

A WEEKLY TIMETABLE OF PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

Next Council Meetings

Brussels	January 23/24	Foreign Affairs
	January 26	Steel
	January 31	Fisheries

Provisional Dates Further Ahead

Finance Council:	Feb 6, March 12	
Agriculture Council:	Feb 6/7, Feb 27/28, March 12/13	
	March 26/27	
ACP/EEC Council:	Feb 9/10	
Energy Council:	Feb 14	
Foreign Affairs Council:	Feb 20/21, March 5/6	
Research Council:	Feb 28	
Development Council:	Feb 28	
Environment Council:	March 1	
Consumer Affairs Council:	March 2	
Fisheries Council:	March 5	
Social Affairs Ministers (informal meeting):	Feb 2	(France)
Women's affairs (informal meeting):	March 8	(Paris)
European Parliament:	Feb 13 - 17	(Strasbourg)
	March 12 - 16	(Strasbourg)
European Council (summit):	March 19 - 20	(Brussels)
Western Economic Summit:	June 7 - 9	(London)
European Elections:	June 14+17	

THE WEEK AHEAD

The agendas of next week's two Council meetings (Foreign Affairs and Steel) have not yet been fixed.

We shall hold our normal Friday press briefing at this office at 11.30 am tomorrow.

FLASHBACK

THE FRENCH PRESIDENCY: The French Foreign Minister, M. Claude Cheysson, speaking to the European Parliament at the start of the French presidency, underlined the measure of agreement which already existed between member states on such subjects as the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the need for increased financial discipline. M. Cheysson mentioned the problem of Britain's budgetary contribution and suggested that it should be remedied "for a certain period". He also emphasised that this problem must be dealt with in the spirit of the treaty.

AGRICULTURE: The new Commission proposal on farm prices has been rejected by both the French and German ministers of agriculture. Meanwhile, a Commission report suggests that there has been a downward trend in farmers' standards of living in France, Germany, Ireland and Britain. They have done rather better in Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

HI-JACKING OF LORRIES: The hi-jacking last weekend of two British lorries with loads of lamb by French farmers demonstrating against imports of foreign meat has brought protests from British farmers and from the British Minister of Agriculture, Mr Michael Jopling. President Mitterrand has stated that the law must be observed and has dismissed the prefect of the Orne department who failed to intervene to release the lorries.

UNITED STATES: The European Community has raised tariffs and established quotas on American exports of chemicals, plastic products, alarm systems and sporting goods. This measure has been taken in retaliation for similar American action against European special steels. It covers approximately \$57m. worth of trade.

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