

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTIONS

Pursuant to Rule 47A of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME on 11 and 12 January 1977 (*)

(*) In accordance with Article 47 A, paragraph 5 of the Rules of Procedure, questions addressed to the Council and to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs will be dealt with at the beginning of Question on Time 12th January 1977.



1. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-168/76)

Subject : Thefts of European art treasures

At present there exists in the EEC an extensive and well-organized gang of criminals which specializes in the theft of European art treasures from museums, churches, etc., and which is apparently described in a report to the Commission by Mr Jean Chatelain. Will the Commission make this report public and take steps to ensure effective joint action to combat these art thefts?

2. Question by Mr EVANS (H-198/76)

Subject : Rules of the European Regional Development Fund

Will the Commission produce a proposal to amend the Rules of the European Regional Development Fund to allow regions and major local authorities, which qualify for aid from the ERDF to make direct representations to the Commissioner responsible for Regional Policy regarding projects which affect their areas ?

3. Question by Mr JOHNSTON (H-231/76)

Subject : Regional Development Fund

To ask the Commission whether they have had discussions on Regional Development with the Highlands and Islands Development Board in Scotland, directly or indirectly, and whether as a consequence of this any grants from the Regional Fund have been made to projects within the Board's area and if they will list these grants.

4. Question by Mr ELLIS (H-202/76)

Subject : Information policy for the United Kingdom

What are the aims of the Commission's information policy for the United Kingdom?

5. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-216/76)

Subject: Decision by the President of the United States to
raise the customs duties on brandies

On 26 November the President of the United States announced his decision to raise customs duties on brandies with an fob value of 9 to 17 dollars per gallon coming from the Community. Can the Commission say whether there is any likelihood of this decision being revoked in the foreseeable future and in what circumstances?

6. Question by Mr COINTAT (H-219/76)

Subject: Farm prices for the 1977/78 marketing year

When does the Commission expect to submit its farm price proposals for the 1977/78 marketing year and when does it expect the Council to reach a decision.

7. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-222/76)

Subject : Standardisation : A Commission with a human face

Whether the Commission is aware that it is difficult for its drive for standardisation to be explained to the public as being relevant to social policies, whether the Commission will help in the development of standard equipment suitable for manufacture and use within the Community for the assistance of physically handicapped people and in particular whether the Commission will help in the development of a standard invalid carriage suitable for manufacture and use within the Community, thus not only directly benefitting the physically handicapped but also demonstrating the Commission's concern for people as well as things.

8. Question by Mr DONDELINGER (H-223/76)

Subject: Erosion of the incomes of active and retired frontier workers

What steps does the Commission intend taking to deal with the constant erosion of the incomes of active and retired frontier workers who are working or have worked in France and live across the border?

9. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-225/76)

Subject : Equal pay

Is the Commission satisfied with progress being made in Member States towards the implementation of equal pay? And, if not, what further steps are proposed?

10. Question by Mr GIBBONS (H-227/76)

Subject : Control of beef imports

How does the Commission justify its decision to lift the ban on imports of beef from April 1st 1977 at a time when beef prices within the Community remain substantially lower than the guide price and what safeguard measures will the Commission introduce to protect Community producers?

11. Question by Mr MOLLOY (H-228/76)

Subject : Increase in air-craft noise

What plans does the Commission have for coordinating research and legislation in the Community in order to deal with the environmental menace posed by the increase in air-craft noise?

12. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-229/76)

Subject : Present market structure for air traffic

Does the Commission believe that the present market structure for Air traffic is compatible with the philosophy of free competition of the EEC-Treaty?

13. Question by Mr CREED (H-230/76)

Subject : Health risks arising from exposure to asbestos

In view of the well-known health risks arising from exposure to asbestos and in particular the conclusions reached by the World Conference of the International Metalworkers Federation on health and safety of work in the metal industry, will the Commission state whether it intends to draw up proposals relating to effective measures for the protection of workers and the general public from dust containing asbestos and the mandatory replacement of asbestos by other materials as far as possible; and if not why not?

14. Question by Mrs DUNWOODY (H-235/76)

Subject : Cinema in the European Community

Which Trade Associations, Trade Unions and independent bodies in the Cinema Industry the Commission consult in relation to the Cinema in the European Community.

15. Question by Mr PISONI (H-236/76)

Subject: Conclusion of negotiations on the second EEC-Greece
Financial Protocol

To what extent is the delay in concluding the second Financial Protocol, which the EEC is negotiating with Greece within the framework of the Association, likely to prevent Greece from benefiting from credits with interest rebates, grants, and loans on special terms included in the Financial Protocol?

16. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (H-238/76)

Subject : Child labour in Southern Italy

To ask the Commission what steps they are taking to enquire into the buying and selling of child labour in Southern Italy?

17. Question by Mrs EWING (H-226/76)

Subject : A Community Ombudsman

What proposals will the Commission make, in particular in connection with their study of the effect on individual rights of the development of data processing, for the establishment of a Community Ombudsman, to whom can be referred cases of alleged maladministration by the Commission of the execution of the Treaties and of Community secondary legislation?

18. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-195/76)

Subject : Common Mediterranean Policy

What progress has been made in the development of a common policy in the Mediterranean area, and what initiatives are anticipated in the next 12 months ?

19. Question by Mr LIGIOS (H-220/76)

Subject: Forestry measures and measures in the sector of processing and marketing of agricultural products

When does the Council intend to take a decision on the proposals submitted to it some time ago by the Commission on forestry measures (reafforestation) and measures in the sector of the processing and marketing of agricultural products?

20. Question by Mr PISONI (H-221/76)

Subject: Aid to young farmers and producers' associations

When does the Council intend to take a decision on the proposals submitted to it some time ago by the Commission on aid to young farmers, which set out a development programme and measures to encourage the formation of producers' associations?

21. Question by Mr FLETCHER (H-232/76)

Subject : Council's legislative deliberations

Does the President-in-Office share the anxieties at the lack of openness of the Council's legislative deliberations, as expressed by this House over the past months?

22. Question by Mr DYKES (H-233/76)

Subject : Majority voting at Council meetings

Will the Council now abandon their practice of seeking agreement by intergovernmental negotiation and return to the practice of majority voting in cases where the Treaties provide for it and as agreed upon by the Heads of Government at their Paris Conference in December 1974?

23. Question by Mr SPICER (H-234/76)

Subject : Adoption of new Rules of Procedure by Council

In view of the fact that the Council, four years after enlargement, still uses Rules of Procedure dating from before 1965 and which remain provisional, will the President-in-Office give Parliament an assurance that within the next six months definitive rules will be drafted and that, before adopting them, the Council will discuss them with Parliament under the conciliation procedure?

24. Question by Lord BETHELL (H-239/76)

Subject : Rule to acknowledge and answer letters from members of parliament

To ask the Council whether they will set themselves the rule, which already exists in some member states, whereby a letter from a member of parliament is acknowledged within one week of receipt and answered in detail wherever possible within one month of receipt.

25. Question by Mrs DUNWOODY (H-237/76)

Subject : Channel Tunnel

To ask when it is their intention to discuss the implementation of the project for the Channel Tunnel.

26. Question by Mr SHAW (H-240/76)

Subject : Vat treatment of small firms

What agreement was made on the Vat treatment of small firms
at the fiscal council meeting on 16 December 1976 ?

