

# European Communities

Delegation of the Commission  
of the European Communities  
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## Background Information



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## THE EEC AND STATE TRADING COUNTRIES

### A Chronology:

- March 7, 1974 Council of European Communities recalls that from January 1, 1975 all future trade negotiations are to be conducted by the Community and declares that the Community is ready to enter into such negotiations with any State Trading country which so desires.
- November 1974 Commission of European Communities sends all State Trading countries which had bilateral arrangements with Member States (but not with the EEC), an outline trade agreement which the Community would be ready to negotiate with them.
- January 1, 1975 From this date all trade negotiations with State Trading countries to be negotiated by the Community. As no State Trading country has started to negotiate with the EEC, an autonomous trade regime is established.
- March 1975 Commission proposes to Romania, Hungary and Poland the negotiation of textile agreements within the framework of the GATT Multifibre Arrangement.
- May 4-11, 1975 Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, on official visit to Peking.
- May 9, 1975 China announces it will accredit an Ambassador to the European Communities. Both sides agree to begin talks for a commercial cooperation agreement.

September 15, 1975                    Li Lien Pi accredited as Chinese Ambassador to the EC in Brussels.

January 8-10, 1976                    Sir Christopher Soames visits Romania and addresses Romanian Association of International Law and International Relations. He declares that State Trading countries should play a greater part in the search for a new world economic order.

September-November 1976              Completion of negotiations between Romania and the EEC for an export restraint agreement on textiles on the basis of the GATT Multifibre Arrangement.

February 16, 1977                    Negotiations with USSR for a framework agreement on reciprocal fishing rights open in Brussels.

February 23, 1977                    Similar talks open with Poland.

March 10, 1977                        Fishing talks open with German Democratic Republic.