

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1981 - 1982

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14 September 1981

DOCUMENT 1-459/81

## Oral Questions

Pursuant to Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME  
on 14 and 16 September 1981



1. 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 Yangtseklung 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?

2. Question by Mrs EWING (H-170/81)

Subject: The status of internal ferry services

In view of the fundamental importance of internal ferry services to the peripheral regions of the Community (the Greek and Scottish islands in particular), and bearing in mind that these areas are under a constant threat of depopulation due to the excessive additional cost of all goods and services, does the Commission not agree that internal ferry services should be eligible for subsidies under the transport provisions (Title IV) of the Treaty?

3. 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 1981<sup>1</sup>, specific proposals that will enable Egypt to participate in the Euro-Arab dialogue?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 50, 9.3.1981, p.98

4. 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?

5. Question by Ms QUIN (H-246/81)

Subject: EEC apple market

What progress has the Commission made in reviewing the grading system for apples along the lines favoured by the European Parliament in its resolution of Friday 13 March 1981?

6. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-272/81)

Subject: Establishment of a permanent economic dialogue between Europe and the United States

Does the Commission not feel that it should propose a permanent economic dialogue between the United States and Europe in view of the recent sharp rise in interest rates?

7. Question by Mrs FOURCADE (H-273/81)

Subject: More stringent quality controls for fruit and vegetables

Does the Commission agree that an improvement in the quality of fresh fruit and vegetables would enable Community producers to obtain better prices on the market and that it should therefore step up its action in this field and introduce stricter quality controls?

8. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-274/81)

Subject: Joint action on interest rates

Does the Commission intend to propose joint action at European level to force the United States to stop the international spiral of interest rates?

9. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-275/81)

Subject: Rules governing flags of convenience

Does the Commission not feel that more effective rules should be adopted at international level for the registration of ships, notably those flying flags of convenience, in order to improve the safety of maritime shipping and avoid the threat of pollution?

10. Question by Mr PAISLEY (H-283/81)

Subject: Integrated operation proposals for Belfast

Will the Commission report what progress has been made in processing the "integrated operation" proposals for Belfast and what is the Commission's view of the UK Government's proposals?

11. Question by Mr PETERSON (H-287/81)

Subject: Survey of measures taken in the Community for the recycling of materials

The principle of recycling represents a sound means of escaping from our present crisis, since practical recycling measures have the simultaneous effect of creating employment, improving the balance of payments and conserving finite resources, nor can they be criticized on environmental grounds.

Apart from the re-use of surplus heat from electricity production (as practised in over half the power stations in Denmark), the melting down of scrap iron, etc. (as at the steel rolling mill at Freresiksvaerk in Denmark), the system of returnable bottles and the recycling of paper, there has nevertheless been only very modest interest and investment in recycling both in Denmark and the other Member States.

In Denmark, however, the Minister for the Environment has announced the setting up of local recycling schemes - for household and industrial waste in particular - as an experiment beginning in two districts next autumn.

Since fundamental political importance must be attributed to all practical recycling schemes - seeing that they provide an opportunity for initiating an economic process and developments in society different in nature from the trend in the less austere atmosphere of the 1960's - it is clearly of political interest for a survey of recycling activity in the Community to be made available

Is the Commission therefore prepared to draw up such a survey, to use this as the basis for proposals for new recycling schemes with Community support, and in general terms to consider recycling as an element of economic policy in the Community?

12. Question by Mr HABSBERG (H-310/81) (x)

Subject: Supplies of food to Poland

On 27 February 1981 I submitted a question<sup>1</sup> to the Commission concerning the role of Interagra in connection with supplies of food to Poland.

Surprisingly, this question has not yet received a reply even though no inquiries needed to be made outside the Community.

What is the Commission's response to the following questions:

- (a) why is no priority given to questions which can only be answered by the officials responsible?
- (b) is the Commission prepared to provide this answer at the next meeting of the Committee on Budgetary Control?

<sup>1</sup> Written Question No 22/81 - Bulletin No 3

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-11/81) converted into a question for question time

13. Question by Mr CALVEZ (H-167/81)

Subject: Creation of a European Energy Bank

Would the Commission state whether it has been informed of and is acquainted with the content of the Italian Government's proposal to create a European Energy Bank should the World Bank's project fail to materialize?

14. Question by Mr KAPPOS (H-207/81)

Subject: Strike by Olympic Airways employees

The recent strike by Olympic Airways employees was arbitrarily declared illegal and the members of the trade union executives are now being sought with a view to their arrest and trial.

Does not the Commission consider these actions to be irreconcilable with the EEC's declarations on the defence of trade union freedoms and human rights and can it assist the workers in their struggle to safeguard their constitutional trade union rights?

15. Question by Mr VIE (H-233/81)

Subject: Genetic engineering

Can the Commission state why it is only concerning itself with the safety problems of workers involved in research on genetic engineering and whether it plans to set up a study on its recommendation designed to replace the draft directive of 1978 which has now been abandoned?

16. Question by Mr MARSHALL (H-249/81)

Subject: Discriminatory action by the Italian Government and the Italian state tobacco monopoly

What representations have been made to and by the Commission concerning the discrimination in Italy against cigarettes imported from other Community countries and would the Commission agree that such discrimination breaches the rules of the Community?

17. Question by Mr VON WOGAU (H-257/81)

Subject: Refund of value added tax pursuant to the Eighth Council Directive

Is the Commission aware that the refund of value added tax provided for in the Eighth Council Directive on value added tax has not been implemented in Italy in respect of 1980 on the grounds that the requisite provisions had not yet been enacted; what measures has it taken to ensure that the sums outstanding because of this failure to act will be refunded to the companies involved as soon as possible?

18. Question by Mr NEWTON DUNN (H-281/81)

Subject: Full recognition of qualifications of environmental health officers in the United Kingdom

In June, the Commission replied to my question concerning qualifications for meat inspection (1) by saying it would make a proposal to the Council "in the near future". Will the Commission please delay no longer and give a specific date when the proposal will be made?

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(1) H-144/81, debates 17.6.1981

19. Question by Mr COLLINS (H-301/81)

Subject: EEC Directive 71/118 - Fresh poultry meat

Would the Commission state whether it is prepared to publish the detailed report of the findings of its study into the application of Directive 71/118 - fresh poultry meat - in Member States carried out in 1979/80 and would the Commission confirm that as a result of the study it intends to take action against a Member State under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty and if so would the Commission name the Member State concerned?

20. Question by Mrs CASTLE (H-302/81)

Subject: Sale of subsidised milk

Which Member States are taking advantage of the EEC subsidy for cheap school milk and what is the percentage take-up in each case?

21. Question by Mr BOYES (H-307/81)

Subject: Representation of Gibraltar in the European Parliament

Would the Commission indicate whether or not it is considering allowing representation from Gibraltar to the European Parliament and if not, will the Commission say why?

22. Question by Mr PURVIS (H-309/81)

Subject: V.A.T. on the expenses incurred by charitable organisations

Does the Commission intend to review the rules governing V.A.T. on the expenses incurred by charitable organisations (such as churches, hospices, children's homes, etc.) on repairs and maintenance to their buildings so as to eliminate this financial burden?



23. Question by Mr PRAG (H-314/81)

Subject : Greek Pasta Prices

The premium for durum wheat in the Community was fixed at a level high enough to provide substantial protection for growers in France and Italy, and now provides similar protection for growers in Greece.

Unfortunately its high level also has the effect of making pasta production in other Community countries uncompetitive since it is based on imported durum wheat made expensive by the levy.

Will the Commission state what steps it intends to take to ensure that pasta production companies in other Community countries are not put out of business by imports of Greek pasta (using Greek-grown durum) at prices below those at which they obtain their raw material, durum semolina?

24. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-317/81)

Subject : Community Energy Objectives for 1990

What are the principal lacunae in the energy programmes of Member States?

25. Question by Mr PATTERSON (H-321/81)

Subject : Vote by Parliament

Following the statement by Commissioner Andriessen on 9 July 1981 that the Commission will not necessarily use its powers under Article 149 of the EEC Treaty to

(a) withdraw a proposal rejected in toto by Parliament,

(b) amend a proposal in accordance with Parliament's amendments to it;

will the Commission state clearly under which circumstances it believes a vote by Parliament should be ignored, and why the Parliament should not then make use of Article 144 of the EEC Treaty?

26. Question by Mr GRIFFITHS (H-326/81)

Subject : "Green" currencies

Does the Commission believe that a policy of common prices exists in the Community given the existence of "green" currencies and the big difference in the price support for farmers in the north and south of the Community?

27. Question by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (H-327/81)

Subject: Developments in the Community's initiative  
in favour of the handicapped

How will the Commission maintain contacts with interested parties and coordinate its own activities in the field now that it has done away with the duties of chief adviser with special responsibility for coordinating work for the handicapped which still figure in DG V's establishment plan, taking into account recent developments in the Community's initiative in favour of the handicapped and the need to fulfil its social and human obligations towards these citizens above all?

28. Question by Mr HARRIS (H-329/81)

Subject : Assistance to Honduras

In March 1981, a British firm, Cygnus Marine Limited, of Penryn Cornwall, submitted the lowest tender for a contract to build fishing boats for the Honduras Government under a fishery project which is to be part-financed by the Community. After the tenders were opened, it was learned that a Honduras holding company had submitted an "alternative tender" and would probably be awarded the contract.

In view of this clear breach of tendering rules, what is the Commission now doing to ensure that the contract either goes to Cygnus Marine or else all promises of Community aid to Honduras are withdrawn?

29. Question by Mr BARBI (H-331/81)

Subject: Integrated action programme for Naples

With reference to Written Question No. 460/81 tabled on 12 May 1981 regarding the causes of the shortcomings in the integrated action programme for Naples which has so far received no reply, can the Commission indicate the reasons for these shortcomings?

30. Question by Mr GALLAND (H-333/81)

Subject: Joint position of the Ten vis-à-vis Japan

While the trade deficit with Japan reached a record \$ 11,000m in 1980, the Ten are still far from reaching the common position which the declarations of the Council of Foreign Ministers in May 1981 might have led one to expect. Indeed, although the Council had stressed the Community nature of the problem of Japanese car imports and had instructed the Commission to conduct the necessary talks, bilateral arrangements have recently been concluded between Japan and West Germany and between Japan and the Benelux countries.

Having advocated the adoption of a truly common position by the Ten over the past year, will the Commission make a special effort to define at long last a firm strategy by the Member States vis-à-vis Japan?

31. Question by Mr ABENS (H-336/81)

Subject: Cattenom nuclear power station

Now that the French government has adopted a new strategy on energy, will the Commission be prepared to suggest that it scrap the plan to build a nuclear power station at Cattenom close to the Luxembourg/Saarland border, since the arguments against locating such plant in populous areas are well known, and that it should instead build a non-polluting coal-fired power station, possibly in cooperation with the Saarland and Luxembourg?

32. Question by Mrs. CLWYD (H-340/81)

Subject : Report on the disabled

How many of the recommendations made in the Report on the Disabled, adopted by Parliament six months ago, have been acted upon?

33. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-341/81) <sup>x</sup>

Subject : Duty free tariffs

In view of the wide diversity of "duty free allowances" of alcohol and tobacco publicised by Member States, what steps are being taken to achieve a common scale of allowances for Member States' citizens travelling into other Member States and for visitors and citizens of Member States entering the Community from a third country?

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<sup>x</sup> Will not be called if item 167 is kept on the agenda.

34. Question by Mr SEEFELD (H-346/81)

Subject: Disembarkation cards

In its answer to my Written Question No. 1528/80<sup>1</sup>, the Commission described the filling in of disembarkation cards in two Member States as 'running counter to the spirit of the Treaties', and stated that it would press for the use of these cards to be discontinued. What action has since been taken, and with what degree of success?

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No. C 63, 23.3.1981, p. 8

35. Question by Mr MEGAHY (H-351/81)

Subject : Statement on unemployment

On the 3 July 1981 Sir Roy Denman, Director General for External Affairs of the EEC Commission, was reported in British newspapers as stating that unemployment would reach between five and six million if Britain withdrew from the Common Market. Was Sir Roy speaking on behalf of the Commission as a collegiate body and were his predictions drawn from official Community studies?

36. Question by Mr DENIS (H-352/81)

Subject: Declaration made by Mr Thorn in Washington

The President of the Commission, Mr Thorn, is reported to have said during a press conference on a recent trip to the United States that direct elections to our Assembly were a mistake and to have commented unfavourably on the abilities and work of Members of the European Parliament.

Does the Commission not agree that it is quite intolerable for its President to have chosen to make this kind of remark in America as he did not feel any need to do so in the address he gave on taking up his duties last January, and should it not be helping Members of Parliament to fulfil their duties by showing more concern in its work for the right of control which the European Parliament has over its activities?

37. Question by Mr FANTON (H-353/81)

Subject: Situation of the European footwear industry

Will the Commission indicate what steps it plans to take to remove the tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade introduced by Japan to prevent imports of European footwear and give precise details of the measures taken by Japan not only to protect its own industry but also to facilitate its de facto control over exports of footwear from countries such as Korea and Taiwan?

38. Question by Sir David NICOLSON (H-354/81)

Subject: Possible price cartels in the chemical and plastics industries

The British plastic moulding powder industry is dominated by large companies who are able to charge sales prices significantly higher than those obtaining in other European countries. Continental manufacturers seize the opportunity of charging the same high prices in the U.K. whilst British companies adopt lower pricing policies on the Continent. The position in the U.K. is made even worse by the fact that Eire is treated as a dumping ground by some manufacturers, presumably as it is remote from the Continent, but it must be remembered that the United Kingdom and Eire market are one.

Is the Commission aware of these facts, and if so why has it not investigated this situation as a breach of the Treaty of Rome? Should manufacturers sell at the same price throughout the European Community?

39. Question by Mr GOMBE (H-355/81)

Subject: Dangers of receptacles for domestic use

As there are no European laws on the dangers to human health posed by cooking receptacles made of enamelled ceramic materials or by any crockery normally used in households regardless of its composition, and as certain countries such as the USA already have rules in this field, could the Commission put forward relevant proposals for a directive, a move which would also make it easier to export to countries with such legislation?

40. Question by Mr MÜLLER-HERMANN (H-387/81)

Subject: Gas pipeline agreement with the Soviet Union

Was the Commission consulted in any way on the gas pipeline agreement which large Community firms, supported by their governments, wish to conclude with the Soviet Union, and how does it view the agreement in terms of its political and economic value and the security of supplies?

41. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-358/81)

Subject: Report to the Council on the 30 May 1980 mandate

Can the Commission explain why it has proposed a special procedure, as outlined in the personal letter sent by Mr Thorn on 24 June 1981 to the Heads of State or Government of the Member States, for consideration of its report to the Council on the 30 May 1980 mandate, this being that the report should be submitted, under the supervision of the Council of Ministers of general affairs, to a small group of prominent persons presided over by one member of the Council, and in the Commission's view, what is to be the exact task with which this working party is to be entrusted?

42. Question by Mr RADOUX (H-359/81)

Subject: Economic situation in Belgium

At the end of July 1980 the Commission made a recommendation on economic policy to Belgium dealing in particular with problems of domestic expenditure and external debt.

Can the Commission indicate whether implementation of the EMS in its present form is such that assistance can be given to a Member State of the Community to alleviate short and medium-term difficulties encountered in relation to the balance of payments, and can it confirm whether there is a Community mechanism for long term difficulties? Have Member States already had recourse to these arrangements?

43. Question by Mrs POIRIER (H-360/81)

Subject: Resumption of food aid to Vietnam

The Community's food aid to Vietnam is still suspended - a fact which is both inexplicable and scandalous. The ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly has also condemned the use of food supplies as a means of applying pressure and demanded the resumption of food aid, in particular to Vietnam. Since Commissioner Pisani is to meet the Ambassador of Vietnam, MAI VAN BO, can the Commission indicate when and on what scale this food aid will resume?

44. Question by Mr KEY (H-362/81)

Subject: Progress on negotiations of the association agreement with Cyprus

In reply to my oral question H-151/81<sup>1</sup> regarding Cyprus, the Commission expressed the hope that negotiations on the future regime of the association agreement between Cyprus and the Community would be held with the Government of Cyprus from the summer.

Will the Commission state whether these negotiations have yet begun and if they have not, when these important negotiations, originally scheduled for early this year, will commence?

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 1-278/81 and report of proceedings, 17.6.1981

45. Question by Mrs Simone MARTIN (H-363/81)

Subject: Improvement of international telephone links with Greece

On 1 January 1981 Greece became the tenth member of the EEC. For a variety of economic and political reasons communications between the various countries have become extremely important. As a result, international telephone lines to Greece are currently overloaded and contacts are difficult.

Does the Commission intend to increase funds and make greater efforts to improve this situation?

46. Question by Mr DALZIEL (H-367/81)

Subject: Disabled persons: Value added tax

Following the resolution of Parliament (paragraph 25) concerning disabled persons and approval in Member States can the Commission confirm that it will propose in 1981 an amendment to the Sixth VAT Directive to provide relief from VAT in all Member States for organisations supported by private donation whose purpose is to assist disabled people?



47. Question by Mr BLANEY (H-371/81)

Subject: Surplus butter

Will the Commission confirm whether or not it was consulted by the New Zealand authorities regarding the purchase of 100,000 tonnes of surplus butter by New Zealand from the United States and if so at what stage it was consulted and whether any undertaking has been given by New Zealand as to the disposal of this surplus on the world market?

48. Question by Mr LOMAS (H-375/81)

Subject: Sri Lanka

In view of the attention given to other countries where minority groups are subject to persecution, will the Commission consider suspending all economic aid to Sri Lanka, until the persecution and harrassment of the 1½ million Tamils by the Sinhalese Government, which includes the burning of homes and offices, ceases?

49. Question by Mr M. MARTIN (H-378/81)

Subject: Regulations governing the wine industry

The situation facing wine-growers in the South of France would surely not be so serious if the Commission had applied the minimum price procedure provided for in the regulations (in Article 15a) from the beginning of the year.

Does the Commission not think it should propose at an early date an improvement in the Community regulations to allow for the automatic application of minimum prices, in order to ensure that imports are regulated by market requirements?

50. Question by Mrs LE ROUX (H-380/81)

Subject: Use of flags of convenience for fishing

Some Member States without a sufficiently large fleet to catch the quotas allocated to them are authorizing third countries' vessels to fish under their flags.

Will the Commission propose measures to prevent such practices and ban flags of convenience in the Community?

51. Question by Mr FERNANDEZ (H-381/81)

Subject: Refunds for dairy products via a tendering system

The Commission has recently proposed the introduction of a tendering system for certain products in certain areas for granting export refunds inter alia on certain dairy products. The main purpose of this arrangement is to improve the control of exports to the USSR.

How can the Commission justify discriminatory trade practices of this kind?

52. Question by Mrs DE MARCH (H-382/81)

Subject: Definition of rosé wine

Although the mixing of red and white wines is banned under Community rules it is still a frequent practice, as the special committee investigating the EAGGF Guarantee Section has discovered.

Does the Commission not think it should propose measures to ensure that this ban is observed, for instance by controlling stocks, and to produce a statutory definition of rosé wine?

53. Question by Mr PRICE (H-384/81)

Subject : State aid to Belgian horticulturalists

Does the Commission intend to press for quick results from the application of Article 93 (2) of the Treaty in respect of state aid to Belgian horticulturalists or will it let the matter drag on for over a year as has happened with state aid to Dutch horticulturalists?

54. Question by Mr VITALE (H-388/81)

Subject: French customs barriers against imports of Italian wines

Does the Commission not consider that:

- the serious obstacles created by the French customs to the entry of Italian wine constitute a violation of the principle of free movement of goods within the Community and that the necessary measures should be taken forthwith to ensure that this principle is respected once again,
- the harm done to the interests of producers in southern Italy is so great as to warrant immediate compensation in view, among other things, of the fact that the new wine-growing year will begin soon,
- as part of a more comprehensive reform of the CAP particular attention should be paid to restoring balance on this market, notably with a view to the enlargement of the Community, by adopting vigorous measures to boost consumption (harmonization of Member States' customs duties and penetration of external markets) and achieve a sustained improvement in the quality of the product?

55. Question by Mr COLLA (H-391/81)

Subject: Dutch waste reprocessing company UNISER

The Dutch waste reprocessing company UNISER has been accused of discharging tonnes of unprocessed toxic industrial waste into surface water or harbours, of dumping it in the ground or mixing it with other products.

This would not only affect the Netherlands but also Belgium and other Member States of the Community.

In view of the European dimension of this scandal, has the Commission taken any specific action to deal with the matter, or does it feel that the Community must take appropriate measures?

56. Question by Mr d'ORMESSON (H-392/81)

Subject: Nationalization of credit institutions in France

In his statement on general government policy, the French Prime Minister, Mr Pierre MAUROY, indicated that in the autumn the Government would introduce a bill in Parliament to nationalize credit institutions in France.

Does not the Commission feel that such a measure runs counter to the principles and foundations of the European Economic Community such as the unification of the common market and the free movement of capital? Since the French Government intends to draw a distinction between French and foreign or foreign-controlled banks, does not the Commission feel that this discrimination is contrary to the principles laid down in Article 7 of the EEC Treaty?

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QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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57. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-100/81)

Subject: Consequences of the Council's delay in adopting the  
'fisheries package'.

Since the Council's delay in adopting the new market organization for fishery products and the new quotas is having a disastrous effect on fishermen's incomes, does the Council intend to give them compensation so as to maintain their standard of living and their purchasing power?

58. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-200/81)

Subject: Negotiations on the accession of the United Kingdom to the  
European Monetary System

In view of the fact that certain British institutes are predicting that the United Kingdom will join the European Monetary System towards the end of 1981, is the Council planning to hold negotiations to speed up accession?

59. Question by Ms CLWYD (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?

60. 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?

61. 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?

62. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-226/81)

Subject: Ambassadorial coordination of the Ten on sectoral matters

To what extent do the ambassadors of the Ten cooperate closely in coordinating their démarches to Governments of third countries, on matters affecting the Community as a whole?

63. Question by Mr GONDICAS (H-269/81)

Subject: Restrictive measures against Greek students in Germany

There are reliable reports that the West German authorities have decided that, as from the coming academic year, Greek students will not be allowed to enter German universities unless they are students in Greek universities.

Since there are no similar restrictions in respect of students from the other Community countries, I should like to know to what extent the Council intends accepting the introduction of this discriminatory measure against Greece?

64. Question by Mr SOUSSOUROYANNIS (H-271/81)

Subject: Return to Greece of ancient Greek masterpieces now dispersed in various museums of EEC Member States

Will the Council take upon itself the role of mediator with the governments of the Member States to bring about the return to Greece of all ancient Greek masterpieces of universal beauty, which are admired the world over, such as the statue of Nike from Samothrace, the Venus de Milo, the Elgin marbles, etc. which are now to be found in various museums of the Member States?

The Council is being asked to undertake this mediatory initiative in accordance with the spirit of the Lomé Convention, which calls for objets d'art to be returned to their country of origin.

65. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-276/81)

Subject: Council action to help young people find their first job

Given the undoubtedly bleak employment prospects which the world economic crisis holds in store for those leaving school this year, does the Council plan to take action this summer to help young people arriving on the labour market in the next few months to find their first job?

66. Question by Mr SCHMID (H-293/81)

Subject: Research programme in biomolecular engineering

In November 1980, the European Parliament adopted almost unanimously a favourable opinion on the proposal from the Commission for a research programme in biomolecular engineering. The Council has not yet reached a decision. Why are France and the Federal Republic of Germany blocking this research programme and what proposals will the new President-in-Office of the Council be making in order to arrive at a decision?

67. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-106/81)

Subject: Working party of COREPER on relations with Parliament

Will the Council now request COREPER to set up, under Article 16 of the Council's Rules of Procedure, a working party, with instructions to report to Council within three months, to examine relations with the European Parliament, especially in the fields of providing fuller information for Parliament on Council proceedings; requiring more Council members to attend sessions and committees of the European Parliament; majority voting in Council; and opening legislative discussions of the Council to MEPs, the press and the public?

68. Question by Mr FERGUSSON (H-210/81)

Subject: Aid to Poland

What view does the Council take of the success or otherwise of Community aid to Poland and what future plans does it have in this regard?

69. Question by Mr KAPPOS (H-240/81)

Subject: Dismissals in the Elefsina shipyards for trade union reasons

Having already dismissed large numbers of workers for trade union reasons, the Greek state-owned Elefsina shipyards recently sacked seven workers who were standing for election to the trade union branch executive. Two of the seven candidates were sacked under Law 64/74 on the 'loyalty screening' of workers.

Does the Council consider that these actions are consistent with the EEC's declarations on trade union freedoms and workers' rights?



70. Question by Ms QUIN (H-284/81)

Subject: The shipbuilding industry in Europe

When did the Council last discuss the situation in the European shipbuilding industry and what was the content of the discussions?

71. Question by Mr SEEFELD (H-300/81)

Subject: The Tindemans Report

What has become of the Tindemans Report: where is it now?

72. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-304/81/rev.)

Subject: Siting of nuclear power stations in frontier regions

Could the British Presidency state more precisely than its predecessor what priority it attaches to hastening the progress of the regulation setting up machinery for consultation in cases where it is proposed to site nuclear power stations in frontier regions? Has any approach been made to the Member State which is displaying most reluctance, and what will be the date of the next Council meeting at which this regulation appears on the agenda?

73. Question by Mr BOYES (H-306/81)

Subject: Representation of Gibraltar in the European Parliament

Would the Council indicate whether or not it is considering allowing representation from Gibraltar to the European Parliament, and if not, will the Council say why?

74. Question by Mr DE FERRANTI (H-308/81)

Subject: Free trade and the EMS

Does the Council accept that free trade in Europe cannot be achieved without all Member States belonging to the EMS?

75. Question by Mr Christopher JACKSON (H-320/81)

Subject : Community's education programme

Will the Council consider implementing a programme of educational exchanges between schools in different Member States as part of the Community's education programme?

76. Question by Mr PATTERSON (H-323/81)

Subject : Frontier authorities of all Member States

Following the reply by the Commission of the European Communities to question H-230/81 (1), tabled by myself for Question Time in the June part-session, -namely, that the refusal of the French "Police de l'Air et des Frontières" at Dieppe to allow entry into France of a British citizen on the grounds of "défaut de ressources" was contrary to Community law - will the Council now take action to ensure compliance by the frontier authorities of all Member States with the provisions of the Treaties concerning free movement of Community citizens?

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(1) Verbatim report of proceedings of 15.6.1981

77. Question by Mr HARRIS (H-328/81)

Subject : Assistance to Honduras

Is the Council aware of the objection lodged by both the Commission and the British Embassy in Tegucigalpa to the handling by the Honduras Government of tenders for a contract to supply fishing boats under a fishery project which is to be part-financed by the Community?

In view of the apparent intention of the Honduras Government to award the contract to a local firm, which is said to have submitted an "alternative tender" which was not opened at the official tender ceremony, although the lowest price submitted was from a British firm, Cygnus Marine Limited of Cornwall, will the Council halt all Community assistance to Honduras until its tendering procedures are conducted fairly and properly?

78. Question by Mr PRAG (H-337/81)

Subject : Greek Pasta Prices

The premium for durum wheat in the Community was fixed at a level high enough to provide substantial protection for growers in France and Italy, and now provides similar protection for growers in Greece. Unfortunately its high level also has the effect of making pasta production in other Community countries uncompetitive since it is based on imported durum wheat made expensive by the levy.

Will the Council state what steps it intends to take to ensure that pasta production companies in other Community countries are not put out of business by imports of Greek pasta (using Greek-grown durum) at prices below those at which they obtain their raw material, durum semolina?

79. Question by Mr RADOUX (H-342/81)

Subject: Action taken on the report of the Three Wise Men

Having questioned the Council of Ministers several times without success on the action taken on the report of the Three Wise Men, I should like to know when the Council intends to present its conclusions on this report, which it commissioned itself.

80. Question by Mr FLANAGAN (H-348/81)

Subject : Adapting the New Community Instrument (NCI) more towards the needs of the industrial sector and towards the objective of reducing unemployment

Does the Council agree that the New Community Instrument has failed to encourage investment in the industrial sector and that in the future loans to small and medium-sized firms should be given just as high a priority as projects in the energy and infrastructure sectors?

81. Question by Mr WELSH (H-350/81)

Subject : Consultation of Parliament

Council working groups frequently commence to examine Commission proposals before Parliament has delivered its opinion. Would the Council undertake to inform the appropriate Parliamentary Committee of the content of its deliberations before the opinion is completed or at least make its position clear in the debate before the Parliamentary opinion is adopted?

82. Question by Mrs EWING (H-356/81)

Subject: International Conventions on oil pollution and safety at sea

Will the President-in-Office state whether the Council has discussed the possibility of giving the Commission a mandate to negotiate international oil pollution and maritime safety conventions (such as the IMCO Conventions) and, if so, will the President-in-Office comment on the positions held by the various Member States on this matter?

83. Question By Mr MÜLLER-HERMANN (H-386/81)

Subject: Fisheries policy

What strategy is the Council Presidency following with a view to ending the fisheries dispute during its term of office? Is it aware that the unresolved dispute between France and the United Kingdom, for example, is threatening the very existence of the German deep-sea fishing industry, which is dependent on fishing grounds off third countries?

84. Question by Mr LOMAS (H-364/81)

Subject: Release on bail of Mr Arif Tohid

Mr Arif Tohid, a Pakistani citizen, has been in prison for eighteen months due to a dispute regarding his right to stay in Britain. The European Commission of Human Rights is now dealing with this matter. Will the Council urge the British Government, as a matter of elementary human rights, to grant Mr Tohid release on bail, pending the final outcome of this matter?

85. Question by Miss HOOPER (H-368/81)

Subject: Inner city problems

In view of the extent of the violence, destruction and vandalism seen in recent riots in Liverpool, London and Manchester and the breakdown in respect for responsible authority as represented by the police force, will the Council give priority to finding solutions to the problems and needs of inner city black spot areas, particularly in discussions of new criteria for the European Regional Development Fund and the Social Fund; will the Council furthermore support efforts to follow up discussions held in Liverpool in November 1979 at the Conference on Inner City Problems which highlighted common problems throughout Europe in this respect?

86. Question by Sir Jack STEWART-CLARK (H-373/81)

Subject: Japanese trade surplus with the Community

At a time when Japan is dramatically increasing her trade surplus with the Community, it is clear that national Governments appear more intent than ever in pursuing unilateral policies in defending their interests against the trading incursions of Japan. Does the Council recognise the weakness of such policies and if so what steps is it taking to determine a Community policy?

87. Question by Mrs LE ROUX (H-383/81)

Subject: Involvement of New Zealand in the United States' efforts to dispose of its surplus butter

New Zealand is acting as the United States' intermediary to help the latter dispose of its surplus butter on the world market at low prices. In turning to external suppliers New Zealand can no longer justify its European butter quota as 'vital to its economy'.

In view of this, is the Council not resolved to end the favourable treatment granted to New Zealand in 1982?



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

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88. Question by Mr BLANEY (H-234/81)

Subject: Situation in the north of Ireland

What steps have the ministers taken to further a lasting and peaceful solution to the situation of conflict and tension in Ireland, particularly in the north, which since it threatens the peace and prosperity of citizens of the Community is in conflict with the aims and principles of the Treaties?

89. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-282/81)

Subject: Afghanistan

What pressure is being exerted currently by the Community on the USSR in order to secure the removal of troops from Afghanistan?

90. Question by Mr FERGUSSON (H-196/81)

Subject: Contacts with Middle Eastern Governments

What plans have the foreign ministers for renewing contacts with Middle Eastern Governments, and in particular with that of Israel, with a view to furthering peace?

91. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-305/81)

Subject: Discussion of security matters by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting in Political Cooperation

Could the President-in-Office state what progress has been made by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting in Political Cooperation in defining precisely which areas relating to security will be discussed by them and which ones relate to defence and will remain outside their terms of reference?

92. Question by Sir Peter VANNECK (H-313/81)

Subject : Safeguarding the Peace and liberty of Europe

In view of the well publicised deployment by the Soviet Union of SS20 missiles and the overflying potential of the Soviet Backfire bombers, what steps do the Foreign Ministers envisage to "preserve and strengthen peace and liberty" for the peoples of Europe?

93. Question by Mr PAISLEY (H-315/81)

Subject : Effective system of extradition to operate throughout the whole Community

When last was an effective system of extradition, which would operate throughout the whole Community, discussed by the Foreign Ministers, and what progress has been made?

94. Question by Mrs EWING (H-322/81)

Subject : Consultation with Israeli and U.S. Governments

In view of the need to take full account of the policies of the new Israeli Government, what plans has the President-in-Office to consult this government and that of the United States about the further steps which are to be taken by the Ten in order to implement the Venice Declaration of June 1980 on the settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute?



95. Question by Mr LALOR (H-347/81)

Subject : EEC/OAU Relations

Have the Foreign Ministers meeting in Political Cooperation formed any useful relationship with the Organization of African Unity and do they see any hopeful signs for new peaceful initiatives by that organization in Africa following its annual conference in June this year?

96. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-365/81)

Subject: Agreements with the Soviet Union

Do the Ministers not consider that steps should be taken to encourage the Member States to adopt a joint Community position on agreements with the Soviet Union for the supply of natural gas from the Soviet Union to energy-consumers in the EEC?

97. Question by Sir Jack STEWART-CLARK (H-374/81)

Subject: Eventual Russian invasion in Poland

In the event that Russia should invade Poland, are the foreign ministers in a position to condemn firmly, unanimously and immediately such intervention and do they have plans agreed for introducing effective measures to deal with the situation?

98. Question by Mr BOYES (H-376/81)

Subject: Human rights and democratic freedoms in Chile

In view of the continuing violation of human rights and democratic freedoms in Chile, especially the recent expulsion of Christian Democrat and Socialist politicians and other leading members of the democratic opposition, what steps are the foreign ministers taking to aid the restoration of basic freedoms in Chile, particularly those formally removed by the new Chilean constitution enacted on 11 March 1981?

99. Question by Mr SCHINZEL (H-389/81)

Subject: Neutron bomb

How do the Foreign Ministers view the US decision to produce the neutron bomb without first consulting or obtaining the approval of its European NATO allies and do the foreign ministers believe that this action by the US has helped strengthen the basis of trust in the Community; do the Foreign Ministers consider that the United States of America could station or deploy the neutron bomb in any Community Member State without that State's consent?