

**European Communities**

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**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

**Working Documents**

**1977 - 1978**

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18 April 1977

DOCUMENT 44/77

**ORAL QUESTIONS**

**Pursuant to Rule 47A of the Rules of Procedure**

**for QUESTION TIME on 19 and 20 April 1977**



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QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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1. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-254/76)

Subject : Europe plus Thirty

When will the Commission submit to the Parliament and to the Council its proposals arising from its consideration of the Report on Europe plus Thirty ?

2. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (H-261/76)

Subject: Child labour in Southern Italy

Will the Commission publish the report of the enquiry set up as a result of my Question on 12 January 1977 regarding the buying and selling of child labour in Southern Italy?

3. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-2/77)

Subject: Indebtedness of the Third World

Does not the Commission think that it is essential to make future external borrowings by the Third World profitable by arranging for greater planning of industrialization projects and, in this connection, has it considered linking future borrowing for industrial purposes to the signing of agreements between producer and buyer countries on the lines of the Textile Multifibre Agreement?

4. Question by Mrs KRUCHOW (H-3/77)

Subject: Decontamination and aftereffects in the Seveso area

Would the Commission state how it assesses the prospects for the effective decontamination of the area around Seveso in Italy, hit in 1976 by a disastrous accident involving toxic gas, and what information can the Commission give on the pathological effects on human and animal life in the area?

5. Question by Mrs EWING (H-4/77)

Subject : Developments in common fisheries policy

What progress has the Commission made, in the last two months, both internally and in external negotiations, in developing the common fisheries policy; and what further action does it propose to take in the immediate future ?

6. Question by Mr PRICE (H-6/77)

Subject : Relations with Cyprus

What arrangements are being made to accord to the Republic of Cyprus the advantages now given to all other mediterranean countries except Spain and will negotiations be concluded before the expiry of the 'status quo' arrangements with Britain on 30 June ?

7. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-7/77)

Subject : 'EEC bans our ice-cream'

What study has the Commission made of the Sunday Post article of 13 March 1977 - 'EEC bans our ice-cream!' and what steps are the Commission taking to try to prevent changes in regulations being subject to ribald comments detrimental to the EEC ?

8. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-8/77)

Subject : EEC trade mark

Can the Commission state when the European Parliament will be consulted on the question of the creation of an EEC trade mark ?

9. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-9/77)

Subject : U.K. jute industry

Does the Commission recognise that the agreements made with India and Bangladesh in respect of the imports of jute goods and yarn from those countries to the EEC could jeopardise the jobs of 8000 workers in Dundee and neighbouring towns; and what further consultations on these matters does the Commission intend to have with representatives of the trade unions and manufacturers most concerned ?

10. Question by Mrs KELLETT-BOWMAN (H-13/77)

Subject : Medical treatment for self-employed

When does the Commission expect to bring forward its draft regulation governing reciprocal medical treatment for the self-employed within the EEC to which it referred in a Written Answer published on 12 July 1976 ?<sup>1</sup>

11. Question by Lord BESSBOROUGH (H-15/77)

Subject: Project of the European Centre for Medium-Range  
Weather Forecasts

Thirteen governments, including all Member States, are contributing to the establishment of the project of the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts. In the light of its recommendations contained in its proposals for the Community's data processing industry, what advice has the Commission given to the ECMWF Council regarding acquisition of equipment to meet its computing requirements?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ Nr. C 158, 12.7.1976, page 45.

12. Question by Mr BANGEMANN (H-17/77)

Subject: EEC funds

Is the Commission now in a position to provide an initial report on the state of discussions of its internal working party, which is looking into the problem of how to achieve greater coherence in the future orientation of the various EEC funds (Regional Fund, Social Fund, Agricultural Structure Fund) in specific areas?

13. Question by Mr PINTAT (II-18/77)

Subject: Nuclear agreement between Germany and Brazil

Following the recent pressure brought to bear by the United States on the Federal Republic of Germany to reconsider the nuclear agreement concluded with Brazil and in particular deliveries to a uranium-enrichment plant and a fuel-reprocessing plant, can the Commission state what action it intends to take to ensure the autonomy of European external policy in this field? Does it not consider that the use of nuclear technology for peaceful ends should not remain the prerogative of the major nations, since there is otherwise a risk, of precluding any possibility of future international control?

14. Question by Mr ZYWIETZ (H-22/77)

Subject: Pan-European conference on energy, transport and environmental protection

How does the Commission view the proposal by Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Aleksei Manshulo for a pan-European conference on energy, transport and environmental protection questions?

15. Question by Mr MEINTZ (H-23/77)

Subject: Part-time employment

Could the Commission confirm that it has never carried out a comparative study of the legislation of the Member States in the field of part-time employment, and is it prepared to furnish at an early date a comparative table on the subject, even one limited, initially, to the preparatory work?

16. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-24/77)

Subject : Report of the European Foundation for Management  
Development

Has the Commission taken a view on the initiatives proposed in the report of the European Foundation for Management Development on Management Education in the European Community?

17. Question by Mr KASPEREIT (H-25/77)

Subject: Mashreq and Maghreb agreements

Can the Commission explain why, in the Mashreq agreement, the management body includes representatives of the Member States while there is no such provision in the Maghreb agreement, and in this connection, is it for reasons of consistency with the EEC/Mashreq agreement that the joint committee provided for in Article 19 of the EEC/Israel agreement of 20 May 1975 is replaced by a Cooperation Council?

18. Question by Mr KRALL (H-27/77)

Subject: GATT negotiations

Does the Commission still consider the date scheduled for the conclusion of the GATT negotiations (end of 1977) to be realistic?

19. Question by Mr AIGNER(H-28/77)

Subject : Common agricultural policy

Is the Commission aware of the House of Commons statement by the British Minister of Agriculture and current President of the Council of Agricultural Ministers to the effect that the agricultural policy he is pursuing in Brussels is exclusively aimed at serving the national interest of the United Kingdom, particularly as regards the green pound and the expansion of British milk production? If so, does the Commission believe that such statements are compatible with the general policy statement made by the President of the Commission before the European Parliament to the effect that he did not want to make the Community more British but to make the United Kingdom more European?

20. Question by Mr ELLIS (H-30/77)

Subject : Concentration of information

Does the Commission agree that different national modes of presentation of information are an important element in public understanding and that the centralisation of the production of publications can be counterproductive? Will it therefore retain its present decentralised information structure so that publications intended for individual member countries are prepared, printed and published by the national information offices?

21. Question by Mr DE CLERCQ (H-33/77)

Subject: Enlargement of the Community

Will the Commission give a broad outline of its views on the principle of enlargement of the Community? In its view, is there a danger that possible applications for membership of the Community by other countries may delay the negotiations on Greek accession?



22. Question by Mr NOE (H-36/77)

Subject: Exploitation of minerals from the seabed

Does the Commission consider that the competent Community authorities should promote the formation of a consortium of companies - for the most part European - to engage in the exploitation of minerals from the seabed?

23. Question by Mr PISONI (H-37/77)

Subject: Appointment of a successful candidate in a Commission competition

Is the Commission prepared to explain the non-reasoned opposition of its medical board to the appointment of a successful candidate in a competition?

(Ref. IX.A.2/LA/138/01945)

24. Question by Sir Brandon RHYS WILLIAMS (H-39/77)

Subject: Value of family and child allowance

Will the Commission now institute an examination of the net value of family allowances and child allowances in the direct taxation systems of each Member State, expressed in the national currencies and in European units of account, assuming that the breadwinner in each case earns the national average wage and the families consist of one, two, three and four children; and when will such a study be published?

25. Question by Mr HERBERT (H-40/77)

Subject : Safety features of motor vehicles

In the interest of improving safety features of motor vehicles will the Commission introduce proposals for the universal use of nylon convolute tubing for wiring harness protection with particular reference to passenger carrying vehicles?

26. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-42/77)

Subject : Guidance to farmers

Will the Commission state whether they have considered offering guidance to farmers in the form of Community production targets, and whether they are satisfied that they have taken sufficient steps to make Community farmers fully aware of current and desired levels of production, consumption and export or import in each of the sectors of agriculture?

27. Question by Mr SEEFELD (H-43/77)

Subject : European Youth Forum

Can the Commission state at what stage of development is the European Youth Forum, and how soon will it start functioning?

28. Question by Mr BOURDELLES (H-45/77)

Subject: Fishing rights

What steps does the Commission propose to take to put an end to Ireland's planned extension of its exclusive fishing zone to 50 miles, which is in contravention of European rules and would make large fishing fleets in Brittany idle?

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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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29. Question by Mr JOHNSTON (H-308/76)

Subject: Imprisonment and torture of Mohammed Salag Sliss

To ask the Foreign Ministers whether in view of the close economic and cultural relations of the Community to the Republic of Tunisia, he will make representations to the Tunisian Government concerning the imprisonment and torture of Mohammed Salag Sliss?

30. Question by Mr CIFARELLI (H-11/77)

Subject: Freedom of artistic expression

In view of the forthcoming Belgrade Conference and also of the significance and symptomatic gravity of the recent approach by the Russian Ambassador to the Italian Government to have one of the cultural events of the Venice Biennale hingeing on the theme of 'dissent' in the Eastern European countries cancelled, do not the Foreign Ministers consider that they ought to reaffirm the principle of freedom of cultural expression, which is one of the main points of the Final Act of Helsinki?

31. Question by Lord St. OSWALD (H-20/77)

Subject : Government in Exile of Mozambique

In view of the answers given by the Foreign Ministers to Question No. 14 on 9th March, what communications have they received from FUMO (the United Democratic Front of Mozambique) and what specific or general criteria are applied for acceptability or non-acceptability of a government in exile as 'a major political force'?

32. Question by Mr CORRIE (H-21/77)

Subject : Status of SWAPO

What is the host country of SWAPO, and has that host country given sufficient recognition to SWAPO for the Foreign Ministers to recognise it as the legitimate Government of 'Namibia' or as 'a major political force'?

33. Question by Mr DE CLERCQ (H-35/77)

Subject: Enlargement of the Community

Could the Foreign Ministers indicate in broad terms its approach to the principle of Community enlargement? In the context of this approach, does it feel that any applications for Community membership from other countries would be liable to slow down the negotiations for Greek accession?

34. Question by Mr SPICER (H-38/77)

Subject: Relations with Zaire

The onset of war in Zaire is endangering the Community's supplies of fundamental raw materials. What action do the Foreign Ministers propose to take as a result of the visit of President Mobutu to aid Zaire and to protect the Community's free access to a good supplier?

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QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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35. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-10/77)

Subject : Concorde

What joint approaches have been made to the U.S.A. Government on the granting of landing rights to the Concorde aircraft in the U.S.A. ?

36. Question by Mr PRICE (H-16/77)

Subject : Relations with Cyprus

Why has no mandate been given over the past two years to develop the Association Agreement with the Republic of Cyprus in view of the development and improvement of Association, Preferential and Cooperation Agreements with other Mediterranean countries?

37. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-19/77)

Subject : Council meeting of 14 March 1977

In restating at its meeting of 14 March that convergence of economic developments should be achieved primarily through an austerity effort and a restrictive policy on the part of the 'deficit' countries, does the Council not fear that this unchanging course will ultimately prove to be unrealistic since unemployment is already disturbingly high in Europe, and that its refusal to permit the use of new monetary mechanisms until economic convergence is achieved, represents too lax a policy?

38. Question by Mr CIFARELLI (H-26/77)

Subject: Italian loan application

following the decision by the International Monetary Fund to grant Italy a loan of \$530 million on very stringent terms, can the Council indicate whether it is now prepared to release at an early date the \$500 million loan which Italy has requested from the Community? Will the Council also state what its own conditions would be for such a loan, having regard in particular to the sliding wage scale system?

39. Question by Mr FRUH (H-29/77)

Subject : Common agricultural policy

Is there any truth in reports that the President of the Council of Agricultural Ministers, in a televised discussion on the possible enlargement of the EEC, held out the prospect of a radical transformation of the common agricultural policy in the direction of a free trade zone? If so, can the Council reconcile this attitude with the principles of the common agricultural policy laid down in the EEC Treaty, and in particular the priority of intra-Community production?

40. Question by Mr CORRIE (H-31/77)

Subject : Admission to Council Meetings

In view of the collective responsibility of the British Government, will the President-in-Office of the Council confirm that the various proposals of the British Secretary of State for Energy, that representatives of the European Parliament and of the Press should be admitted to at least part of Council meetings, represent both his own view and that of the Presidency?

41. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-32/77)

Subject : Arab Boycott

Will the Council initiate discussions between the Community and the US Administration for a joint agreement to make it illegal for US and Community companies to comply with Arab boycott demands on them?

42. Question by Mr DE CLERCQ (H-34/77)

Subject : Enlargement of the Community

Will the Council give a broad outline of its views on the principle of enlargement of the Community? In its view, is there a danger that possible applications for membership of the Community by other countries may delay the negotiations on Greek accession?

43. Question by Mr DURIEUX (H-41/77)

Subject: Increase in the IMF's resources

On the eve of the meeting of the IMF's Interim Committee and of the London Economic Summit Conference, can the Council state the Community's position on the proposals made with a view to setting up a new system of financial facilities within the IMF to help countries with an adverse trade balance, seeing that such an initiative had originally been considered preferable to the creation of a fund to stabilize raw material prices, although this has recently been contemplated by the European Council?

44. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-44/77)

Subject : Oil-refining capacity

Will the Council make a statement on its latest actions to provide a rational solution to the problem of surplus oil-refining capacity in Europe?

45. Question by Mr Brøndlund NIELSEN (H-46/77)

Subject Joint stabilization fund for raw materials

Can the Council state what action it intends to take to ensure the resumption at an early date of the negotiations conducted in Geneva under the aegis of UNCTAD with a view to setting up a joint fund for the stabilization of raw material prices, which has been approved by all the Community Member States, and in particular is it prepared to take steps to achieve this objective in the context of the North-South dialogue, which is to be resumed in May?

46. Question by Mr HOUGARDY (H-47/77)

Subject: Devaluation of the Scandinavian currencies

Can the Council explain why the recent decision by the finance ministers of the countries belonging to the European currency 'snake' to devalue the Scandinavian currencies in relation to the mark, the florin and the Belgian and Luxembourg franc was not preceded by the consultation procedure laid down in its decision of 18 February 1974, and what steps does it propose to take to consolidate this procedure in the future, in accordance with the undertaking it gave on 14 March 1977?