

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

5 December 1980

DOCUMENT 1-674/80/rev.

ORAL QUESTION (0-68/80)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the
Rules of Procedure by Mr GLINNE, Mr MOREAU,
Mr DELORS, Mrs WIECZOREK-ZEUL, Mr BOYES,
Mr ALBERS, Mr ABENS, Mr DIDO, Mrs GREDAL
and Mr KAVANAGH

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Motor industry

The motor industry is now facing particularly
fierce competition and the highly damaging
effects of the slow-down in economic
activity and the second oil crisis.

Apart from the individual measures which must be
taken to cope with the different situations of
the various companies, a European approach is
needed for this industry, which has considerable
assets and acts as a stimulus to the economy
and employment, in a point which needs no further
stressing.

../..

PE 68.945/rev.

Given this situation:

1. What commercial policy does the Commission intend to adopt mainly, though not exclusively, in its relations with Japan, whose conduct is open to criticism on account of the role of the yen and of the failure of the Japanese to grant reciprocal access to their market?
2. What does the Commission feel could be done to harmonize the national policies and increase cooperation among European manufacturers (car makers and component manufacturers) in order to achieve economies of scale and further improvements in productivity?
3. Is it not essential for the Community to take action and provide financial incentives to stimulate research and innovation in the fields which are vital to the future of our industry: energy saving, micro-electronics applications, use of new materials, design of models suitable for urban conditions?
4. Would it not be possible to facilitate redeployment, modernization, the training of workers to use new production processes and cope with new activities, and the creation or safeguarding of jobs, by means of a coordinated policy on prevention and conversion financed by the Social Fund and the Regional Fund?
5. Should not a policy on this scale - which, for once, should be decided upon before it is too late - be formulated, implemented and monitored with the involvement of workers' and employers' organizations? Would it not be appropriate to set up a tripartite committee for this purpose?