

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTIONS

pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME on 19 February 1975

QUESTION TIME

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1. Question by Mr RADOUX

Subject: Paris Summit communiqué

Is it true that the text of the official communiqué published at the end of the Paris Summit Conference has since been altered, in the utmost secrecy, to render it more restrictive?

2. Question by Sir Douglas DODDS-PARKER

Subject: The Channel Tunnel

Will the Council consider the possibility of transforming the Channel Tunnel project into a project on a European Community basis?

3. Question by Mr FELLERMAIER

Subject: Cyprus

What political contribution has the Council of the European Communities made so far towards settling the Cyprus question, and what steps does it intend to take in view of the mounting tension on the island?

4. Question by Mr PATIJN

Subject: Humanitarian aid for Kurdish refugees

Is the Council prepared to follow the Netherlands Government's example and grant humanitarian aid to the Kurdish people?¹

¹The Netherlands Government expressed its willingness to grant humanitarian aid in reply to questions from the Second Chamber (4 November 1974, No. 234). On 16 January 1975 the Netherlands Minister of Defence made 5,000 army blankets available to the Terre des Hommes foundation and the IDA for Kurdish refugees.

QUESTION TIME

QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

5. Question by Mr BLUMENFELD

Subject: Rising administrative costs in the customs services

Is the Commission aware that the rising administrative costs and increasingly complicated paperwork handled by the Community's customs services as a result of EEC regulations are placing a growing burden, not only on customs officials but also on importers and consumers? This is hardly calculated to enhance the Community's popularity. What action does the Commission intend to take to remedy the situation?

6. Question by Mr HERBERT

Subject: Cross-border cooperation

As the Irish Government has been endeavouring to promote cross-border cooperation along the Irish border with the U.K. Government, has either Government made any approaches or inquiries to the Commission on the possibilities of availing of Community funds to finance consultations, studies or surveys?

7. Question by Mr COUSTE

Subject: Completion of the Rhine-Rhône-Mediterranean link

The linking of the North Sea to the Mediterranean by a wide canal is not an exclusively French enterprise, in view of the loan made available for this purpose by the European Investment Bank. I would therefore ask the Commission if it intends to take any action in regard to the completion of this link, and if so on what basis.

8. Question by Mr HOUGARDY

Subject: Information on the takeover of the **MARINE-FIRMINY** iron and steel and nuclear group

Does the Commission consider that the decision taken pursuant to Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty, with a view to restricting the acquisition of share capital and thereby preventing the takeover of **MARINE-FIRMINY** by another French company, has been complied with?

QUESTION TIME

9. Question by Mr HARZSCHEL

Subject: Destruction of foodstuffs in the Community

Is it true that, as reported in the press, considerable quantities of food were destroyed or used for other purposes in the Community in 1974? If this is the case, what quantities were involved, what financial resources were used for this purpose, and what action does the Commission intend to take to prevent a repetition of this situation in 1975?

10. Question by Mr NOE'

Subject: Discharge of polluting effluents

Does the Commission not think that the time has come to intensify studies and action within the Community with a view, where the geological characteristics of the subsoil so allow, to generalizing the practice of discharging polluting effluents from specific industries into deep wells, as is being done increasingly frequently in other countries?

11. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS

Subject: Trade deficit between Britain and the other Member States

It has been suggested that the deficit in trade in 1973 and 1974 between Britain on the one hand and the eight other Member States on the other is caused by Britain having become a Member of the Community. Does the Commission consider that this point of view is justified?

12. Question by Mr KIRK

Subject: Cost of animal feedingstuffs in Northern Ireland

What steps are the Commission proposing to take to alleviate the difficulties to pig and poultry producers in Northern Ireland where imported Community wheat and barley are currently costing eight pounds per ton more than at west coast ports in Britain?

QUESTION TIME

13. Question by Mr BREWIS

Subject: Proposed extension of Norwegian territorial waters

The Commission is asked what attitude it has adopted to Norway's expressed intention to extend her territorial waters.

14. Question by Mr JOHNSTON

Subject: Re-negotiations between the U.K. and the remainder of the Community

The Commission is asked whether they will list those major questions not resolved in the so-called re-negotiations between the U.K. and the remainder of the Community and set out the areas of disagreement.

15. Question by Mr HANSEN

Subject: Cyprus

What effect is the Cyprus crisis having on the application of the Association Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the EEC?

16. Question by Mr LABAN

Subject: Costs of sugar imports subsidy scheme

How big a quantity of sugar has been imported under the sugar imports subsidy scheme so far, and was it done at costs within the expected limits as mentioned in the comments to the original draft report?

