

# European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## Working Documents

1978 - 1979

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9 October 1978

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### ORAL QUESTIONS

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME on 10, 11 and 12 October 1978

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 NYBORG (H-230/78)

Subject : Fisheries

How long will the Commission tolerate the United Kingdom's repeated disregard of the provisions of the Treaty of Rome, including those applicable to fisheries policy, before it brings an action against the United Kingdom in the Court of Justice.

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2. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-237/78)

Subject : Community System of Income Maintenance for workers  
undergoing retraining

Will the Commission explain the omission of Art. 3052 - Community System of Income Maintenance for workers undergoing retraining - a proposal originally made in the Social Action Programme - from the Preliminary Draft Budget for 1979?

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3. Question by Mr KLEPSCH (H-282/78)

Subject: Proposal by the President of the French Republic to the Heads of Government of the Community regarding the functioning of the Community institutions (the setting up of a Council of 'three wise men')

Does the Commission intend to adopt a position on this proposal and to state what consequences the setting up of such a 'Council of Wise Men' might have for the Community's institutional organization?

4. Question by Mr PINTAT (H-283/78)

Subject: Proposal by the President of the French Republic to the Heads of Government of the Community regarding the functioning of the Community institutions (the setting up of a Council of 'three wise men')

Does the Commission intend to state what consequences the setting up of such a 'Council of Wise Men' might have for the current negotiations with the applicant states?

5. Question by Mr PISONI (H-235/78)

Subject: Directive on education for the children of migrant workers

Having regard to the Council's adoption of the above directive on 25 July 1977 in the context of the action programme in favour of migrant workers and their families, can the Commission now state whether any definite, positive results have been achieved in the Member States?

6. Question by Mrs DAHLERUP (H-262/78)

Subject: Speech by Mr Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission, on a common Community defence and security policy

In a speech delivered in the USA on 8 September 1978, Commission Vice-President Mr Henk Vredeling advocated cooperation between the Member States of the European Community on security and defence policy.

Does the Commission share this point of view?

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7. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-255/78)

Subject : Emergency Aid to the East and South East of England

Has the British Government informed the Commission of how it has allocated the 1m eua which the Commission gave as Emergency Aid to the East and South East of England following the storms of the 11th and 12th January 1978?

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8. Question by Mr NOE' (H-248/78) \*

Subject: Research into nuclear fusion

In view of the brilliant results obtained in August at Princeton University and the conclusions arrived at at the recent Innsbruck Congress organized by the IAEA and having regard to the priority recently accorded by the Americans and Japanese to a joint nuclear research programme, does not the Commission feel that the Community should step up its own work in this field?

9. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-251/78)

Subject : Overpayments of EEC staff salaries

Will the Commission please explain how the incorporation of the 157.8 weighting into the basic staff salary scale on 1st January 1977, which should have been a technically neutral operation, apparently resulted in substantial unintended gains in net remuneration being made by many officials and ex-officials, and losses by others, indicate the individual and overall financial extent of such gains and losses and state when and how it proposes to rectify this unsatisfactory situation ?

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\* Will not be called if items 232 and 233 are kept on the agenda

10. Question by Mr CORRIE (H-184/78)

Subject : Independent airlines within the Community

What is the Commission doing to ensure that services which are being, or could be, provided by independent airlines within the Community (often between parts of the Community not previously linked directly) are not jeopardized by subsidized competition and unfair practices from state airlines?

11. Question by Mr EDWARDS (H-227/78)

Subject : Bribery by Multi-national pharmaceutical companies in Member countries of the European Community

Following a report of a Committee of the United States Senate revealing widespread bribery and illegal payments by pharmaceutical companies to officials in member countries of the Community, will the Commission take action to exercise some control in this matter?

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12. Question by Mr FITCH (H-224/78)

Subject : Multi-fibre arrangements

Can the Commission give a statement on the effectiveness of the multi-fibre arrangements?

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13. Question by Lord BESSBOROUGH (H-253/78)

Subject : Trade Agreement between the European Community and the People's Republic of China

When will the Joint Commission envisaged in the agreement convene, what will be its composition, and what matters does the Commission intend to put on the agenda of the Joint Commission in the light of Commissioner Haferkamp's recent visit to Peking?

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14. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-256,78)

Subject : Sales to the Community of Soviet crude oil and refined products

A report by the Swedish consulting agency, Petrostudies, claims that the Soviet Union will capture by 1985 nearly a quarter of the West European market for crude oil and refined products. In view of the Community's need for diversified sources of crude oil and the need to make better use of excess refinery capacity, what is the Commission's policy in regard to Community imports of Soviet crude oil and refined products?

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15. Question by Mr van AERSSEN (H-258/78)

Subject: Import policy of COMECON

What information does the Commission have in support of the view that Western conjunctural weaknesses are being accompanied by steady and intensified efforts on the part of the COMECON countries to achieve autarchy, with the resultant likelihood that they will adopt a restrictive import policy vis-à-vis the West up to 1980?

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16. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-263/78)<sup>x</sup>

Subject : Community Energy Policy

Is the Commission intending to provide incentives to the non-coal producing Member States to invest in new coal fired electricity generating capacity in addition to the Commission's proposal to encourage conversion from oil to coal fired capacity?

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<sup>x</sup> Will not be called if items 232 and 233 are kept on the agenda

17. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (H-264/78)

Subject : Community Trade in Agricultural Products

Does the Commission find it unreasonable that the Community should be the world's biggest importer of agricultural products and also have serious problems of domestic over-production, and does it see any possible link between reduction of both imports and surpluses?

18. Question by Sir Brandon RHYS WILLIAMS (H-266/78)

Subject : Animal welfare

What has the Commission so far achieved in the field of welfare of farm animals, what does it have presently in hand, and what does it expect to undertake in the future, especially in the fields of transport of live animals and methods of slaughter?

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19. Question by Mr PORCU (H-271/78)

Subject: American pressure in GATT

How does the Commission intend to resist the very strong American pressure against the EEC's system of refunds on agricultural exports?

20. Question by Mr CIFARELLI (H-273/78)

Subject: European synthetic fibre cartel

Is the European synthetic fibre cartel established by 12 firms compatible with Article 85 of the EEC Treaty, and if not, can the Commission confirm whether, as alleged by the Italian government, this cartel was organized on the initiative of the Commission?

21. Question by Mr DONDELINGER (H-279/78)

Subject: European armaments procurement cooperation

Has the Commission begun work on the report on European armaments procurement cooperation as requested in the European Parliament's resolution of 14 June 1978<sup>1</sup>, and when does it hope to submit this report?

22. Question by Mr HERBERT (H-280/78)

Subject : Export Refunds for pork

Does the Commission intend to immediately eliminate the continuing anomaly whereby export refunds for boneless pork are the same as export refunds for pork sides ?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 163, 10.7.1978, p. 23

23. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-287/78)<sup>x</sup>

Subject : Davignon Steel Plan

What plans has the Commission for persuading Belgian, French and German steel producers to comply with the steel plan drawn up by Commissioner Davignon?

24. Question by Mrs EWING (H-288/78)

Subject : Steel Policy

What further plans has the Commission got to deal with the problems caused by the import of steel from countries outside the Community, particularly via East Germany ?

25. Question by Mr ZYWIEZ (H-289/78)

Subject: Community cooperation in the armaments sector

Does the Commission intend to confirm the view expressed in the European Parliament by its representative with regard to the possibility of achieving Community cooperation in the armaments sector within the framework of industrial policy, or does it intend to change its views as a result of the position taken up by the French Government which is refusing to consider these proposals on the grounds that they are not in conformity with the Treaty?

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<sup>x</sup> Will not be called if item 154 is kept on the agenda

26. Question by Mrs DUNWOODY (H-294/78)

Subject : Distorsion of competition between the television  
and film companies

Will the Commission explain what steps they intend to take to  
set on foot an enquiry into any possible distortion of  
competition between the television and film companies of the  
Community in relation to the showing of films on television ?

27. Question by Mr STETTER (H-295/78)

Subject : Illegal British fishing restrictions in the North Sea

How does the Commission intend to have the illegal British  
restrictions on fishing in the North Sea rescinded?



28. Question by Mr FELLERMAIER (H-284/78)

Subject: Proposal by the President of the French Republic to the Heads of Government of the Community regarding the functioning of the Community institutions (the setting up of a Council of 'three wise men')

Does the Council intend to adopt a position on this proposal and to state what consequences the setting up of such a 'Council of Wise Men' would have for the Community's institutional organization?

29. Question by Mr BERTRAND (H-285/78)

Subject: Proposal by the President of the French Republic to the Heads of Government of the Community regarding the functioning of the Community institutions (the setting up of a Council of 'three wise men')

Does the Council intend to state what consequences the setting up of such a 'Council of Wise Men' might have for the current negotiations with the applicant states?

30. Question by Mr EDWARDS (H-238/78)

Subject : Commodity Imports

To ask the Council whether it will co-ordinate its policies regarding the import of raw materials and other commodities from the Third World, with a view to ensuring greater stability of prices paid to producers, in accordance with the UNCTAD Integrated Programme of May, 1976; and with a view to reducing both speculation and excessive profits by multinational firms operating in this field.

31. Question by Mr SOURY (H-247/78/rev)

Subject : Measures now being prepared for the dairy sector

According to recent information, the Council of Ministers of Agriculture will soon be reviewing the dairy situation to decide on new guidelines for dairy policy.

Could the Council confirm whether, as Community stockbreeders fear, there are plans to take the following measures: to increase the coresponsibility levy to 5%, abandon all aid to dairy production, and suspend purchases in favour of powdered skimmed milk during the winter months?

32. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-274/78)

Subject : Milk Surplus

Is the Council satisfied that adequate provision has been made for reducing milk surpluses at an early date ?

33. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-249/78)

Subject: Air traffic - Commission's proposals

What proposals from the Commission are before the Council and on what date were they received?

34. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (H-265/78)

Subject : EEC-US Trade in Agricultural Products

How does the Council view the EEC's deficit with the US in trade in agricultural products, and does it intend to take any steps to change this situation towards a better balance?

35. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-267/78)

Subject : Non-utilization of Community Funds

What action does the Council plan to take with regard to non-utilization of appropriations for payments from the Social and Regional Funds, as illustrated in the report on the Financial Situation of the European Communities on 30th June 1978 recently submitted by the Commission to Council and Parliament ?

36. Question by Mr DANKERT (H-268/78)

Subject : Payments from the E.R.D.F.

Can the Council explain why in 1978 member states have submitted fewer applications for payment from the E.R.D.F. than in previous years ?

37. Question by Mr SPICER (H-275/78)

Subject : Community's policy for the aeronautical industry

In view of the over-riding need to sustain a strong Community aerospace industry in the face of U.S. competition and the need to provide the right moral and financial encouragement for the Community's aerospace industry, when will the Council give the go-ahead to the Community's first aeronautical research programme ?

38. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-277/78)

Subject : ACP/EEC Assembly

Bearing in mind that it is very unclear which of the ACP Delegates to the ACP/EEC Assembly and Joint Committee are elected representatives of their people in their national parliaments will the Council now start discussions with EEC and ACP governments with a view to making this a more representative Assembly in the future and in particular after signing the Lomé II Convention?

39. Question by Mrs EWING (H-281/78)

Subject : Shipbuilding

When does the Council propose to implement the Commission's proposals on the reorganization of the Community shipbuilding industry and what effect does it consider these proposals will have on shipbuilding in the United Kingdom with particular reference to the Scottish shipbuilding industry ?

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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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40. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-252/78)  
Subject : Sanctions against Rhodesia

Has the attention of the Ministers been drawn to the evidence of flagrant breach of sanctions against Rhodesia by European-based oil companies ?

What concerted action is intended against these companies and whether consideration will be given to awarding compensation to countries like Zambia for losses suffered as a result of such sanction breaking, such compensation to be paid by the offending oil companies ?

41. Question by Mrs EWING (H-254/78)

Subject : Prosecutions for Nazi Crimes

Will the Foreign Ministers co-ordinate their policies as regards the request of Israel and other countries to have the expiry of the time for competent prosecutions of Nazi crimes extended from the end of 1979?

42. Question by Mr LAGORCE (H-257/78)

Subject: Human rights in Chile

What positive results, if any, have followed the visit to Chile on 12 July by representatives of the United Nations Human Rights Commission?

43. Question by Mr BRUGHA (H-269/78)

Subject : Camp David Summit

Do the Foreign Ministers feel that there is any contribution they can make on behalf of the Community to further the hopes of peace following the Camp David Summit between the United States, Israel and Egypt?

44. Question By Mr BORDU (H-270/78)

Subject: Restriction of access to certain occupations

Do the Foreign Ministers consider the practice of restricting access to certain occupations compatible with the resolve to respect human rights in the Community?

45. Question by Mr DONDELINGER (H-272/78)

Subject: Elections in Namibia

Will the Ministers recognize the new State of Namibia if it is declared independent following the elections which South Africa proposes to hold there at the end of November 1978 without United Nations supervision?

46. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-286/78)

Subject : Vienna Convention

Will the Foreign Ministers of the Nine take joint action to stop the import, by means of the diplomatic bag, of weapons into the EC?

