

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Oral Questions

Pursuant to Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure

**for QUESTION TIME
on 15 and 17 June 1981**

QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1. Question by Mr KIRK (H-174/81)

Subject: Commission proposal for catch quotas in the Community fisheries sector

At the Council meeting of 30 May 1980, the foreign ministers of the Community agreed on a number of criteria on which to base the Community's future fisheries policy.

In the Commission's proposal of 23 October 1980 concerning the distribution of catch quotas in the fisheries sector amongst the Member States, these criteria are specified as:

1. traditional fishing activities;
2. the needs of the most disadvantaged regions, as defined in the Hague Resolution of 3 November 1976;
3. 50% compensation for the loss of catch potential in the waters of third countries.

Is the Commission still using these three criteria as the basis for distributing catch quotas amongst the Member States, and does the Commission intend to comply with the resolution adopted by the European Parliament expressing the wish that any amendments to the proposal should be referred back to Parliament for further consideration before the proposal is submitted to the Council?

2. Question by Mr KAPPOS (H-50/81)

Subject: Defamatory remarks concerning the newspaper 'RIZOSPASTES'

Is the Commission aware that the bulletin put out by the Commission's press department describes the newspaper 'RIZOSPASTES' as 'dogmatically communistic'?

Does not the Commission consider that this description is totally uncalled for?

Does the Commission intend taking measures to ensure that this slur against 'RIZOSPASTES' is not repeated?

3. Question by Mr BALFE (H-64/81)

Subject: Salary of the President, the Vice-Presidents and Members of the Commission

In response to written questions 1071/80¹ and 1652/80², designed to elicit the current salary of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Members of the European Commission, expressed in units of account, the Commission has refused to publish these figures.

Regretting that two polite questions have failed to elicit this information in writing, will the President state in units of account, what is the salary of himself, the Vice-Presidents and the Members of his Commission?

4. Question by Mrs PRUVOT (H-68/81)

Subject: Resale rights of creative artists in the plastic arts

In its communication on Community action in the cultural sector the Commission indicated and explained its intention of introducing a directive to make resale rights generally applicable. The supplementary memorandum of 1980 referred to the preparation of a directive and an initial draft was discussed with the groups concerned (artists in the plastic arts and art dealers) at a meeting on 20 June 1980 in Brussels. What has the Commission done since that meeting and what is it now doing as regards the preparation, which, in the normal course of events should now be further advanced, of a directive aimed at making the resale rights of creative artists in the plastic arts generally applicable?

5. Question by Mr COMBE (H-70/81)

Subject: Harmonization of VAT rates applicable to repairs, maintenance and the provision of services

Does the Commission not feel that, in order to combat moonlighting and wastage, the VAT rates applicable to repairs, maintenance and the provision of services could be harmonized at the reduced level already envisaged for many agricultural services, essential goods and cultural services in the Member States?

¹ CJ No. C 288, 6.11.80, p. 25

² Bulletin no. 53/80

6. Question by Mrs EWING (H-71/81)

Subject: Site of Community Trade-Mark Office

In view of the suitability of Edinburgh as a financial and legal centre with excellent transport facilities and the need to stimulate interest in Scotland in the European Community, will the Commission make immediate contact with the Scottish Office and other appropriate authorities with a view to siting the proposed Community Trade-Mark Office in Edinburgh?

7. Question by Mr HAAGERUP (H-73/81)

Subject: Proposal for a directive on the production marketing, use and disposal of beverage containers

Will the Commission kindly state how far it took into account two reports by Danish bodies, Miljøstyrelsen (the Environment Administration) and the Danish Dairies Association, in drawing up its proposal for a directive on the production, marketing, use and disposal of containers of liquids for human consumption, why its proposal is diametrically opposed to the conclusions of these two reports, and the expected financial implications of the directive for the retail trade, especially the numerous small independent traders?

8. Question by Mr BUTTAUFUOCO (H-75/81)

Subject: Crisis in the fishing industry in Sicily

The EEC recently undertook an examination of the reasons for the approval by the Region of Sicily of regional law No 76 of 4.8.1980 extending payment of the subsidy on fuel used by Sicilian motor-trawlers to cover the period 1.7.1980 to 31.12.1980. This extension was needed because of the continuing increase in fuel consumption as Sicilian motor trawlers travel further to find fishing grounds. As the Italo-Tunisian fishing agreement was not renewed when it expired on 19.6.1979, the fishing grounds are now situated further and further from the home ports of these boats. Will the Commission make known the results of its examination and state its position on the serious crisis facing the fishing industry in Sicily?

9. Question by Mr CALVEZ (H-78/81)

Subject: US textile exports to the EEC

Does the Commission not agree that anti-dumping or countervailing measures should be taken in the light of the upsurge in exports of textiles from the USA to the EEC?

10. Question by Mr GALLAND (H-79/81)

Subject: HONDA shareholding in BRITISH LEYLAND

Is the Commission aware that the proposed link between HONDA and BRITISH LAYLAND threatens seriously to disturb the balance of forces in the European motor industry and hence distort competition within the common market?

11. Question by Mr FANTON (H-96/81)

Subject: Re-opening of Italian customs ports responsible for the customs clearance of steel products

What steps does the Commission propose to take to ensure that those Italian customs ports which, before their unilateral closure, were responsible for the clearance of steel products from the Community are swiftly re-opened and thus that the principle of the free movement of goods in the EEC is respected?

12. Question by Mr TURCAT (H-97/81)

Subject: Consequences of the movement in the exchange rate of the Dollar on the Community's external trade

Has the Commission detected any changes in the volume and value of Community exports and imports as a result of recent fluctuations in the exchange rate of the Dollar?

13. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-98/81)

Subject: Activities of the EEC anti-dumping department

Can the Commission indicate the present line of action taken by the anti-dumping department of the European Economic Community; has the number of complaints received increased and can the department respond promptly to requests for action to resolve sectoral problems?

14. Question by Mrs FOURCADE (H-107/81)

Subject: Market price of fruit and vegetables?

Does the Commission think that the Brussels decision on prices will really affect the market price of most fruit and vegetables?

15. Question by Mr GRIFFITHS (H-115/81)

Subject: New initiatives on the social aspects of the restructuring of industries

What new initiatives are the Commission proposing to deal with the growing problem of the "social aspects" arising from the continuing massive restructuring of European industries such as steel, shipbuilding, textiles, chemicals and motor vehicles?

16. Question by Ms QUIN (H-117/81)

Subject: Commission "scrap and build proposal to aid the European shipbuilding industry"

Will the Commission make a statement on progress made in consideration of a "scrap and build" policy and have any new initiatives in this field been made by the Commission since the accession of Greece into the Community?

17. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-129/81)

Subject: Location of industry

Can the Commission say whether it is true that the major Hong-Kong textile group Yangtseklang Garment Manufacturing (YGM) is planning to locate a denim production unit in Washington New Town in the United Kingdom; can it specify what this new undertaking will produce, whether its main market will be inside or outside the Community and how many jobs this will create?

18. Question by Mr BONACCINI (H-134/81)

Subject : Crisis in the automobile industry

Can the Commission say what progress has been made towards the implementation of Resolution 1-673/80 of 13 January 1981?

19. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-135/81)

Subject: Forestry policy

In the paper "Reflections on the Common Agricultural Policy", the Commission says: "Efforts to improve the structural aspects of the Common Agricultural Policy should be accompanied by initiatives in the forestry sector".

What initiatives does the Commission propose to take?

20. Question by Mr FELLERMAIER (H-137/81)

Subject: Turkey - Statement by General Evren

Does the Commission agree that following the statement by General Evren the time has come to suspend the EEC-Turkey Association agreement?

21. Question by Sir David NICOLSON (H-139/81)

Subject: Reduction of lead additives in petrol

On 21 January 1981 Mr Narjes gave an answer on behalf of the Commission to a written question no. 1447/80¹, seeking the Commission's views on the possibility of a further directive on the content of lead additive in petrol.

Could the Commission please advise whether it is able to give any indication as to the length of time which it will require to complete the preparatory work which is necessary before a draft directive can be published and could it also advise whether it will be prepared to publish a draft directive reducing the stipulated minimum lead content figure as an interim measure pending more comprehensive controls?

22. Question by Mr NEWTON DUNN (H-144/81)

Subject : Full Recognition of Qualifications of Environmental Health Officers in the United Kingdom

Following an unpublished report made for the Commission last year, when will progress resume towards full recognition that certain non-veterinary personnel such as Environmental Health Officers in the United Kingdom shall be permitted both to certify and to supervise inspection of meat products for intra-Community trade ?

23. Question by Mr GLINNE (H-145/81)

Subject: Humanitarian aid to El Salvador

Although Commissioner Gheysson assured the European NGOs that it was possible for humanitarian aid to El Salvador to reach the peoples actually affected by the civil war and that it would be sent through European organizations, the Commission has recently entrusted this task to the Catholic Relief Service.

Why has the Commission chosen an American organization as intermediary, given that there are NGOs in all the Community Member States, and how, under these circumstances, can the Commission exercise proper control over the final destination of European humanitarian aid to the people of San Salvador?

¹ OJ no. C 49, 9.3.1981, p. 23

24. Question by Mrs SCRIVENER (H-146/81)

Subject: Atmospheric pollution caused by emissions of sulphur dioxides

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) recently published a study on atmospheric pollution caused by emissions of sulphur dioxides which suggests that such emissions are harmful to health and to agricultural production and cause water pollution.

Given that the cost of the damage that could be prevented by taking effective measures against sulphur dioxides would amount to \$214 million (\$6.9 per capita) in respect of agricultural production and around \$500 million (\$2.5 per capita) in respect of the effects on health, does the Commission propose to:

- draw the attention of the Council of Health Ministers to the harmful effects of sulphur dioxides;
- take steps at Community level to reduce emissions of sulphur dioxides?

25. Question by Mr CEOVINI (H-148/81)

Subject: Resolution Doc. 1-90/80 on the Northern Adriatic Contribution of 2 m EUA towards the elaboration of projects

On 17 April 1980 the European Parliament unanimously adopted the above resolution in the form of amendment No. 1 to Doc. 1-90/80.

Paragraph 2 of the resolution call for an initial Community contribution of 2,000,000 EUA towards the elaboration of the projects described in the preamble.

If the European Parliament's declaration is not to be reduced to a meaningless statement of intent, it is essential to make a practical start on these proposals. Can the Commission therefore indicate the steps it intends to take to ensure that the 2 m EUA is paid to the competent local authorities in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia frontier region?

26. Question by Mr KEY (H-151/81)

Subject : Negotiations with the Government of Cyprus

In the light of the welcome meeting between the President of the Commission and the foreign minister of Cyprus on the 3rd April, 1981 and the President's encouraging statement that he will seek the approval of the Council of Ministers for the opening of negotiations with the Government of Cyprus on the association agreement for 1982-83, will the Commission state what timetable it hopes to pursue in these important negotiations; and will the Commission afford the highest priority to the agreement's early and satisfactory conclusion in the interests of the Community and the people of Cyprus?

27. Question by Mrs HAMMERICH (H-154/81)

Subject: Parliament's Rules of Procedure

What action does the Commission intend to take in view of the fact that the European Parliament, by changing its Rules of Procedure, is now seeking to assume a greater degree of authority at the expense of the other institutions and in conflict with the Treaty of Rome, which merely provides for Parliament to be consulted and to deliver an opinion?

According to Rules 32, 35 and 36 of the new Rules of Procedure, Parliament will now vote directly on the Commission's proposals and put forward amendments to these, thereby acting in the same way as a national parliament deciding on proposals from the government. At the same time, Parliament is taking upon itself the right to delay matters if the Commission does not adopt the amendments which Parliament proposes. Such action clearly exceeds the terms of the Treaty of Rome, which merely provides for Parliament to be consulted and to deliver an opinion; thereafter, it is entirely up to the Commission and the Council to decide whether or not to take account of Parliament's views.

28. Question by Mr DENIS (H-157/81)

Subject: Food aid

Is the Commission now prepared to put an end to political discrimination, particularly against Vietnam and Cambodia, in the granting of food aid?

29. Question by Mrs POIRIER (H-159/81)

Subject: Community preference for tobacco production

Tobacco produced in the Community is faced with increasing competition from tobacco imported at preferential rates in defiance of the principle of Community preference, with serious repercussions for planters: reduced acreage and lower earnings.

Does the Commission intend to levy a tax, commensurate with the percentage of Community tobacco used in their blends, on the profits made by multinationals and thus create a new source of Community revenue?

30. Question by Mrs LE ROUX (H-160/81)

Subject: Boosting milk production

It is now acknowledged that Community stocks of milk products are inadequate to meet export requirements. Does the Commission not intend to remove all obstacles to increased milk production starting with the abolition of the coresponsibility levy?

31. Question by Mr PEARCE (H-164/81)

Subject : Publicity given to EEC funds

Does the Commission agree that public opinion in the United Kingdom would be more favourable to the European Economic Community if the Commission and/or the UK authorities took more effective steps to publicise in detail, in the constituencies concerned, expenditure there from the various EEC funds and, if so, what steps is it taking to remove the existing dearth of such publicity?

32. Question by Mr COLLINS (H-169/81)

Subject: Animals for slaughter stunned before killing

Can the Commission say what proportion of animals for slaughter in each of the Member States is stunned before killing, whether it is satisfied that slaughter is always carried out in circumstances that conform to internationally agreed standards of animal welfare, and whether it considers any action is necessary in this area?

33. Question by Mr PURVIS (H-175/81)

Subject : Taxation on Community oil producers

What effect on the level of indigenous oil and gas exploration and production does the Commission expect from the current range and rates of taxation on oil and gas produced within Community territory?

What suggestions it have for the Member States Governments concerned regarding their taxation policy in order to maximise the discovery and efficient production of the Community's oil and gas reserves in the context of the E.E.C.'s energy objectives to reduce reliance on imported oil?

34. Question by Mr von WOGAU (H-176/81)

Subject: The levying of minimal amounts of duty in
intra-Community tourist traffic

There is to date no Community regulation for the simplification of intra-Community tourist traffic as regards the exemption from duty of goods which are of such low value that the amount due is minimal. Should there not be a Community regulation fixing this amount at a level which covers the administrative expenses incurred, and should this not also apply to national provisions until such time as a Community regulation is introduced, which it should be without delay, so that in the Federal Republic of Germany only duties of over DM. 3.- would be payable?

35. Question by Mr SEAL (H-177/81)

Subject : Overseas Doctors and Free Movement in the EEC

Is the Commission aware that the overseas doctors of British nationality holding third country qualifications are allowed to practice inside the United Kingdom but regardless of the qualifications they subsequently obtain inside the UK, they cannot practice inside the EEC Member States and are barred from free movement in the EEC, and in view of the desire of the Commission to obtain harmonisation at all costs, is there any hope that Britain's overseas doctors, whose basic qualifications were acquired in their country of origin, will be allowed to practice in the EEC?

36. Question by Mr DAVERN (H-181/81)

Subject: Imports of manioc

On 4 July 1980 the Commission stated in reply to my question no. 1891/79¹ on Community agricultural surplus "that some substitute products, particularly manioc, offered disquieting competition to Community cereals, especially fodder, wheat and barley". Furthermore, the Commission stated that it had started negotiations with Thailand, the World's principal exporter, for the adoption of a ceiling on exports, and that it had been asked by the Council to negotiate with other manioc exporters. Can the Commission state what results have since been achieved?

37. Question by Mr FLANAGAN (H-182/81)

Subject : Problem of workers registered as unemployed

Can the Commission state whether or not it has any solution to the problem of people who are officially registered as unemployed but who work either part-time or full-time thereby abusing both the taxation system and the social welfare system?

¹ OJ no. C 206, 11.8.80, p. 4

38. Question by Mr WELSH (H-185/81)

Subject : Subsidised Gas Prices to Dutch Growers

Further to its written answers to my oral questions (H-766/80) (1) and (H-84/81) (2), would the Commission make a statement on its intentions as regards the exercise of its powers under Article 93, 2) of the Treaty of Rome to end the subsidisation of gas prices to Dutch Growers which continues to cause severe distortions in the market for horticultural products (see answer to question (H-411/80) (3)

(1) Debates no. 268

(2) Report of proceedings, 6.5.1981 (provisional edition)

(3) Debates no. 261.

39. Question by Mr BOYES (H-189/81)

Subject : Downgrading of regional status of areas of the North East of England

With reference to the Commission's answer and supplementary answer to Question (H-436/80) (1), will the Commission re-open negotiations with the UK Government on the above subject in view of the changing circumstances of the areas affected i.e. the rapid growth in unemployment ?

(1) Debates no. 266

40. Question by Ms CLWYD (H-201/81)

Subject: Action taken on the Parliament's report on the disabled

Will the Commission give a progress report on what action it proposes to take and is taking, on the report on the disabled which was adopted by Parliament in March?

41. Question by Mr BLANEY (H-204/81) (x)

Subject: The situation in the north of Ireland

In view of the Parliament's amended resolution of May 7 on the situation in the north of Ireland, and Mr Haferkamp's confirmation of the Commission's readiness to offer any assistance that may ease the tensions in that area of Ireland, what steps has the Commission taken with a view to helping to solve either the short-term or long-term problems involved?

42. Question by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE (H-206/81)

Subject: The Community's regional information offices

Given the example of the Community's regional information offices in the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy, what plans has the Commission to set up similar offices in Belgium, France and Spain in order to cater more effectively for the particular regional requirements of those countries?

43. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-208/81)

Subject : Equalization Fund for the Community's Coal Industry

What plans has the Commission to extend its decision on the Equalization Fund for coking Coal, ¹⁾ in order to encourage the greater use of coal by electricity, as well as steel undertakings in all member states ?

1) OJ L 374, 31.12.1980.

- (x) Will not be called if item 108 is kept on the agenda

44. Question by Mr VIE (H-214/81)

Subject: Mutual recognition of qualifications

Is it true that, despite the existing directives, there is no mutual recognition or assimilation of hairdressing diplomas between the Member States of the Community? Is a Member State entitled to refuse permission for a French national holding a Belgian hairdressing diploma to open a hairdressing salon in France?

45. Question by Mr DOUBLET (H-216/81)

Subject: Development of the railway networks

If there is a serious shortage of oil, the Member States will have to transfer some passenger and goods transport to the most economical means of transport. The railways would be one of the means of transport required to play an important part. The public authorities should be urged to prepare for this eventuality by giving the networks from now on the resources to achieve this in good time.

Does the Commission plan to take steps along these lines?

46. Question by Mrs CASTLE (H-217/81)

Subject: Shortage of manufacturing beef

To ask the Commission whether it is aware of the acute shortage and high price of manufacturing beef in Europe due to the stimulation of exports through high export subsidies, and what steps it intends to take to reduce these export subsidies so that meat product manufacturers in Europe can obtain the supplies they need?

47. Question by Mr BEUMER (H-220/81)

Subject: EEC-Japan Agreement

What attempts have been and are being made to dissuade the Member States from adopting further individual protectionist measures and to establish a Community policy so that we may come to an agreement with Japan on its exports of cars?

48. Question by Mr CURRY (H-222/81)

Subject: National aids

What action has the Commission taken since it opened an investigation under Article 93(2) in respect of the aids to agriculture incomes announced by the French Government in December last year? Has the Commission received notification of aids announced by the French Government recently to pig producers, including tax exemptions on cereals used for animal feed and a range of additional interest rate subsidies; what action does it propose to take; does an informal rule exist in the Commission that no serious investigations of national aids will take place in the period preceding elections in the country concerned?

49. Question by Mr DIANA (H-224/81)

Subject: Mandate of 30 May 1980

Can the Commission confirm recent reports in the press that Mr van Dohnanyi has sent a note on behalf of the German Government to the President of the Commission concerning the adjustments to be made to the CAP within the framework of the mandate given on 30 May 1980? If so, does it not consider that this constitutes unwarranted interference in the work still under way in the Community institutions and that the note itself goes beyond the mandate which does not question the principles on which the CAP is founded and, more generally, that it is incompatible with any progress towards economic convergence?

50. Question by Mr DIDO' (H-225/81)

Subject : Construction of the Montecroce Carnico tunnel

Will the Commission please indicate whether the Italian Government has submitted a project for the construction of the Montecroce Carnico tunnel? Is the Commission aware that this project has European implications for policy on transport infrastructure and is it prepared to grant a subsidy?

51. Question by Mr MICHEL (H-227/81)

Subject : ECSC tideover allowances

For more than two years a number of Belgian frontier workers, formerly employed in the iron and steel industry of Lorraine and now redundant, have been waiting for payment of the ECSC's 'tideover' allowances to which they are entitled under the Treaty of Paris (Article 56 (2) (b)), a fact confirmed by the Commission in answer to my written question No. 1337/79¹.

Does the Commission intend to delay much longer in taking action against the administrative barriers imposed by a Member State which is violating the ECSC Treaty at the expense of frontier workers?

52. Question by Mr PATTERSON (H-230/81)

Subject: Granting of entry into a Member States

On the 27th April this year a 17-year old English boy with valid U.K.-passport was refused entry to France at Dieppe. The reason given by the French Police de l'Air et des Frontieres was "defaut de ressources".

The traveller did in fact carry 370 FF and £ 10 together with a return ticket from London Victoria to Cannes. He was due to stay with the brother of a friend in Frejus and therefore would have had free board and lodging for his planned five days stay.

Could the Commission state whether national authorities are prevented by any Community provisions from refusing entry on such grounds; if there are no such Community provisions, whether the Commission will make proposals in this field, e.g. by laying down guidelines as to the resources considered necessary by national Governments for granting entry into a Member State and whether it will conduct an investigation into the compatibility with both the letter and the spirit of the Treaties of the discretionary authority invested in national immigration authorities which enables them summarily to refuse entry into one Community State of a citizen from another Community State on grounds such as "defaut de ressources"?

¹ OJ No. C 86 of 8.4.1980, p.39

53. Question by Mr ISRAEL (H-235/81)

Subject: Egyptian participation in the Euro-Arab dialogue

The ministerial Euro-Arab conference initially scheduled for July 1981 has been postponed until November 1981. Does the Commission intend to use this extra time to submit to the Council, in accordance with the wish expressed by the European Parliament in its resolution (Doc. 1-882/80) of 13 February 1981¹, specific proposals that will enable Egypt to participate in the Euro-Arab dialogue?

54. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-237/81)

Subject : Commission Portfolios

When does the Commission intend to review the division of portfolios between Commissioners including alterations in the holding of major portfolios?

55. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-239/81)

Subject: Financing the Channel tunnel

What is the Commission's view of the proposal to finance, with the aid of Arab capital, a combined bridge-tunnel across the Channel with concessionary arrangements for a period of 40 years?

¹ OJ No. C 50, 9.3.1981, p. 98

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

56. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-779/80)

Subject: Attendance by public at legislative discussions of Council

Will the Council now agree that discussions on those items of its agenda which concern Community legislative proposals made by the Commission, and on which Parliament has given its opinion, should be open to the public, including the press, in view of the fact that in most national Parliaments definitive decisions on Government legislative proposals are taken in public, on the floor of the House, except in rare cases of disagreement between the two Chambers?

57. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-44/81)

Subject: Cereals for food aid

What is the value of cereals supplied from surplus stocks as food aid to the third world in 1979 and 1980 and has the Council considered seeking financial assistance from the surplus oil funds of the Gulf States in order to increase food aid to drought stricken areas of Africa?

58. Question by Mr BALFE (H-65/81)

Subject: Standard of accounting used by the European Parliament

Is the Council completely satisfied with the standard of accounting used by the European Parliament?

59. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-99/81)

Subject: Creation of a European oil pool designed to reduce tensions in the event of mini-crises

When does the Council intend to set up the European oil pool, designed to reduce tensions in the event of mini-crises?

60. Question by Mr GRIFFITHS (H-116/81)

Subject: New initiatives on the social aspects of the restructuring of industries

Can the Council cite any new initiatives to deal with the growing problem of the "social aspects" arising from the continuing massive restructuring of European industries such as steel, shipbuilding, textiles, chemicals and motor vehicles?

61. Question by Ms QUIN (H-118/81)

Subject: Income support for workers aged 55 and over leaving the shipbuilding industry

Will the Council make a further statement about the progress made in consideration of the Commission's proposal to provide income support for workers aged 55 and over leaving the shipbuilding industry - a proposal which was welcomed by the European Parliament at its December 1980 part-session?

62. Question by Mr CALVEZ (H-124/81)

Subject: Fishing

The Member States want to reach a fair compromise on fishing, but is the Council aware that some of them, including France, cannot accept either a solution that would involve permanently departing from the fundamental principle of equal conditions of access to and use of Community waters or a solution which would restrict French fishing rights?

63. Question by Mr HABSBURG (H-130/81)

Subject: Construction of an airfield at Pointe Saline in Grenada

Is it true that the European Communities are prepared to contribute to the financing of the construction of an airfield at Pointe Saline in Grenada despite strong suspicions that it will be used by Cuban and Soviet military aircraft? Does the Council consider this advisable and justified given that the present dictatorship in Grenada is known to have links with the Soviet camp and the US Government has expressed serious misgivings about this project? Does the Council not fear that this policy, which does not serve any direct European interests, will harm relations between Europe and the United States of America?

64. Question by Mr COUSTÉ (H-156/81) (x)

Subject: Trade between Japan and the EEC

Does the Council of Ministers not feel that the Japanese Government is 'dragging its feet' where the increase in its industrial exports to the Community is concerned, thereby giving a boost to Japanese traders and industrialists?

As the Community's bilateral trade deficit with Japan has risen by about 30% to \$10,700 million, should the Council not take firm decisions rather than merely 'monitor imports'?

(x) Former written question no. 345/81, converted into a question for question time

65. Question by Mr DALAKOURAS (H-136/81)

Subject: Passport control discrimination in the United Kingdom

In view of the Commission's unsatisfactory display of ignorance on the matter about which I complained in the following question (H-16/81)

'Is the Commission aware that, despite Greece's accession from 1 January 1981 as a full member of the European Communities, passport control officials at points of entry into the United Kingdom are continuing to treat Greek travellers in the same way as persons coming from outside the Community and that even the arrival sign "From EEC Countries" has been replaced by another one bearing the names of the nine Member States only, excluding Greece?'

is the Council in a position to inform us whether measures have been taken to ensure that there will be no repetition of this kind of discrimination which gives the impression that there are first and second class members of the EEC?

66. Question by Mr FELLERMAIER (H-138/81)

Subject: Turkey - Statement by General Evren

Does the Council consider the recent statement by General Evran that no former Member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly may stand in future as a candidate for the Constitutional Assembly or Parliament to be compatible with a democratic system and how should the European Communities react to this?

67. Question by Mr GONDICAS (H-149/81)

Subject: Defamation of Greece by German television

On 29 April 1981 the Greek newspaper 'TA NEA' announced that Germany's Second TV Channel (ZDF) was presenting a defamatory programme about Greece entitled 'Help! The Greeks are coming. The poorest country in the Community needs financial injections'.

The general picture which the programme presents is one of the Greeks as beggars, rejoicing every time Greece receives funds from the budget even though, as everybody knows, these are paid out by virtue of decisions taken by the Community Institutions.

Seeing that people in many different countries in Europe watch German television, the matter takes on Europe-wide dimensions.

Does the Council believe that the expression of such attitudes as between countries of equal status promotes solidarity within the Community and bilateral relations between West Germany and Greece?

What can be done to have the programmes in question stopped and what guarantees are there that similar actions will not be repeated in the future?

68. Question by Mr KEY (H-150/81)

Subject : Negotiations with the Government of Cyprus

In the light of the President of the Commission's statement on the 3rd April, 1981, that he would seek the approval of the Council to open negotiations with the Government of Cyprus on the association agreement with Cyprus for 1982-83, will the Council state when it expects to give the Commission the necessary mandate for these important negotiations and will it acknowledge the importance to Cyprus and the Community on an early and satisfactory conclusion being reached?

69. Question by Mrs EWING (H-153/81)

Subject : Protection of Community waters from sub-standard tankers

Will the Council state when it intends to implement the proposals to protect Community waters from sub-standard tankers?

70. Question by Mrs HAMMERICH (H-155/81)

Subject: Parliament's Rules of Procedure

Does the Council consider that the European Parliament is within its rights in assuming a greater degree of influence and authority without any legal basis other than a change in its own Rules of Procedure?

In Rules 32,35,36,37 and 39 of its new Rules of Procedure, the European Parliament goes beyond its right to be consulted and to deliver an opinion on future Community legislation by claiming the right to enter into negotiations with the Council and Commission and exerting pressure on the Commission to comply with Parliament's instructions by threatening to delay considerations of its proposals.

71. Question by Mr PRANCHÈRE (H-158/81)

Subject: Political discrimination in trade

Is the Council prepared to put an end to political discrimination in trade with third countries and the granting of food aid?

72. Question by Mr PEARCE (H-165/81)

Subject : Publicity given to EEC-Funds

What procedures exist whereby the Council ensures that adequate publicity is given to grants from the European Social, Regional and Agricultural funds in the localities concerned, (taking "localities" to mean Euro-constituencies, as far as the UK is concerned) and is the Council satisfied that the Commission carries out publicity work in this regard effectively?

73. Question by Mr PETERSEN (H-166/81)

Subject: Proposed renewable energy objectives for 1990

The Community has a clear-cut objective when it comes to oil dependence - to reduce it to 40% by 1990. It has also set itself the objective of generating 70 to 75% of its electricity from coal or nuclear energy by 1990.

In the case of renewable energy, however, no such concrete - and therefore binding - objective exists, merely emphasis of 'the need to prepare for the future beyond 1990 by actively developing renewable energy sources'¹.

Will the Council of Energy Ministers as soon as possible set a specific objective that reflects the political resolve to develop these new forms of energy properly through adequate investments? They not only create jobs and lead to foreign exchange savings, they are also environmentally 'sound'. I suggest that renewable energy should cover 5% of the Community's total energy requirements by 1990 and 15% by the year 2000.

74. Question by Mr FERGUSSON (H-172/81)

Subject : Troika meetings

Which Troika meetings, if any, have taken place to prepare for the change of Presidency of the Council?

75. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-178/81)

Subject: The siting of nuclear power stations in frontier regions

Can the Council report on the progress of this file? What steps have been taken and when will the matter next come up for discussion?

¹ 692nd meeting of the Council - Energy - 2 March 1981

76. Question by Mr ANSART (H-179/81)

Subject: Violations of human rights in Ulster prisons

Is the Council finally going to place on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings the tense human rights situation prevailing in LONG KESH and MAZE prisons, a situation which has already led to the death of two Irish militants from the effects of hunger strikes?

77. Question by Miss DE VALERA (H-180/81)

Subject: Unemployment

Have the Finance Ministers and the Social Affairs Ministers any plans to hold a joint meeting to discuss the critical unemployment situation in the Community?

78. Question by Mr FLANAGAN (H-187/81)

Subject : Delay in implementing EMS Monetary Fund

Will the Council explain why the Heads of Government recently recommended the deferment of the implementation of the Second Stage of the European Monetary System ?

79. Question by Mr LALOR (H-188/81)

Subject : Proposed Soviet Gas Pipeline to the West

According to recent press reports, the Soviet Union, with aid from the West, proposes to construct a \$15 billion gas pipeline to Western Europe. It is stated that the deal represents the largest commercial transaction negotiated between the East and the West.

Have all the EEC Member States been consulted on this move and what are the commercial implications for the EEC Member States of this pipe line ?

80. Question by Mrs Van den HEUVEL (H-191/81)

Subject : Proposal for a meeting between the ten Ministers and the political group chairmen of the European Parliament

Can the President-in-Office state how the foreign ministers reacted to the proposal he submitted at the informal meeting in Venlo for a meeting between the ten ministers and the political group chairmen of the European Parliament, with the aim of improving relations between the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament ? When is any such meeting likely to be able to take place ?

81. Question by Mr WELSH (H-194/81)

Subject: Re-negotiation of the multifibre arrangement

When does the Council propose to conclude its deliberations establishing the Commission's negotiating guidelines for the Geneva discussions on the renewal of the multifibre arrangement?

82. Question by Ms CIWYD (H-202/81)

Subject: Action taken on the Parliament's report on the disabled

Will the Council give a progress report on what action it proposes to take and is taking, on the report on the disabled which was adopted by Parliament in March?

83. Question by Mr BLANEY (H-203/81)

Subject: The situation in the north of Ireland

In view of the amended resolution on the situation in Northern Ireland adopted by the Parliament on May 7, and forwarded to the Council, will the Council indeed, as requested, express its "readiness to offer any assistance that may ease the tensions" in that area of Ireland, and if so, what initiative does the Council envisage?

84. Question by Mr SCHWENCKE (H-215/81)

Subject: Euro-Arab Conference of Ministers

As one of the important topics for discussion at the Euro-Arab Conference of Ministers in the autumn of 1981, will the Council also call for the lifting of the economic boycott on Israel by the States belonging to the Arab League, and how does the Council view the request to this effect based on the preliminary discussions with representatives of the Arab League on 21 and 22 May in The Hague.

85. Question by Mrs CASTLE (H-218/81)

Subject: The issuing of licences for the import of beef for manufacturing

Is the Council aware of the hardship caused both to consumer and manufacturers of meat products by the delay in fixing imports of manufactured beef under the balance sheet arrangements and in issuing licences for these imports, to the detriment of meat manufacturers, and what steps is the Council taking to prevent these delays in future?

86. Question By Mr VAN MINNEN (H-219/81)

Subject: Statement by Mr Van der Klaauw

Mr Van der Klaauw is reported in the Dutch press to have said at the end of the informal meeting in Venlo on 9/10 May 1981 that he found it difficult to deal with a European Parliament which he felt was made up of individual Members rather than of political groups.

Can the Council perhaps give a more exact idea of its particular difficulties?

87. Question by Mr BEUMER (H-221/81)

Subject: EEC-Japan Agreement

What attempts have been and are being made to dissuade the Member States from adopting further individual protectionist measures and to establish a Community policy so that we may come to an agreement with Japan on its exports of cars?

88. Question by Mr PATTERSON (H-231/81)

Subject : Delays caused to citizens of one Member State
entering another Member State

Will the Council address itself as a matter of urgency to devising measures which will reduce the delays caused to citizens of one Member State entering another Member State by the examination of passports; an example of which occurred on 8th May when 500 British tourists on board the Mikhail Lermontov were apparently delayed for up to two hours by passport examination, and in consequence were unable to make a tour of the Vatican City?

QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TEN MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION

89. Question by Ms QUIN (H-119/81)

Subject: Persecution of the Bah'ai minority in Iran

What discussions have the foreign ministers had as a result of the European Parliament's recent resolutions on the position of the Bah'ai Community in Iran and what has been the outcome of these discussions?

90. Question by Mr KAPPOS (H-143/81)

Subject: Violations of human rights in
Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland political prisoners' human rights are being violated in a cruel and merciless fashion. Torture is used during interrogations, prison conditions are particularly harsh and prisoners arrested as members of national liberation organizations are denied political status, etc.

As a result of this situation Bobby Sands, who is an elected representative to the British Parliament, died in prison.

What measures have the Foreign Ministers taken to ensure that this state of affairs is brought to an end?

91. Question by Mr GALLAND (H-141/81)

Subject: Plight of the Vietnamese refugees imprisoned in Thailand

Now that the flood of refugees from Vietnam is growing, do the foreign ministers intend to intercede with the Government of Thailand on behalf of the boat people, nineteen Vietnamese refugees imprisoned for assaulting Thai pirates and facing a possible death penalty?

92. Question by Mr BALFE (H-161/81)

Subject : Human rights

Do the Foreign Ministers consider that violations of human rights

a) within the EEC and

b) outside the EEC

should be judged in the same way?

93. Question by Mr ISRAEL (H-162/81)

Subject: Action on behalf of Anatole Shcharansky

What action have the foreign ministers taken on the European Parliament's May 1980 resolution on the situation of Anatole SHCHARANSKY? Have they taken any steps to improve the situation of the Russian mathematician whose health is seriously deteriorating?

94. Question by Mr FERGUSSON (H-171/81)

Subject : European political cooperation

What steps has the President-in-Office of the Foreign Ministers taken to ensure the maximum continuity of policy and operational smoothness between his own presidency and the next in respect of European political cooperation?

95. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-184/81)

Subject: Extension of political cooperation

Can the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation state which aspects of security and defence they will henceforward be considering in the context of European political cooperation, further to the intentions expressed during the 'Gymnich talks' of 9 and 10 May, and which aspects will not be on the agenda?

96. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-192/81)

Subject : Political Cooperation Secretariat

Is it correct that at their meeting in Venlo the Foreign Ministers decided to rule out any possibility of setting up a Political Cooperation Secretariat ?

97. Question by VANDEMEULEBROUCKE (H-205/81)

Subject: Arms sales

The Foreign Affairs Ministers of various Member States have repeatedly informed their respective parliaments that a joint European approach is called for on the problem of arms sales. What is the foreign minister's attitude in this matter?

98. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-209/81)

Subject : Relations between the Community and the Arab States
of the Gulf

On 15 February 1981 the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Bahrein, the State of the United Arab Emirates, the State of Kuwait, the State of Qatar and the Sultanate of Oman established a Council for Cooperation of the Arab States of the Gulf with its Secretariat General in Riyadh. What steps are the Foreign Ministers of the Ten taking to establish relations with the Council for Cooperation of the Arab States of the Gulf ?

99. Question by Mr CARIGLIA (H-212/81)

Subject: Anti-terrorist measures

The attempt on the life of His Holiness the Pope has amazed the general public, who cannot understand how it is that a criminal can easily have freedom of movement within the Community.

Can the ministers inform the European Parliament whether it is true that the Pope's attacker was deported from the Federal Republic of Germany, whether the police authorities of the other Member States of the Community were informed of this measure, and whether the ministers intend to propose effective measures for combating terrorism at Community level to prevent and deal with the increasingly frequent threat to the safety of the public and public institutions?

100. Question by Mrs EWING (H-236/81)

Subject : Arab-Israeli relations and the PLO

In view of the protests by the Israeli government at the recent visit paid by the President-in-office of the Foreign Ministers to Mr YASSER ARAFAT, what useful purpose did this visit serve; what views did Mr ARAFAT express on the options put to him for an Arab-Israeli settlement; and did he, in particular, indicate any intention of renouncing those clauses in the PLO Charter which imply the destruction of Israel as a state?