

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 13, 14 and 15 December 1977

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1. Question by Mr BETTIZA (H-335/77)

Subject : Progress of negotiations on the cooperation agreement
with Yugoslavia

Following the statements by Mr Vredeling to the European Parliament on the Commission's deliberations on the EEC-Yugoslavia cooperation agreement, and in the light of the European Parliament's debate of 14 November 1977, can the Commission inform Parliament of the line it has taken as regards trade imbalances, the beef and veal sector and scientific and technological cooperation?

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2. Question by Mr CORRIE (H-276/77)

Subject : Relations between Commission and Parliament

In January of this year the President of the Commission gave us to understand that he would be treating this House as if it were a directly elected Parliament. Will the President tell the House how this has worked out in practice?

3. Question by Mr KLEPSCH (H-338/77)

Subject : Notification of Parliament by the Commission

Does the Commission not feel that its behaviour in the matter of giving notice of its proposals on economic and monetary union and its failure at the same time to reply to questions on this subject in the debate in Parliament on the economic situation in the Community are in flagrant contradiction with the repeatedly declared intention of the President of the Commission that Parliament would be notified as a matter of priority?

4. Question by Mr NYBORG (H-327/77)

Subject: Harmonization within EEC of radio and TV broadcasting provisions

Has the Commission contemplated taking measures - and, if so, what measures - possibly to harmonize the Member States' different rules on radio and TV broadcasting for both State and commercial undertakings?

5. Question by Mr FIORET (H-332/77)

Subject: Working languages of the European Parliament

In a recent article in 'EUROPA ARCHIV' Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, lent his support to the argument in favour of having working documents translated in three languages only: English, French and German. Would not the Commission agree that this proposal is prejudicial to the work of the European Parliament and likely to have an adverse effect on public opinion, especially if adopted on the eve of direct elections to the European Parliament?

6. Question by Mr EDWARDS (H-282/77)

Subject : Cooperation between anti-trust authorities of the Community and other countries

In view of the importance to the Community of controlling the activities of multinational undertakings, will the Commission seek to promote co-operation between anti-trust authorities inside the Community and those in countries such as the USA and Japan where multinational companies operating inside the Community are frequently based.

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7. Question by Mr PRESCOTT (H-310/77)

Subject : Hoffman La Roche appeal to the European court

Has the Commission been informed as to the date of Hoffman La Roche's appeal to the European Court against their fine? Is the Commission still giving legal assistance to Mr Adams in his appeal the Swiss authorities' conviction for industrial espionage and will the Commission make a statement?

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8. Question by Mr SEEFELD (H-331/77)

Subject : Air transport prices

The President of the United States and the Director of the International Air Transport Authority have recently been quoted as expressing contradictory views with regard to competition in the field of air passenger transport. What views has the Commission formed on the issue of the extension of competition in this sector as called for by the President of the United States ?

9. Question by Mr EVANS (H-336/77)

Subject : Social legislation in the road transport sector

Following the meeting of the Council of Transport Ministers on 27 October 1977, can the Commission state which aspects of the Community's social legislation relating to road transport the United Kingdom will be expected to implement as of 1 January 1978?

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10. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-301/77)

Subject : Steel industry

What recent discussions on the future of the steel industry has the Commission had with Ministers of the Community and with what result?

11. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-308/77)

Subject: Industrial and commercial policy on the footwear sector

Since the footwear industry appears to be in a parlous state and is threatened by the unenviable fate suffered by the textile industry in the absence of resolute action at European level, does the Commission intend proposing in the near future an industrial and commercial policy aimed at checking the economic decline and growing unemployment in this sector?

12. Question by Mr NOE (H-329/77)

Subject: Phosphate fertilizers

Is the Commission aware that European producers of phosphate fertilizers are obliged to purchase all the phosphorites they require at world prices, whereas American producers obtain their supplies from their own phosphorite mines at very low prices and are thus able to dispose of their finished products at prices with which other producers cannot compete?

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13. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-324/77)

Subject : "Black Sea" uranium

Will the Commission make a statement on the visit of the Energy Commissioner to Turkey, and if he will make a statement on his discussions on "Black Sea" uranium?

14. Question by Lord BESSBOROUGH (H-328/77) (x)

Subject : Energy

Is the Commission satisfied that firms are being given every encouragement by Member States in order to maximise the exploration and production of oil and gas with particular reference to the need to ensure attractive fiscal and commercial conditions and does the Commission intend to influence the rate of extraction of oil and gas ?

15. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-333/77)

Subject : Energy pricing

In the event of a surfeit of energy, how does the Commission define the minimum selling price for a unit of energy in order to protect the investment by the Community and/or Community firms in the production of that energy ?

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16. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (H-339/77)

Subject : Marketing of potatoes in the United Kingdom

What is the Commission's view of the proposals put forward in the middle of November by the Farmers' Unions of Scotland, Ulster and England and Wales and the Potato Marketing Board and the Seed Potato Marketing Board for Northern Ireland, for the management of the United Kingdom potato market after the accession transition period ends on 31 December?

(*) Pursuant to paragraph 2 of the guidelines for the conduct of Question Time, this question will not be taken if Parliament decides to retain item 268 on the agenda.

17. Question by Mr Mc DONALD (H-342/77)

Subject : Sales of butter at reduced prices

The Commission has made butter available at reduced prices for a limited period in eight member States. Will the Commission now consider whether it would be possible to prolong indefinitely sales of butter at reduced prices within the Community, either to all consumers or to selected socio-economic groups, as this would be beneficial to the consumers and would lead to increased sales of butter ?

18. Question by Mr OSBORN (H-340/77)

Subject : Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation Canal

Can the Commission confirm that in their view there is a prima facie case for regarding the proposed improvements to the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation Canal as a project of European importance ?

19. Question by Lord REAY (H-341/77)

Subject : Portugal

Given the fact that Portugal has recently applied to become a Member of the Community, is the Commission being consulted on the terms of the proposed IMF loan to assist the recovery of the Portuguese economy ?

20. Question by Mr JAHN (H-343/77)

Subject: Trade relations with the ASEAN countries

What does the Commission intend to do to expand trade relations with the ASEAN countries in order to bring about gradual stabilization in this economic area of Asia?

21. Question by Mr FRUH (H-345/77)

Subject : Stocks of skimmed milk powder

Does the Commission agree that the degree to which stocks of skimmed milk powder vary from one Member State to another is primarily due to the fact that in some countries the use of skimmed milk powder as a feedstuff is not worthwhile and is it prepared to take action to make skimmed milk powder more competitive with other protein feedstuffs in those countries?

22. Question by Mr KLINKER (H-346/77)

Subject : Premiums in the milk sector

How does the Commission account for the great extent to which the application of the system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and the conversion of dairy herds has so far varied from one Member State to another, and would it say, in the light of the latest information available to it, how many cows it expects to withdraw from milk production by 30 March 1978 under this scheme?

23. Question by Mrs EWING (H-347/77)

Subject : Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy

What representations, if any, have they received and what proposals, if any, do they have for reform of the Common Agricultural Policy?

24. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-351/77)

Subject : Co-responsibility levy for milk

Which countries of the EEC have failed to deduct the co-responsibility levy from milk producers and what steps are the Commission taking to enforce the directive throughout the Community ?

25. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-352/77)

Subject : Common sheepmeat market

Is the Commission aware of the drastic decrease in the production of sheepmeat in Ireland and the possibility of its total cessation - arising on the one hand from the inability of the smaller farmer to continue production competitively due to the absence of a Common Sheepmeat Market, and, on the other, to the facility with which large farmers can change to other more remunerative activities; and what action does it intend to take to remedy the situation, pending the introduction of a Common Sheepmeat Market ?

26. Question by Mr INCHAUSPE (H-354/77)

Subject : Suspension by Spain of fish and seafood imports from the Community

With reference to the suspension by Spain of fish and seafood imports from the Community - products which are listed in Chapter 3 of the Brussels Nomenclature - could the Commission tell us whether that country had the right to take such action without first seeking derogation from the Agreement of 1970, given that those products are not in competition with local products?

27. Question by Mr EDWARDS (H-281/77)

Subject : Economic Aid to Applicants for Membership of the Community

Will the Council consider the possibility of offering economic aid to the applicants for membership of the European Communities, and will they bear in mind particularly the possibility of assisting the Portuguese fishing industry which suffers from a lack of both serviceable fishing boats and processing plants, both of which are in plentiful supply in the Community and which could be useful to the Portuguese for use in their own territorial waters.

28. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-302/77)

Subject : Discussions on the future of the steel industry

What recent discussions on the future of the steel industry have there been among ministers of the Community and with what result?

29. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-309/77)

Subject: Recognition in France, within the framework of freedom of establishment, of French veterinaries with Belgian qualifications

Whereas the principle of the freedom of establishment and the mutual recognition of diplomas is firmly established in the Community and whereas a large number of French graduates from the Cureghem Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (University of Liège) are currently debarred from practising in France, does the Council intend finding a solution to the problem of these young people who have placed their trust in the application of the Treaty of Rome? In particular, does it intend adopting the directives on the mutual recognition of veterinary diplomas submitted by the Commission on 1 June 1970, on which Parliament delivered its opinion on 7 February 1972 (whereas the Council's Working Party on Veterinary Questions appears to have met for only the second time on or around 20 October 1977)?

30. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-313/77)

Subject : Siting of JET

What has the Council learned about decisionmaking in the Community, as a result of the delay in reaching a conclusion about the siting of JET ?

31. Question by Mr NYBORG (H-320/77)

Subject : Harmful competition from third countries as a result of state aid to industrial undertakings

Is the Council aware of the adverse trend in certain third countries (including Norway and Sweden) towards giving state aid to industrial undertakings, the negative repercussions of which on the competitive position of Community undertakings are considerable, and does it intend to ask the Commission to introduce countermeasures in this field ?

32. Question by Mr LAGORCE (H-326/77)

Subject: Failure of the Council of Health Ministers to meet

Like many people, I was astonished to read in the weekly 'Euroforum' that no Council of Health Ministers of the Nine had met to date. Since there are many important problems in the health sector which can only be solved at European level, may we expect a Council of Health Ministers of the Community to meet shortly?

33. Question by Mr INCHAUSPE (H-330/77)

Subject: Enlargement

Is it true that the President of the Council told his colleagues: 'we are in favour of enlargement but we are not prepared to accept the economic and financial consequences'? If so, what policy does the Council intend to adopt with regard to the accession of the three applicant states, particularly Spain and Portugal?

34. Question by Mr JAHN (H-344/77)

Subject: Trade relations with the ASEAN countries

What does the Council intend to do to expand trade relations with the ASEAN countries in order to bring about gradual stabilization in this economic area of Asia?

35. Question by Mrs EWING (H-348/77)

Subject : United Kingdom's date for rationalisation of the green pound arrangements

In view of the rapid approach of 1 January 1978, which is the United Kingdom's date for rationalisation of the green pound arrangements, what steps does the Council propose to take on 1 January 1978 to speed up this process?

36. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-353/77)

Subject : Closure of Ferenka (Ireland) Ltd., in Limerick by Akzo

Will the Council request the Commission to present proposals for immediate adoption, to deal with control of multinationals in order to prevent the reoccurrence of situations such as that, which recently developed in Ireland, where the multinational company Akzo closed its subsidiary Ferenka precipitately, causing serious unemployment, without complying with either national legislation, or the appropriate Community Directives on collective dismissals and maintenance of acquired rights ?

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

37. Question by Lord BETHELL (H-334/77)

Subject : The abuse of psychiatry in the Soviet Union

Have the Ministers taken note of the European Parliament's Resolution of 18 November 1977 on the abuse of psychiatry for political purposes in the Soviet Union and have the Ministers complied with the Parliament's request to the Delegation of the Nine to raise the matter at the Belgrade Conference?

