

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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ORAL QUESTION (O-22/76)

with debate pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject : Competition policy

At a time when the Community achievements in the area of free competition are being seriously threatened by a return to protectionism, brought about by economic difficulties and monetary instability, and with a view to achieving a more resolute competition policy better adapted to the risks now besetting it, the Commission is asked to answer the following questions:

1. What action does the Commission propose to take in response to the frequently ¹ repeated calls

(1) EP resolution of 18.10.1974, OJ No C 140, 13.11.1974
EP resolution of 13.6.1974, OJ No C 76, 3.7.1974

from the European Parliament for stronger Community discipline in connection with the granting of national aid? When will the list of support measures be drawn up and the timetable for reducing them be laid down?

When will the Commission bring out proposals on export credits?

2. When does the Commission intend to submit the urgently needed proposals for removing the distortions of competition between private firms and public undertakings ¹, for continuing harmonization of legislation on the placing of public contracts and for the genuine dismantling of national monopolies ²?
3. Does the Commission not consider that the preliminary consumer protection and information programme ought to be accelerated? Will the European Parliament be kept informed of the study on improving the range and quality of services to consumers and of the annual report on steps taken by the Community and the Member States in the interest of the consumer, to be published according to the Council resolution of 14 April 1975 ³?
4. Does the Commission consider that the extent of the problem involved in pursuing a genuine competition policy necessitates the setting up of a European Office for Competition Policy? ⁴

¹ EP resolution of 15.11.1974, OJ No C 11, 7.2.1974

² Following the report by Sir Richard Clarke and Mr Guy Charpentier

³ EP resolution of 13.5.1974, OJ No C 62, 30.5.1974
Council resolution of 14.4.1975, OJ No C 92, 25.4.1975

⁴ EP resolution of 15.1.1974, OJ No C 11, 7.2.1974