

# European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## Working Documents

1978 - 1979

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10 April 1978

DOCUMENT 33/78

ORAL QUESTIONS

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME on 11, 12 and 13 April 1978

PE 52.884

In accordance with the directives on the conduct of Question Time, questions may be answered only if the questioner is present or has notified the President in writing, before Question Time begins, of the name of his substitute.

Questions to the Commission which have not been answered on Tuesday for lack of time are called on Thursday. If the questioners are unable to attend, they may of course, notify the President in writing of the name of their substitute before the questions are called on Thursday.

1. Question by Mr SCHYNS (H-485/77)

Subject: Labelling of cosmetic products

Is the Commission aware that the information given to American consumers is much more detailed than the information that, under Council Directive 76/768/EEC, has to be provided on cosmetic products? Why does the European consumer have to be less well-informed about the composition of the same product sold by the same firm?

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2. Question by Mr PISONI (H-506/77)

Subject: Employment policy

Does the Commission possess precise and up-to-date data on employment policy in the different Member States, having regard to the present situation and the efforts being made in this field by the respective governments?

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3. Question by Mrs DUNWOODY (H-39/78)

Subject: Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation

Can the Commission please inform Parliament exactly how much money has been paid to the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation in 1977 and in 1978.

4. Question by Mrs KELLETT-BOWMAN (H-3/78)

Subject: Investigations by para-Community organizations

Is it the intention of the Commission to request para-Community organizations such as SEPLIS (the Société Européenne des Professions Libérales, Intellectuelles et Sociales) to carry out investigations for it?

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5. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-471/77)

Subject: Customs clearance

In view of the fact that airports and airlines are charging for security checks of luggage, will the Commission examine (together with ICAO, ECAC and IATA) the whole question of customs clearance from one EEC member country to another? As regards continuous flights such as London-Hamburg-Berlin, or London-Lille-Strasbourg-Milan, will the Commission examine the practice of not treating passengers as being in 'transit' where customs clearance is concerned, not enabling passengers to keep their seats, and involving passengers in two or more luggage security checks for one flight?

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6. Question by Lord REAY (H-512/77)

Subject: Levies on Greek agricultural products

What evidence is there to support the Commission's view that the imposition of levies by the Community on a variety of Greek agricultural products is not against the spirit of the Association Agreement with Greece?

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7. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-513/77)

Subject: Blackmail and boycott of Community companies

On the assumption that the Commission is aware of the extent to which Community companies are being subjected to blackmail and boycott on the grounds of their dealing with Israel or because of their Jewish connections, what steps does the Commission propose be taken to combat this threat to the principles contained in the Treaty of Rome?

8. Question by Mr K. NYBORG (H-1/78)

Subject: Conditions of competition in the aviation sector

What progress has the Commission made in its investigations into the conditions of competition in the aviation sector and is the IATA agreement incompatible in this context with the EEC Treaty?

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9. Question by Mr BROSNON (H-500/77)

Subject: Sectoral policies versus Regional Policy

How does the Commission reconcile certain of its sectoral policies with the Community's Regional Policy particularly where a sectoral policy has detrimental effects on a less-developed region of the Community?

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10. Question by Mr KLEPSCH (H-515/77)

Subject: Reduction of the monetary compensatory amounts in the mixed animal feedingstuffs sector

What is the Commission's opinion regarding the excessively heavy contractual burden which the short transitional period for trade adjustment provided for in Regulation (EEC) No. 3005/77 altering monetary compensatory amounts places on undertakings and organizations in the Federal Republic of Germany which export mixed animal feedingstuffs?

11. Question by Lord BESSBOROUGH (H-2/78)

Subject: Starch Proposals

In view of the fact that in both 1976 and 1977 the Council referred back Commission proposals to eliminate the production refund and twice granted an increase, does not the Commission agree that there is a need to establish a stable, longterm Community starch policy on the basis of which the industry can offer security of employment and plan ahead with confidence? Is the Commission confident that its recent proposals will not have adverse effects on the Community's starch industry?

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12. Question by Mr BERTRAND (H-40/78)

Subject: Cancellation of a meeting of the Council of Ministers for social affairs

Can the Commission explain why the meeting of the Council of Ministers for social affairs scheduled for 28 April has been cancelled, even though there are a large number of social problems calling for attention in the Member States?

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13. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-7/78)

Subject : Public discussion on Nuclear Energy

In view of its own policy of organizing and encouraging wide ranging public discussions on nuclear energy, what measures does the Commission intend to propose to ensure that the same opportunities are made available to the public within the member-states?

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14. Question by Mr DONDELINGER (H-9/78)

Subject: Persecution of the Jewish community in Argentina

What action does the Commission envisage at international or bilateral level to protect the Jewish community in Argentina, where antisemitism, tolerated and even encouraged, has already caused 100,000 Jews to leave the country since the junta came to power and places the Jewish community in a situation of insecurity comparable to that obtaining in the early years of the the Third Reich?

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15. Question by Mr HOFFMANN (H-12/78)

Subject: The Ortoli facilities

Is the Commission prepared to commit 1,000 million EUA from the 'Ortoli facilities' as the Community's contribution to a solidarity programme in favour of the accession candidates since, through the capital market, the Community funds and the EIB, the Community Member States already have sufficient financing instruments?

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16. Question by Mr FELLERMAIER (H-13/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject: The Amoco Cadiz accident

After the Torrey Canyon, the Olympic Bravery, the Boehlen and now the Amoco Cadiz disaster, the problem of safety at sea and the protection of the environment is more serious and urgent than ever before. What action does the Commission intend to take to prevent the recurrence of such disasters and to assist a region already badly hit by the economic crisis?

17. Question by Mr Willi MÜLLER (H-14/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject: The Amoco Cadiz accident

The wreck of the Amoco Cadiz close to the Breton coast releasing some 220,000 tonnes of oil into the sea has again placed animal and plant life in serious danger. The flora and fauna are threatened not only by the presence of thick oil slicks on the sea and shore but also by the effects of the products used to dissolve the oil.

Given the implications of this accident for the ecological balance, is the Commission prepared to undertake research into the long-term effects of these solvents on marine fauna and flora and to encourage any action by Member States to ensure the preservation of the species threatened?

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<sup>x)</sup> Will not be called if item 33 is kept on the agenda

18. Question by Mr PRESCOTT (H-15/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject: The Amoco Cadiz accident

The circumstances in which the Amoco Cadiz ran aground off the Breton coast raise doubts about the adequacy of international regulations on shipbuilding, sea transport and crew training safety standards.

At the present time 30% of the world's ships sail under flags of convenience and violate these international agreements with impunity, thus putting seamen and the land population at unacceptable risk.

Is the Commission willing to ensure compliance with these international agreements at Community level and to take action to ensure that sea transport safety standards are high enough to prevent such accidents?

19. Question by Mr CARPENTIER (H-16/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject: The Amoco Cadiz accident

The disaster which has just hit Brittany following the wreck of the Amoco Cadiz has deprived thousands of workers in the fishing and tourism sectors of their sources of income for an indefinite period.

Is the Commission prepared to provide urgent aid to this region of the Community using the appropriations earmarked for disaster victims in the Community?

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<sup>x)</sup> Will not be called if item 33 is kept on the agenda

20. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-17/78)

Subject : Excess of cows

In view of Commissioner Gundelach's statement that no market exists for 15 per cent of the milk currently being produced, would he agree that this means that an excess of at least 3 million cows is being maintained in the European dairy herd, and is he satisfied that adequate steps are being taken to correct this situation?

21. Question by Mr MÜLLER-HERMANN (H-19/78) x)

Subject: Safety regulations for super tankers

Does the Commission agree that the wreck of the Liberian super tanker off the coast of Brest provides support for the argument that tankers sailing under flags of convenience do not comply sufficiently with the existing safety regulations and does the Commission intend to draw up a convention for seafaring countries which lays down stricter safety and environmental protection requirements than hitherto for the construction and operation of super tankers?

22. Question by Mr RYAN (H-20/78)

Subject : Underwater electric link between Ireland and Britain

Can the Commission say when a report on the studies relating to a possible underwater electric link between Ireland and Britain will be published, and if such a link is considered feasible? Will Community financial assistance be granted towards the construction of such a link?

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x) Will not be called if item 33 is kept on the agenda

23. Question by Mr POWER (H-23/78)

Subject : U.K. Temporary Employment Subsidy Scheme

Does the Commission consider the revised T.E.S. scheme to be sufficiently restrictive so as avoid undesirable effects on other Member States?

24. Question by Mr BRUGHA (H-24/78)

Subject : Benefits from Enlargement

Does the Commission consider that the more developed regions of the existing Community stand to gain most from enlargement?

25. Question by Mr HERBERT (H-25/78)

Subject : Protocol 30 to the Treaty of Accession

What measures does the Commission intend to propose to implement the undertakings contained in Protocol 30 to the Treaty of Accession?

26. Question by Mr DESCHAMPS (H-29/78)

Subject: European Schools

1978 marks the 20th anniversary of the creation of the European Schools, whose development has been fostered by the Commission. It would appear that, in the appointment of Belgian teachers to the European Schools, teachers working in the private education sector suffer routine discrimination, and that of all the teachers appointed up to now through the Belgian Department of National Education, not one has come from this sector.

Would the Commission not agree that in all European ventures, above all where education is involved, ideological or philosophical discrimination - in whatever form - must be prevented?

27. Question by Mrs EWING (H-32/78)

Subject : Nuclear waste disposal

Will the Commission give an assurance that when a network of sites as outlined by them for nuclear waste disposal are selected the selection will take into account the wishes of the local inhabitants?

28. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-35/78)

Subject : Distortions created by compensatory amounts

Is the Commission of the opinion that the system of monetary compensatory amounts helps to distort competition, is unfair, encourages the FRG to re-export food products which it procures at low prices from the French market, was originally provisional and thus not designed to sustain monetary movements on a large scale, that it must therefore be replaced and that the Commission ought to have proposed an alternative solution?

29. Question by Mr PATIJN (H-37/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject : Negotiations with Yugoslavia

It is most desirable that the Commission, in its negotiations with Yugoslavia, should be able to discuss problems concerning the migration of Yugoslav workers.

Does the Commission not agree that the Social sector should now be included in the Commission's negotiating mandate with Yugoslavia, as is already the case in the negotiations with Portugal?

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<sup>x)</sup> Will not be called if item 42 is kept on the agenda

30. Question by Mr PINTAT (H-46/78) x)

Subject: Creation of a fleet of tugs

Does the Commission intend to propose the creation of a fleet of high power tugs, possibly flying the European flag, for the purpose of maritime pollution surveillance and intervention in the case of oil tanker accidents, and does it not feel that oil companies could be asked to share the cost of maintaining such a fleet?

31. Question by Lord ARDWICK (H-48/78)

Subject: Pharmaceutical industry

Can the Commission indicate the cases where it has learned over the last five years of failure to comply with the Community provisions on the law of competition in the field of pharmaceutical products, as well as cases in which it has imposed fines for excessive prices or profits?

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x) Will not be called if item 33 is kept on the agenda



32. Question by Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI (H-30/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject: Discrimination against women at work

Can the Council already say what stage has been reached in the various Member States in the application of Directive No. 76/207/EEC<sup>1</sup> on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards access to employment, vocational training and promotion, and working conditions?

33. Question by Mr NYBORG (H-31/78)<sup>x)</sup>

Subject: Simplification of border formalities

Will the Members of the Council direct their national authorities to work zealously towards the rationalization and simplification of border formalities, in particular the rules governing the movement of persons and goods across internal frontiers?

34. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-466/77)

Subject: Duty free imports

What proposals has the Council received from the Commission about the value and nature of duty free imports which travellers may bring into EEC countries from other EEC countries, and non-EEC countries respectively. How long have these proposals been before the Council, and what issues have delayed a decision and when is one now likely?

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x) Converted from oral question with debate into question for Question Time

<sup>1</sup> OJ No. L 39, 14.2.1976, p. 40

35. Question by Mr McDONALD (H-5/78)

Subject: Driving licence and driving tests

Will the Council make a statement on the introduction of a European driving licence and of common rules for driving tests within the Community?

36. Question by Mr DAMSEAUX (H-6/78)

Subject: Intensified International Monetary Fund (IMF) negotiations

Is the Council planning on taking initiatives at EEC level in the light of the intensified negotiations at IMF level?

37. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-18/78)

Subject : Marketing and production of milk

Will the Council give urgent consideration to establishing marketing authorities in each of the member states for regulating the marketing and production of milk?

38. Question by Mr RYAN (H-21/78)

Subject : Lack of common industrial policy

Having regard to widespread disappointment at the lack of a common industrial policy, will the Council now make renewed efforts to formulate a progressive comprehensive common industrial policy to give an injection of confidence to European industry?

39. Question by Mr HERBERT (H-26/78)

Subject : Protocol 30 to the Treaty of Accession

What measures have been adopted by the Council since January 1, 1973, which took cognisance of Protocol 30 to the Treaty of Accession?

40. Question by Lord REAY (H-28/78)

Subject : Ratification of Financial Protocol with Portugal

In view of the urgent need to provide economic aid for Portugal and of the Community's undertaking to do so under the Financial Protocol of September 1976, will the Council state, which Member States have not yet ratified the Financial Protocol, when does the Council expect them to do so and what action the Council plans to take to secure early ratification by all Member States.

41. Question by Mrs EWING (H-33/78)

Subject : Common fishing policy

Will the Council give an up to date statement on the present position with regard to negotiations for a common fishing policy?

42. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-36/78)

Subject: Indebtedness of the developing countries

At the next UNCTAD conference will the Community simply present as its official position the statement on indebtedness submitted by Europe and the United States to the Conference on International Economic Cooperation, or is it able to envisage a retroactive adjustment, i.e. the adjustment the old rate of interest to the new debt.

43. Question by Mr PATIJN (H-38/78)

Subject : Negotiations with Yugoslavia

It is most desirable that the Commission, in its negotiations with Yugoslavia, should be able to discuss problems concerning the migration of Yugoslav workers.

Does the Council not agree that the Social sector should now be included in the Commission's negotiating mandate with Yugoslavia, as is already the case in the negotiations with Portugal?

44. Question by Mr PINTAT (H-47/78)

Subject: Creation of a fleet of tugs

Is the Council envisaging the creation of a fleet of high power tugs, possibly flying the European flag, for the purpose of maritime pollution surveillance and intervention in the case of oil tanker accidents, and does it not feel that oil companies could be asked to share the cost of maintaining such a fleet?

45. Question by Mrs DUNWOODY (H-49/78)

Subject: Delay in adoption by the Council of the Directive concerning the progressive implementation of the principle of equality of treatment for men and women in matters of social security

Can the Council explain the reasons for the delay in the adoption of the Directive on equality of treatment in social security which was approved by Parliament on 15 November 1977<sup>1</sup>, and state when it expects to adopt this Directive?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 299, 12.12.1977, p. 13



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

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46. Question by Mr RIPAMONTI (H-27/78)

Subject: Terrorism

Following the recent acts of terrorism in Europe and the kidnapping of Aldo Moro, President of the Italian Christian Democratic Party, would the Foreign Ministers not agree that steps should be taken at international level to coordinate anti-terrorism measures?

47. Question by Mrs EWING (H-34/78)

Subject : Terrorism

Will the Ministers state what new proposals they have to deal with acts of terrorism in the EEC following the tragic kidnapping of Signor Moro?

48. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-41/78)

Subject: Community measures to combat terrorism

In view of the continuing spread of terrorism in the Member States of the Community, will the Council take measures to encourage effective cooperation and coordination between national security authorities to permit Community-wide action against terrorism, and is it considering the establishment of a Community authority to combat terrorism?

49. Question by Mr DONDELINGER (H-10/78)

Subject: Persecution of the Jewish community in Argentina

Do the Ministers not feel that they ought, as a matter of urgency, to take vigorous and concerted diplomatic action to protect the Jewish community in Argentina, where a quasi-official antisemitism is being practised which has already led 100,000 Jews to leave the country since the junta came to power and which places the Jewish community there in a situation of insecurity comparable to that obtaining in the early years of the Third Reich?

50. Question by Mr SIEGLERSCHMIDT (H-11/78)

Subject: Areas of tension

Do the foreign ministers see no contradiction in the fact that, while they coordinate on their positions on the situation in areas of tension like the Middle East and Southern Africa, they neglect to coordinate the positions of the Member States on their arms supplies to such areas of tension, and what do the foreign ministers intend to do to put an end to this contradictory state of affairs, which calls into question the Community's political credibility?

51. Question by Mr RYAN (H-22/78)

Subject : Export of armaments

What progress is being made towards achieving a common approach to the export of armaments, notably to developing countries and to areas of international tension?

52. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-42/78)

Subject : Impact of the Code of Practice in South Africa

What discussions have the Foreign Ministers of Member States had with the South African Government, and neighbouring ACP countries, about the impact of the Code of Practice on productivity as well as wage levels, and the consequential impact on employment in South Africa?

