

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

13 October 1980

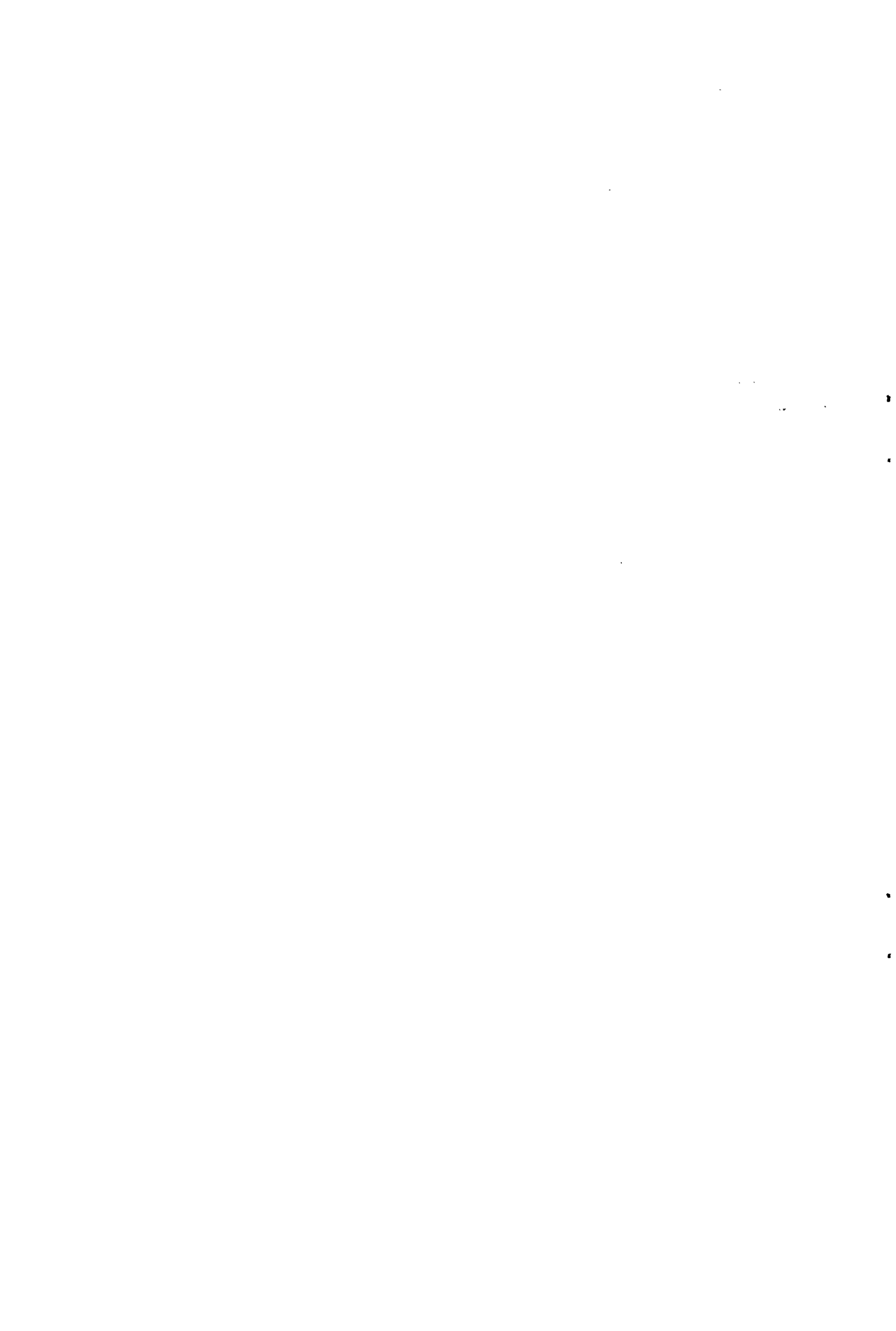
DOCUMENT 1-468/80

Oral Questions

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME

on 13 and 15 October 1980



QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1. Question by Mr GALLAND (H-328/80)

Subject: Conclusion of the INFCE

Since the Commission took part in the work of the INFCE, can it provide details of the main consequences of the conclusions of this Conference for the development of the Community's nuclear power industry, especially as regards relations with countries supplying uranium?

2. Question by Mr VON WOGAU (H-338/80) (x)

Subject: Intra-Community frontier traffic

Is the Commission aware that on 3 and 4 July 1980 traffic between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of France was seriously disrupted for about 50 hours at the Strasbourg/Kehl border crossing?

What action can the Commission take to prevent such disruptions of intra-Community frontier traffic?

How does the Commission view the suggestion that it should set up a special department to permanently monitor intra-Community frontier traffic, at least at the main border crossings?

3. Question by Lord O'HAGAN (H-359/80)

Subject: Illegal state aids

What action will the Commission now take against Member States which continue illegal state aids?

(x) Former oral question without debate (0-36/80) converted into a question for Question Time

4. Question by Sir Peter VANNECK (H-258/80)

Subject : Community industrial policy for aerospace

What steps should the Community now be taking to strengthen the international competitiveness of European aircraft manufacturers ?

5. Question by Mrs EWING (H-299/80)

Subject : Fisheries' Inspection

Will the Commission, in its deliberations on the Common Fisheries Policy, include a provision that fishing inspectors should be exchanged among all the Member States where fish is landed to ensure that regulations as to size, quotas, etc. are not only carried out but are seen to be carried out ?

6. Question by Mr VAN AERSSEN (H-300/80)

Subject: Theft of goods transported over the French/Spanish border

Attacks on vehicles carrying fruit and vegetables from Spain have recently increased in the French/Spanish border area. What is the Commission doing to prevent such outrages in the future and to ensure that the law is respected on the roads of Europe?

7. Question by Lord DOURO (H-348/80)

Subject : V.A.T. on Bloodstock

In answering my question no. H-95/80 on 7 July 1980, the Commission stated that they had commenced proceedings against France under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty. Could they now explain why they have not decided also to commence proceedings against the Republic of Ireland?

8. Question by Mr COTTRELL (H-362/80)

Subject: Taxation for spirituous beverages

Difficulties continue to arise with the Commission's proposals for harmonisation throughout the Community of a fair and equitable system of taxation on spirituous beverages, due it seems to some Member Governments' unwillingness to grant fair treatment to imported products such as Scotch whisky. In particular, the Danish system of mixed taxation continues to give cause for concern. Will the Commission state what action they propose to take to initiate progress in this area and also state a view on what progress has been achieved so far?

9. Question by Mr BALFE (H-367/80)

Subject: Chapter 58, Community Budget expenditure

Can the Commission state whether it has any proposals under the newly created Chapter 58 payments to provide funds for the relief of the severe social distress to be found in many of the older cities in Britain, which do not qualify for regional aid-- particularly in London where in some parts of the Inner City unemployment is now as high as in some of the worst of the regions?

10. Question by Miss FORSTER (H-377/80)

Subject : Draft of block exemption regulation for patent licences

Certain issues which are germane to the block exemption regulation are being litigated before the European Court of Justice in the Maize Seed case (Nungesser and Eisele v Commission, case No. 258/78). Can the Commission assure us that they will not proceed with the new draft for the block exemption regulation until the Court's decision on this case is available.

11. Question by Mr LALOR (H-383/80)

Subject : Irish egg industry seriously jeopardized by U.K. dumping

Will the Commission take immediate steps to regulate the trade in eggs in EEC Member States for the following reasons :

1. The egg industry in the Republic of Ireland is being seriously jeopardized by U.K. dumping;
2. 40% of U.K. exports to EEC countries in April were exported to Ireland;
3. 25% of all eggs sold in the Republic originate in Northern Ireland;
4. the U.K. is operating double standards. On the one hand it is complaining about imports to the U.K. from other EEC States while dumping large quantities of its own produce in the Republic of Ireland?

12. Question by Mr COLLINS (H-389/80)

Subject: Traffic in live food animals

Is the Commission aware that much of the traffic in live food animals is in breach of regulations designed to ease the suffering of the animals in transit and will the Commission undertake to bring forward enforcement measures which will eliminate the problems of animal suffering in traffic both within the Community and from third countries?

13. Question by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (H-392/80)

Subject: Homogenized and lyophilized products containing oestrogen

Homogenized and lyophilized meat-based products for infants have been withdrawn from the market in Italy as they contained oestrogen that has caused tissue to swell dangerously. What has the Commission done so far and what does it intend to do in the future to ensure that beef and veal containing oestrogen are not put on the market in view of the fact that the animals used for the products seized in Italy were generally imported slaughtered from the countries of the EEC and that it was therefore impossible to detect the oestrogen content?

14. Question by Mr MØLLER (H-398/80)

Subject: Danish duty on spirits

In its ruling of 27.2.1980 the Court of Justice of the European Communities ordered Denmark to amend its legislation on spirit duty. Denmark did so in a law dated 6.5.1980 which places foreign and Danish spirits on an equal footing. Even before the new law was adopted, however, Commissioner Burke announced that the Commission could not accept it. How does the Commission justify this attitude?

15. Question by Miss BROOKES (H-399/80)

Subject : Unfair Competition

In view of the very high level of unemployment in the U.K. and, in particular, North Wales, I am deeply concerned about the increase in the amount of dumping of subsidised products on the U.K. market, which is seriously aggravating the employment situation.

It appears that subsidised Italian Washing Machines are to be dumped on the U.K. market and this could seriously affect the viability of some of the U.K. products.

Can the Commission tell me whether any action can be taken against this grossly unfair competition?

16. Question by Mr PURVIS (H-401/80) (x)

Subject : Circulation of Goods within the EEC

In view of the judgement by the European Court of Justice in the "Cassis de Dijon" case, does the Commission now feel able to set a timetable towards the elimination of all internal Community border controls on the movement of goods and the achievement at last of a true Common Market with free circulation of goods?

(x) Will not be called if items 191 and 192 are kept on the agenda

17. Question by Mr DIDO (H-402/80)

Subject: Crisis in the car sector and Community intervention

What measures does the Commission intend putting forward to combat the crisis in the car sector in the Member States? Does the Commission not consider that there is an urgent need for a Community strategy to support this sector, based on cooperation between manufacturers on research and the joint production of some components, either with financial support from the EEC or by coordinating national aid, through the establishment of appropriate Community intervention instruments, with the added purpose of laying down rules for relations between Community countries and third countries?

18. Question by Mrs SCRIVENER (H-403/80)

Subject: Use of synthetic hormones in feed for calves

Is the Commission aware that the use of synthetic hormones in feed for calves has caused concern among consumers, and does it contemplate proposing Community legislation and inspection procedures applicable to all producers, which is the only way to avoid conflict between consumers and producers?

19. Question by Mr MARTINET (H-404/80)

Subject: USA-EEC relations

For some months, the United States Administration has exerted pressure on the Community clearly aimed at inducing us to limit our exports of iron and steel products and to accept a new and higher trigger price. To this end, it has accepted the arguments provided by US Steel which has opened anti-dumping procedures against fifteen European companies. The Commission has been in contact with the Washington authorities during this period. With a view to ensuring that a reasonable agreement is reached, has it pointed out that reprisal measures might be taken against certain categories of American exports to Europe?

20. Question by Mr PATTERSON (H-405/80)

Subject: Overseas students fees in the UK for Greek students

Is the decision of the United Kingdom Government to charge Greek students in British universities the full overseas rate of fee - £ 1380 to £ 5000 per annum - throughout the academic year 1980-81 compatible with the Treaties, having regard to the fact that students from other European Community Member States will only be charged the UK rate - £ 216 to £ 1105 - and to the fact that Greece becomes a full Member State of the Community on January 1, and if not, what steps does the Commission propose to take to ensure compliance by the UK Government with its Treaty obligations?

21. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-407/80)

Subject: Trading agreements with Indonesia

Because Indonesia does not like restrictions placed on imports into the Community on textiles it is discriminating against certain imports into Indonesia from the Community. What action has the Commission taken to force Indonesia to end its discriminatory policy and does this action include making it clear to the Government of Indonesia that any review of the present bilateral agreement is dependent on the ending of discrimination against certain Community exports?

22. Question by Mr NEWTON DUNN (H-408/80)

Subject: Fishing

What is the month for which all nine Member States have now notified to the Commission quantities of species landed in their ports, or landed outside the Community or transshipped by their fishermen and why has the information for this latest complete month and for all previous months not yet been published to the European Parliament, as was promised by the President of the Commission during Question Time in July?

23. Question by Mrs DE MARCH (H-409/80)

Subject: Consequences for the female employment market of the various plans for industrial reorganization and of the enlargement of the EEC to include the 3 applicant countries.

Will the Commission provide with all due speed a study of the number of jobs for women which have disappeared or are about to disappear in certain sectors, and sectors dependent on them, as a result of plans for industrial reorganization, and a study in respect of France, Spain, Greece and Portugal of the number of jobs for women likely to disappear in industry and agriculture as a consequence of the EEC's enlargement to include the 3 applicant countries?

24. Question by Mr SCHNINZEL (H-410/80)

Subject: Transborder school visits in the Community

What obstacles exist, to the Commission's knowledge, in the border regions of the Community to school visits to neighbouring countries, e.g. visits by Dutch children to the Federal Republic or by German children to Belgium, and what steps is the Commission taking to facilitate such visits?

25. Question by Mr WELSH (H-411/80)

Subject: Aids for the Horticultural Sector

In reply to written question 296/80 by Mr NEWTON DUNN ¹ Vice President Gundelach states "The Commission has in fact asked the Member States to discontinue all aid measures including those connected with production costs in horticulture except during two periods when oil prices rose suddenly (1974-75 and 1980). Strict conditions have been attached on each occasion to the authorisation of aids".

Recent reports have mentioned proposals for: 5% interest subsidy on oil purchases for Belgian growers and 12% for German growers; improvement credits worth FF 45 million for French growers from the French government for fuel conversion; an export subsidy scheme for Guernsey tomato growers; restrictions on the export of Dutch horticultural products to Denmark; a DFL 32 million research programme into fuel conversion in Holland where subsidised prices for natural gas continue to be available.

In the light of this does the Commission not consider that the time has come to make detailed proposals to replace all national aids by a single Community system?

26. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-415/80)

Subject: Bagnoli iron and steel complex

Is it true that the Commission is prepared to provide a substantial share of the finance for the Italian iron and steel complex at Bagnoli?

¹ OJ No. C 183, 27.7.1980, p.63

27. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-416/80)

Subject: Crisis in the veal market and the need to strengthen
European legislation

To deal with the crisis in the veal market, does the Commission intend as a matter of urgency to propose legislation prohibiting the use of artificial hormones and anabolic steroids, promoting the use of natural hormones and encouraging producers to feed calves on untreated milk?

28. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-417/80) (x)

Subject: Crisis in the Community iron and steel industry

In view of the decline of the steel market, does the Commission intend to propose application of Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty (period of manifest crisis)?

29. Question by Mrs DIENESCH (H-418/80)

Subject: Urgent measures to support pigmeat prices

In view of the serious fall in pigmeat prices which is threatening the livelihood of many producers, particularly in western France, what emergency measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure respect for Community preference and to eliminate distortions of competition within the European Economic Community?

(x) Will not be called if item 188 is kept on the agenda

30. Question by Mrs Nielsen (H-420/80)

Subject: National preferences in public procurement

In view of the increasingly common practice of giving preference to national undertakings in public procurement and in the formulation of tender specifications, will the Commission tell us precisely what it is doing to combat this practice, which is fragmenting the common market in breach of the Treaty of Rome, and will it state how many complaints of such discrimination on the basis of nationality it received in 1977, 1978 and 1979, naming the national authorities against which they were levelled?

31. Question by Mr GIUMMARRA (H-423/80)

Subject: Crisis in the wine sector

In view of the very serious crisis in the wine sector and the disquieting prospects for the new wine marketing year, does not the Commission consider it essential to take action to cancel authorizations to add sucrose, to remove taxation penalizing wine consumption, to respect the principles of the preference scheme, to protect the produce traditionally grown in the southern areas, to increase the level of refunds, to encourage promotional campaigns and to ensure the enforcement of Court of Justice rulings?

32. Question by Miss QUIN (H-425/80)

Subject: Procedure for considering and approving applications under the Regional and Social Funds

Is the Commission satisfied with its present procedure for considering and applications for Regional and Social Fund assistance, and, if not, what changes would it wish to see?

33. Question by Mrs CASTLE (H-426/80)

Subject: Apples

Is the Commission aware that during Parliament's plenary sessions in Strasbourg the only type of apples served in the restaurants is the French "Golden Delicious". Can the Commission confirm that this non-communautaire discrimination against other excellent apples such as the Cox's Orange Pippin does not exist in the Commission's own restaurants and will they ensure that a variety of Community apples is on sale in them?

34. Question by Mr MAHER (H-427/80)

Subject: Bank interest rates

With bank interest rates waving between 7% in some Member States and almost 18% in others, the operation of truly common prices under the C A P is impossible; does the Commission have any proposals to make to ensure that this serious distorsion is removed?

35. Question by Mr MAFFRE-BAUGE (H-430/80)

Subject: Table grapes

Since producers of table grapes apparently do not benefit from adequate arrangements, their income is falling as a result of the absence of any measures to prevent excessive market fluctuations.

There is a need to find a use for table grapes withdrawn from the market in order to guarantee quality and stability, since Community regulations restrict to a minimum the amount which may be turned into wine.

Two avenues might be explored:

- (a) A Community regulation providing for the grant of aid amounting to FF 0.35 per litre to producers of grape juice. Such aid would not be linked to any guaranteed minimum producer price, whereas aid granted to producers of other products is linked to guaranteed minimum prices.

For example:

	crop price (per 100 kg net at the farm gate)	EEC aid (per 100 kg)
Peaches	184.65	152.37
Williams Pears	172.37	135.01
Prunes	810.22	280.07
Morello cherries	436.19	181.90
Other cherries	388.24	170.79

- (b) Alternatively, the grapes withdrawn by recognized producer groups should be sent for processing rather than be destroyed. In that case, the processor could make up the inadequate withdrawal price (around FF 0.08) by a premium which would bring the producer price up to FF 1.20.

I should therefore like to ask the Commission whether these proposed changes would not help to protect the table grapes market and producers' incomes?

36. Question by Mr BEAZLEY (H-432/80)

Subject: Energy costs in horticulture

In view of the answers provided to my previous questions on this subject and the apparent failure of the Dutch Government to agree the complete harmonisation of energy costs in horticulture before 1981, despite Article 93.1 procedure having been invoked, would the Commission now indicate the measures it will take to achieve its objective of providing a genuine Common Market in horticultural products?

37. Question by Mr ADAM (H-433/80)

Subject: Non-Ferrous Metals Industries

Will the Commission give an undertaking to carry out an immediate investigation into the pricing, credit and delivery term policies in the non-ferrous metals industries in order to ensure fair trading within the Community?

38. 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?

39. Question by Mr DE KEERSMAEKER (H-440/80)

Subject: Ban on entry into France of articulated motor coaches exceeding 15.5 metres in length

Is the Commission aware that with effect from 1 October 1980 the French Government is imposing a ban on entry into its territory of articulated motor coaches exceeding 15.5 metres in length, and does it not feel that such legislation violates the provisions of the EEC Treaty on free competition, with consequent adverse effects for motor coach undertakings and manufacturers in other countries?

40. Question by Mr BONACCINI (H-441/80)

Subject : Eurocontrol's powers

What steps does the Commission of the European Communities intend to take to prevent the Eurocontrol Commission of Ministers from deciding next November to withdraw from that organization all legal powers in the field of air traffic control ?

41. Question by Mr DEANA (H-443/80)

Subject: Aid following natural disasters

On 22 September 1980 the province of Savona was struck by an exceptionally heavy hailstorm. This natural disaster affected a total of almost 300 hectares under glass and about 2,000 farms producing mostly winter fruit and vegetables and flowers mainly for export. Does the Commission not consider that aid is urgently needed to help to offset the loss of crops and equipment estimated to be equivalent to some 150,000 million lire?

42. Question by Mr RADOUX (H-444/80)

Subject : The economic situation in the Community

Because of the persistent crisis, reference is constantly made, and with good reason, to the weaknesses and alarming situations observed in various branches of industry in all the Member States of the Community.

Can the Commission say which industries are not affected by the crisis, or are actually expanding, so as to permit an accurate assessment of the overall industrial situation in the Community. This question is intended to apply to each sector individually. Do the Commission departments have a section dealing with the prevention of crisis situations ?

43. Question by Mr WARNER (H-445/80)

Subject : The importation of perry-pear juice concentrate

In view of the fact that the Council's answer to the last question on this subject, tabled by Mr Scott-Hopkins on the 14th November 1979 (1), was highly unsatisfactory, and in view of the fact that this relatively small matter of principle has been under consideration for a number of years now, can the Commission tell the Parliament what progress it is making with the Austrian request for a tariff reduction on a quota of concentrated perry-pear juice?

44. Question by Miss HOOPER (H-449/80)

Subject: International Sugar Agreement

Has any progress been made since last March to ensure the Community's membership in the International Sugar Agreement?

(1) Oral Question H-246/79 - Debates No. 248, 14.11.1979, p. 160

45. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-450/80)

Subject: Civil defence measures

What measures does the Commission plan to take in order to coordinate an effective civil defence of the Community against nuclear attack?

46. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-452/80)

Subject : Community policy for the development of smaller ports

Will the Commission state its policies relating to, and the aids available for, the development of smaller ports particularly in the lesser developed regions of the Community where they are an essential element in the infrastructure necessary for further economic development?

47. Question by Mrs DESMOND (H-454/80)

Subject : Cuts in Regional Fund Aid to Ireland

Will the Commission clarify its position relating to its recent proposals for revising downwards the quotas of the Member States, to allow for Greek entry, particularly for Ireland, where this Fund is of considerable significance. and will it propose instead considerable expansion of the Regional Fund?

48. Question by Mr HUME (H-455/80)

Subject : Commission proposals in favour of small farmers in Northern Ireland

Given the urgency of the situation facing small farmers in Northern Ireland, will the Commission report on the recent discussions in Council on the Commission's proposals for structural and other measures in favour of Northern Ireland farmers?

49. Question by Mr de la MALENE (H-457/80)

Subject : Agreements between Italian and Japanese motor vehicle manufacturers

How does the Commission view the technical and financial agreements which have been concluded or are about to be concluded between Italian motor vehicle manufacturers, specifically Alfa Romeo, and the Japanese motor vehicle industry, represented by the Nissan company; is this agreement not likely to lead in the long term to a cut-back in jobs among competing Italian companies, particularly Fiat, and also among some French manufacturers ?

50. Question by Mr BOYES (H-461/80)

Subject : Integrated Operations Areas

Would the Commission explain to the Parliament how to determine which area should be designated as Integrated Operations Areas. Further would they say any areas in County Durham could be so designated and particularly the town of Consett where unemployment is expected to be 50%.

51. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-462/80)

Subject: Cultivation of witloof chicory

Can the Commission confirm that France applies certain support measures for the cultivation of witloof chicory which have a discriminatory effect in particular on Belgian chicory producers and what does it intend to do to stop this discrimination?

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

52. Question by Mr ANTONIOZZI (H-251/80)

Subject: Forestry policy

Would the Council indicate whether it is prepared to implement - within the framework of the common agricultural policy and on the basis of suitable measures at both Community and regional level - a forestry policy that is commensurate with present requirements and that possibly also provides for the creation of a special revolving fund linked to the Community's financial institutions?

53. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-324/80)

Subject: Special measures to combat unemployment

Does the Council intend to introduce special measures with a view to checking unemployment, especially among young people, at this difficult time when the summer holidays are over?

54. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-325/80)

Subject: Imports of motor cars from Japan

In order to allay the fears of the European motor car industry, does the Council intend to introduce effective measures to stop excessive car imports from Japan?

55. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-335/80)

Subject: Increasing difficulties in the European motor vehicle industry

In view of the increasing difficulties in the European motor vehicle industry, does not the Council consider that measures should already have been taken to support this sector which is subject to excessive Japanese competition? If it is not already too late, what urgent measures does the Council propose to take?

56. Question by Mrs EWING (H-354/80)

Subject: Subsidies to Oil Rig Construction Sites

Will the Council give the assurance that oil rig construction sites do not receive subsidies, open or hidden such as favourable interest rates thus in breach of the fair competition principle?

57. Question by Mr BALFE (H-365/80)

Subject: Questions about the functioning of Parliament

Under what is known as the "Gentleman's Agreement" Parliament and Council would not normally question each other's expenditure. One by-product of this is that it is impossible for Members of the Parliament to ask public questions about the running of Parliament and the expenditure incurred. Is the Council prepared to use its good offices to prevail upon the authorities controlling Parliament to allow Members to table Questions about the functioning of Parliament?

58. Question by Mr SEAL (H-270/80)

Subject : Compulsory origin marking

Has the Council discussed, or does it intend to discuss, the question of compulsory origin marking for consumer goods, in particular textile and clothing products ?

59. Question by Mr VAN AERSSSEN (H-301/80)

Subject: Theft of goods transported over the French/Spanish border

Attacks on vehicles carrying fruit and vegetables from Spain have recently increased in the French/Spanish border area. What is the Council doing to prevent such outrages in the future and to ensure that the law is respected on the roads of Europe?

60. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-329/80)

Subject: Influence of the European Parliament

Does the Council feel that the European Parliament has had a significant influence on decisions of the Council and if so, could it send me a list of these decisions?

61. Question by Lord DOURO (H-349/80)

Subject : Financial aid to Accession States

The Commission is proposing in the 1981 budget a specific aid to Portugal of 90 million EUA in commitments. Do the Council not agree that aid to the other accession state, the Kingdom of Spain, would also be desirable?

62. Question by Lord O'HAGAN (H-400/80)

Subject : Sheep Meat Regime

Is the Council satisfied that the Sheep Meat Regime is working satisfactorily?

63. Question by Mr WELSH (H-412/80)

Subject: Renegotiation of the Multifibre Arrangement

Following the publication of a draft communication to the Council document 1/277/80 EN which concludes that the multifibre arrangement will be renewed for a further period after 1981, what plans does the Council have to consult Parliament before it approves the Commission's negotiating mandate and will it give an undertaking to seek Parliament's opinion before any new agreements are finalised?

64. Question by Mr SPINELLI (H-413/80)

Subject: Appointment of the new Commission

Is the Council prepared to adopt the proposals contained in the Rey report on the relations between the European Parliament and the Commission of the Community with a view to the forthcoming appointment of a new Commission?

65. Question by Mr PEDINI (H-414/80)

Subject: Seat of the European Parliament

Article 77 of the ECSC Treaty, Article 216 of the EEC Treaty and Article 189 of the EAEC Treaty provide that the seat of the institutions of the Community 'shall be determined by common accord of the Governments of the Member States'.

In a memorandum of 16 September 1980 the French Government proposed to the Governments of the other Member States that the City of Strasbourg should be chosen as the seat of the European Parliament. If the Governments of the Member States eventually decide to tackle the question of the seat of the European Parliament, Parliament itself will have no option but simply to await the outcome since it will be given no say in the decision.

Since this is a matter that directly concerns the European Parliament and since it is quite able to make an informed assessment of the suitability of the seat chosen to its functional requirements, what reasons could there possibly be for refusing to delegate this choice to the European Parliament?

66. Question by Miss QUIN (H-424/80)

Subject: Commission proposal on income support for workers in the shipbuilding industry

What progress has Council made in discussions on the proposal of the Commission, submitted to the Council on 1 August 1980, to provide assistance from the European Social Fund for income support for workers in the shipbuilding industry?

67. Question by Mr BLUMENFELD (H-429/80)

Subject: Membership of the Commission and its responsibilities
towards Parliament

What action has the Council taken, or does it intend to take, on the requests made by the European Parliament (Rey report - Resolution of 16 April 1980)¹ concerning both the membership of the new Commission and its responsibilities towards Parliament?

68. Question by Mr ADAM (H-434/80)

Subject: Regional Policies

Will the Council immediately call for a detailed report on the comparison of the regional policies of the Member States with particular reference to the effect of these policies on:

- a) unemployment
- b) economic convergence?

69. Question by Mr MEGAHY (H-437/80)

Subject: Tuition costs of Greek students

What arrangements are being made by the Member Governments with respect to the tuition costs of Greek students commencing courses in the autumn term of 1980 in the light of the fact that Greece enters the Community on the 1 January 1981?

¹OJ No. C 117, 12.5.1980, p. 53

70. Question by Mr SEELER (H-442/80)

Subject: Commission negotiating mandate for a new agreement with Canada on uranium supplies

In a discussion on trade relations between the Community and the Commonwealth countries, the Canadian ambassador in Brussels stated that the Council had not so far granted the Commission a mandate to negotiate a new agreement on the supply of uranium to the Community, even though the existing agreement expired at the end of 1980. Why has no negotiating mandate yet been granted and will such a mandate be granted in the immediate future?

71. Question by Sir Frederick WARNER (H-446/80)

Subject : The importation of perry-pear juice concentrate

In view of the fact that this relatively small matter of principle has been under consideration for a number of years now, can the Council tell the Parliament what progress they are making with the Austrian request for a tariff reduction on a quota of concentrated perry-pear juice?

72. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-451/80)

Subject : Disaster situation of small farmers in the Community

Will the Council examine immediately the very serious situation in which the majority of small farmers in the Community find themselves following the exceptionally bad weather of the past Summer, with a view to calling on the Commission to make appropriate proposals as soon as possible; to alleviate the situation?

73. Question by Mrs DESMOND (H-453/80)

Subject : Cuts in Regional Fund Aid to Ireland

Will the Council ensure that any proposed revision of the Regional Fund in view of Greek entry to the Community will not have the effect of reducing Ireland's share of this Fund?

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

74. Question by Mr BALFE (H-366/80)

Subject: Diplomatic Immunity

During 1979 and for the first five months of 1980 the following totals of parking tickets were cancelled by the London Police because of diplomatic immunity being claimed by the offenders:

Belgium	280
Denmark	58
France	2,885
Germany (Federal Republic)	217
Ireland	161
Italy	654
Luxembourg	20
Netherlands	47
Total	<u>4,322</u>

Recalling that Diplomatic Immunity was instituted to protect foreign nationals from malicious prosecution and bearing in mind that diplomats in London are abusing this law by evading fines, will the Foreign Ministers take steps to end this abuse of diplomatic immunity?

75. Question by Mr LOMAS (H-375/80)

Subject: Disappeared prisoner in Argentina

Have the Foreign Ministers of the Member States taken any action regarding the disappearance of Argentinian citizen, Silvia Angelica Corazza de Sanchez, following her arrest in May 1977?

76. Question by Mr DOUBLET (H-406/80)

Subject: The recent Olympic games in Moscow

Do the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting in political cooperation consider that the way the recent Olympic games in Moscow were conducted and the entire political campaign which preceded them did serious harm to the Olympic spirit, and that it is desirable to remedy this state of affairs once and for all by changing the regulations of the games, particularly as regards the role and composition of the Olympic Committee, the scope and magnitude of the summer games, and the provisions concerning their location, for which a permanent site, ideally in Greece, could be considered?

77. Question by Mr Christopher JACKSON (H-422/80)

Subject : Sanctions against the Soviet Union in the light of
Soviet violation of the Helsinki Accords

In the light of the Commission's reply to Written Question No. 1858/79 (1), do the Foreign Ministers consider that the application of sanctions against the Soviet Union for repeated violation of the Helsinki Accords might contribute to the cause of human rights, for instance by the agreed suspension of certain exports by Member States in order to cause the maximum economic nuisance?

78. Question by Mrs EWING (H-428/80)

Subject: Release of an Argentinian Political Prisoner of Conscience

Will the foreign ministers use their good offices to persuade the Argentinian Government to release Dr. Ernesto Villanueva, an eminent sociologist and former rector of the University of Buenos Aires, now being held at the disposal of the National Executive Power, and grant him permission to leave Argentina which was refused in March of this year?

(1) OJ No. C 198, 4.8.1980, p. 8

79. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-439/80)

Subject: Self-determination for the Palestinian people and
its geographical scope

Could the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation define the territory within which they feel the Palestinian people should exercise their right to self-determination as they envisaged it in their Venice declaration on the Middle East?

80. Question by Mr ROMUALDI (H-456/80) (x)

Subject: Conflict between Iran and Iraq

Firstly, what has been done at Community level to ensure the safety of European citizens in Iran and Iraq and to protect their possessions and our countries' very extensive interests in the area of the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean?

Secondly, what is the foreign ministers' position (a) with regard to initiatives to restore peace in this area of crucial importance to the European economy and (b), within the context of our alliances, with regard to the strategic measures to be taken in order to guarantee free navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and particularly the proposal that a European naval squadron be formed?

81. Question by Mr BAUDIS (H-460/80)

Subject: Racist attacks in Community countries

Can the Council state what action it has taken or is proposing to take, in the context of the European judicial area, to put an end to the fascist attacks which have in recent weeks caused terrible suffering in the cities of Bologna, Munich and Paris and are threatening to destroy the democratic bases of European unification?

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-48/80), converted into a question for Question Time

