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ORAL QUESTION (0-76/74)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
by Mr PISONI, Mr GIRARDIN, Mr LIGIOS, Mr VERNASCHI and Mr ROSATI
to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject : Return of migrant workers to Italy

Several thousand Italian workers employed in the Community, mainly in Germany, have lost their jobs as a result of the economic crisis and are now obliged to return to Italy.

Unemployment has in fact now reached an extremely high level even in countries where there was none in the past such as Germany, where it is estimated that the number of unemployed will soon reach the million mark. Of these, most are foreigners, many of them Italians.

In addition thousands of other migrant workers are returning from Switzerland, including 25 thousand seasonal workers whose contracts of employment will not be renewed in 1975.

All these workers returning to Italy, who are forced to make a new start but who do not even qualify for unemployment and social security benefits will further aggravate the already serious unemployment situation in Italy.

The European Community must intervene on their behalf to remedy an often critical situation. What measures does the Commission propose to adopt in order to :

1. combat the recession by guaranteeing as far as possible the employment of at least Community citizens?
2. prevent such a large number of migrant workers being forced to return to Italy?
3. guarantee a minimum subsistence income to those who are obliged to return?