

# European Communities

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## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1975-1976

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2 February 1976

DOCUMENT 510/75

ORAL QUESTION (0-68/75)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules  
of Procedure

by Mr KOFOED, on behalf of the Liberal and  
Allies Group

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject : The competence of the Community and the  
member states to negotiate and to make  
agreements on quotas of fish catches on  
the high seas

According to information from the meeting of the  
Council of Ministers of Agriculture and Fisheries  
on the 19th, 20th and 21st January 1976 it was  
decided to establish a fast working expert group to  
examine whether the competence to negotiate and  
to make agreements on quotas on fish catches on the  
high seas belongs to the Community or to the  
individual member states.

This question is of considerable interest as in  
recent years problems concerning quotas which are  
primarily established on the basis of agreements  
within the NEAFC (North East Atlantic Fishery  
Commission) have become ever greater.

*Ans. OK.  
C.  
Stub for min. issues*

Recently doubt has been raised as to who has the competence to make quota agreements. It is of imperative importance for all parties that this question be answered. Therefore the Commission is asked to answer the following question :

Within the European Communities, who in the view of the Commission is competent to make agreements on fish catch quotas and the conservation of fish on the high seas ?