's written answer to my oral question (H-412/80) (1), would it give an assurance that Parliament will be consulted on the content of the Commission's mandate before negotiations begin and not as a mere formality after they have been concluded?

(1) Debates, Report of proceedings, 15.10.1980, Provisional Edition

64. Question by Miss CLWYD (H-540/80)

Subject: Consultation of Parliament by Council

Would the Council comment on the recent judgement (29 October 1980) of the European Court of Justice, which appears to confirm that the Council must not only consult the European Parliament on legislation but also wait for Parliament's reply before putting that legislation into effect?

65. Question by Mr VAN AERSSEN (H-547/80)

Subject: Right of Tunisia to be consulted on decisions on the enlargement of the Community

What is the Council's attitude to the request by the Tunisian Government to be consulted on decisions concerning the enlargement of the European Community?

66. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-551/80)

Subject : Information on Council meetings

Will the Council now provide for the directly-elected European Parliament and the Press more detailed information on its discussions, including those on resolutions of the Parliament, and indicate, without naming the countries involved, the main lines of the majority and minority points of view ?

67. Question by Mr CLEMENT (H-553/80)

Subject: Outline programme for the improvement of agricultural structures

Why at its last meeting did the Council reject the specific programmes proposed by the Commission for the improvement of agricultural structures? Would it not agree that the resulting delay will be damaging to the agricultural structures of the regions concerned?

68. Question by Mrs FOURCADE (H-556/80)

Subject: Terms of oil agreements concluded between individual governments

Can the Council state whether the oil agreements concluded between certain Member States and certain Persian Gulf States contain clauses prohibiting the resale of oil to other Community countries? Are such clauses compatible with the Treaty of Rome?

69. Question by Mr VIE (H-558/80)

Subject: Negotiations with the Comecon countries

In view of the present deadlock in the negotiation of a cooperation agreement between the Community and Comecon, is it proposed to resort to bilateral agreements either in the agricultural sector or in the industrial sector?

70. Question by Mr FANTON (H-560/80)

Subject: Voluntary restraint on exports of manioc by Thailand

Would the Council not agree that the ceiling of 5 million tonnes per annum that the Thai Government intends to fix for its exports of manioc is too high, bearing in mind that, although this amount approximates to the present volume of imports into the Community, it bears no relation to the quantities imported two or three years ago?

71. Question by Mr DE LIPKOWSKI (H-569/80)

Subject: Timetable for increases in agricultural prices

When does the Council intend to adopt the measures to increase agricultural prices for the 1981-1982 market year?

72. Question by Mr SCHWARTZENBERG (H-570/80)

Subject: Ratification by France of Article 25 of the European Convention on Human Rights (individual right of petition)

In view of the growing number of cases to which no satisfactory legal solution has been found or is likely to be found (the 'Canard Enchaîné' bugging affair, the Delpy affair, etc.), do not the Ministers intend to recommend that the French authorities should at last, like the other eight Member States, ratify Article 25 of the European Convention on Human Rights which allows persons who have exhausted all domestic remedies to submit an individual petition to the European Court of Human Rights?

73. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-574/80)

Subject : Urgent need for measures in the field of temporary employment abroad

With a view to combating recently noted abuses, does the Council intend to adopt specific measures so that the practice may be stopped of sending temporary employees to an EEC country other than their own without any guarantee of the social security cover to which they are entitled ? If it is unable to do this, could it not at least recommend to the Member States that they keep a close watch to ensure that their legislation is properly applied to temporary employees, even non-nationals ?

74. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-575/80)

Subject : Financing of investment in nuclear power stations

Does the Council consider that the European Investment Bank is acting in accordance with its objectives by financing the two new and highly controversial nuclear power stations in Belgium, Doel 3 and Tihange 2, at a cost of Bfrs 5,000 million, and does it not consider that the Bank's financial resources should be utilized primarily for development objectives in those sectors where Community aid is a decisive factor, since electricity undertakings find no great difficulty in arranging finance for their investment ?

75. Question by Mr LEZZI (H-579/80)

Subject: Earthquake in southern Italy

Will the Council approve as a matter of urgency a special Regulation to enable the Community to assist in the reconstruction of the infrastructure and architectural heritage of the areas of southern Italy afflicted by the recent earthquake?

76. Question by Mr PURVIS (H-593/80)

Subject : Electricity Tariffs

Has the Council considered and agreed to the Commission's recommendation on electricity tariff structures in the Community (DOC COM (80)356 final of 26 June 1980 as amended by the Commission following discussions by the Council's working party ?

77. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-594/80)

Subject : Sugar Industry in Ireland

At the recent meeting of 10th and 11th November, of the Council of Agriculture Ministers, at which was discussed the Community's Sugar Policy, did the Council give consideration to the significant contribution made by the Irish Sugar Industry to the Irish economy, particularly in terms of the provision of employment, in agriculture, in its factories and in downstream industries, and also did it note the serious implications of the Commission's recent proposals for the future of this industry in Ireland ?

78. Question by Mr RADOUX (H-599/80)

Subject: Report to the European Parliament on the outcome of the Luxembourg meeting

At its last meeting in Luxembourg the European Council followed the usual procedure, which means that Mrs Flesch, as Luxembourg's Minister for Foreign Affairs and President-in-Office of the Council of Ministers, will report to the European Parliament on the outcome of the Luxembourg meeting.

Why does the European Council not present its report through the President of the European Council, Mr Werner?

QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION

79. Question by Mr WURTZ (H-584/80) (x)

Subject: 'Berufsverbot' (exclusion from public service
employment in the Federal Republic of Germany)

Is the practice of 'Berufsverbot' in the Federal
Republic of Germany, which is applied to very many
people on political grounds, compatible with the
United Nations Charter and the European Convention
on Human Rights, of which the Member States of the
European Community are signatories?

(x) Former oral question with debate (O-57/80) converted into a
question for Question Time

80. Question by Mr BALFE (H-549/80)

Subject: Imprisonment of Ms Eunice Dorothy Card

On 17 November 1979 Ms Eunice Dorothy Card was arrested at
Frankfurt and is currently held in Frankfurt Prison (prisoner No.
931-GS-5861/79) awaiting trial.

Ms Card's daughter, aged nine years, is in the care of the local
authority in Britain. The court hearing to decide her future has been
adjourned and is now set down for late November. I have previously made
representations to the German authorities and have visited the ~~gao~~ with
a view to having Ms Card's case brought before the Courts at an early
opportunity so that if she was discharged she might rejoin her daugh-
ter, and if she was not discharged, at least the child welfare authori-
ties in the United Kingdom would know the length of the custodial
sentence imposed on Ms Card, when planning her daughter's future.

Will the Foreign Ministers accept that for this young woman to spend
a second Christmas in gaol without knowing her fate is causing severe
emotional distress to both her and her child and will the Foreign
Ministers intervene, as a gesture of compassion, to attempt to secure
Ms Card's trial on compassionate grounds before Christmas?

81. Question by Mrs HAMMERICH (H-585/80)

Subject: Talks on joint naval operations

Have the Foreign Ministers, after stating in September that they attached the utmost importance to the freedom of navigation in the Gulf, and were prepared to play a part in finding solutions to the problems there, discussed the possibility of any degree of coordination between naval units of certain Member States with a view to possible military operations in the Persian Gulf?

I would refer to President-in-Office Zamberletti's correct statement, during Question Time on 21 May, that military and security affairs lay outside the Community's terms of reference.

82. Question By Mr ISRAEL (H-596/80)

Subject: Additional information regarding the joint communiqué issued with the Arab States on 13 November 1980

The meeting which was held in Luxembourg on 12 and 13 November 1980 between representatives of the Arab League and representatives of the Nine and the Commission in order to prepare for resumption of the Euro-Arab Dialogue was attended by Doctor Ahmad Sedkit al Dajani, President of the Arab League. Can the Foreign Ministers say of which Arab state he is a national?
