

TALSMANDENS GRUPPE
SPRECHERGRUPPE
SPOKESMAN'S GROUP
GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE
GRUPPO DEL PORTAVOCE
BUREAU VAN DE WOORDVOERDER

**INFORMATION
INFORMATISCHE AUFZEICHNUNG
INFORMATION MEMO**

**NOTE D'INFORMATION
NOTA D'INFORMAZIONE
TER DOCUMENTIE**

Brussels, March 1976

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN THE COMMUNITY IN 1975: THE PRESENT SITUATION

I.

Trends in the Community

In 1975 the unemployment figures in the Community countries were the highest ever recorded. Although unemployment was already on the increase in 1973, its effects at the beginning of 1974 were limited to the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark.

However, early in 1975 the unemployment level showed a generalized tendency to increase, accelerating in countries where it had already begun to rise in 1974.

In view of the differences from one country to another in classification systems and methods of compiling unemployment data, comparisons should be looked at with caution. However, it is certain that at the end of 1975 there were 5.5 million unemployed in the various Member States - an increase of about 35% compared with the already high levels at the end of 1974.

Since the end of the summer, the growth of unemployment has tended to slow down, a trend which can be ascribed to the recovery in certain sectors.

A new phenomenon - persistent short-time working - has made its appearance, and is growing by as much as 300- 400% a year in some countries.

In all countries, all groups - young and old, women and migrants - have been affected to a greater or lesser extent. Recently arrivals on the employment market - particularly school leavers and graduate students - have encountered considerable difficulty in finding their first post, especially one corresponding to their level of education.

ECSC industries were in a difficult position in 1975. Although employment levels were kept up in the coal-mining industry as a result of changes in the problem of demand for fuels following the energy crisis, the steel industry suffered considerably from the recession and the consequent fall in investment demand.

To counter these difficulties, all the countries took measures to solve specific problems, i.e. providing school leavers with their first job or safeguarding the incomes of short-time workers. Moreover, a great many measures were taken with a view to influencing the labour market.

Most Member States took comprehensive measures to support economic activity and in all countries specific investment support measures were put into effect. However, global regulatory instruments were used only to a limited extent for fear of reviving inflationary pressures.

Information available for 1975 in the Community confirms the tendency first noted late in 1973 towards a flattening-out of the sharp upward trend of migration in the past ten years.

Further, despite the high level of unemployment which at least affects foreign workers and national workers to an equal degree, the cyclical tendency for foreign workers to return to their countries of origin does not, from the fragmentary data at present available, seem to have taken place to the extent expected.

Nombre de chômeurs complets enregistrés dans les bureaux d'emploi dans la Communauté
(moyennes annuelles et/ou par mois en milliers)

Année/mois	Belgique	Danemark	Allemagne (R.F.)	France	Irlande	Italie	Luxembourg	Pays-Bas	Royaume- Uni
Moyenne annuelle									
1970	71,3	23,9	148,8	262,1	64,9	887,6	0,0	44,5	618,0
1971	70,9	30,0	185,1	338,2	62,5	1030,1	0,0	62,0	799,1
1972	86,8	29,9	246,4	383,5	72,0	1047,8	0,0	107,9	885,5
1973	91,7	20,3	273,5	394,1	66,6	1004,8	0,0	109,9	630,3 (1)
1974	104,7	44,5	582,5	497,7	70,6	997,2	0,1	134,9	631,0 (1)
1975	177,4	103,7	1074,2	839,7	98,0	1107,1 ^P	0,3	195,3	1013,7
<u>1974</u>									(2)
Décembre	140,1	101,5	945,9	723,4	83,9	1024,4	0,1	180,8	
<u>1975</u>									(3)
Janvier	147,8	123,2	1154,3	765,7	91,1	1104,3	0,1	197,8	776,4
Février	153,3	107,8	1183,5	769,9	93,7	1097,6	0,2	200,3	791,8
Mars	156,0	109,7	1114,0	754,8	94,6	1087,5	0,1	190,3	802,7
Avril	160,3	107,7	1087,1	757,3	95,6	1080,3	0,1	183,5	939,9
Mai	161,1	93,2	1017,7	736,9	95,7	1077,9	0,1	173,4	850,3
Juin	162,0	83,7	1002,1	738,3	96,2	1083,7	0,1	176,5	869,8
Juillet	172,3	73,7	1035,2	765,6	97,1	1074,3	0,1	191,4	1087,9
Août	174,4	92,5	1031,1	797,0	100,3	1056,6	0,1	193,9	1250,4
Septembre	186,0	96,5	1005,5	945,8	99,3	1140,1 ^P	0,3	195,5	1249,3
Octobre	208,9	103,4	1061,1	1015,6	101,1	1158,4 ^P	0,6	201,5	1165,4
Novembre	217,2	108,1	1114,2	1020,1	104,6	1160,2 ^P	0,6	211,0	1168,9
Décembre	229,0	137,9	1223,4	1009,7	107,1	1164,3 ^P	0,6	228,6	1211,5

P. Chiffre provisoire.

(1) Moyenne de l'année calculée sur 11 mois seulement.

(2) Chiffre non disponible à la suite d'une grève dans les bureaux de l'emploi en Grande-Bretagne.

(3) Estimation.

II

The current employment situation

1. The attached tables give figures for registered unemployment, female unemployment, vacancies and short-time working in the Member States as available at 15th March. Figures relating to the previous year are presented for comparison. The total unemployment figures for Denmark relate to all persons unemployed, whereas the female unemployment is only available on the basis of membership of unemployment insurance funds.
2. The graph shows the underlying trend in unemployment after seasonal elements have been removed. An index of unemployment has been used in order to show all countries on the same axis. This means that the graph only shows the evolution of national trends. It does not enable comparison of national unemployment levels.
3. Although the latest figures show a continued increase in registered unemployment in France, Ireland and Italy, this is largely due to seasonal factors. For the first time since mid-1974, the majority of Member States show a reduction in unemployment in absolute terms, and in the underlying trend. In Germany, France and the Netherlands the downward trend in unemployment which started in October or November, has become established. In Denmark, Belgium and Ireland the trend has stabilised, giving hope of an improvement in the coming months. The situation in the United Kingdom is deceptive. The whole of the reduction in unemployment since last month is due to adult students leaving the register, and the trend in unemployment continues upwards. Unemployment in the Community in January 1976 totalled 5.700.000, and it is likely that this will be the peak figure.
4. The trend in female unemployment is similar to that for total unemployment. However, the increase in female unemployment over the last year has been greater than the increase in male unemployment in all countries except Ireland. Also the proportion of females in total unemployment varies considerably. For Italy, France, Germany and Belgium female unemployment is around half of total unemployment, while for Ireland, Netherlands and United Kingdom it forms less than a quarter of the total. This reflects different levels of female participation and different institutional arrangements for registration rather than different incidence of unemployment between countries.
5. The vacancy situation continues in a very depressed state, but the situation has improved in the last month. At a Community level of only 464.000, vacancies are less than half the level of two years ago. However, every Member State for which vacancies are recorded shows an increase since last month. Although these increases have been small, they confirm the picture of a stabilising labour market situation.

6. Community levels of short-time working have been at record levels throughout the crisis, and have been particularly high in Germany. Although still historically high in all Member States there is a tendency for reduction in short-time working. Only Belgium records a small further increase over last month. In France the level is stable, but is below its peak level. All the other Member States record a reduction, particularly Germany, where short-time working has declined from a peak of over 950.000 to under 500.000 in February.

**NUMBERS WHOI'Y UNEMPLOYED IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
 CHOMAGE COMPLET ENREGISTRE DANS LES PAYS DE LA COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE
 REGISTRIERTE ARBEITSLOSIGKEIT IN DEN STATEN DER EUROPAISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT**

Country/Pays/Land	Month/Mois/Monat	1975	1976	1976/75
Belgique	February	153.345 (5.9 %) (3)	226.246 (8.6 %) (3)	+ 72.901 (+ 48 %)
Danmark	January	140.700 (6.9 %) (2)	155.300 (7.6 %) (2)	+ 14.600 (+ 10 %)
Deutschland B.R.	February	1.183.501 (5.2 %) (2)	1.346.723 (5.9 %) (2)	+ 163.222 (+ 14 %)
France	January	765.689 (4.6 %) (2)	1.017.357 (5.9 %) (2)	+ 251.668 (+ 33 %)
Ireland	February	93.501 (8.3 %) (1)	114.410 (10.2 %) (1)	+ 20.909 (+ 22 %)
Italia	December **	1.024.400 (5.3 %) (1)	1.164.300 (5.9 %) (1)	+ 139.900 (+ 14 %)
Luxembourg	January	116 (0.1 %) (2)	521 (0.4 %) (2)	+ 405
Nederland	February	200.295 (5.3 %) (2)	238.097 (6.2 %) (2)	+ 37.802 (+ 19 %)
G ^t Britain)))) U.K.	February	757.131 (3.3 %) (2)	1.253.427 (5.5 %) (2)	+ 496.296 (+ 66 %)
N. Ireland)))	February	34.691 (6.7 %) (2)	50.989 (9.8 %) (2)	+ 16.298 (+ 47 %)

(1) Percentage calculated on the basis of the working population
 (2) Percentage calculated on the basis of the total of employees
 (3) Percentage calculated on the basis of membership of unemployment insurance funds
 ** Figures relate to 1975 and 1974

NUMBERS WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED	FEMALES
CHOMAGE COMPLET ENREGISTRE	FEMMES
REGISTRIERTE ARBEITSLOSIGKEIT	FRAUEN

Country/Pays/Land	Month/Mois/Monat	1976	1975	1976/75
Belgique	February	77.812	120.603	+ 42.791 (+ 55 %)
Danmark	January	26.400 *	33.800 *	+ 7.400 (+ 28 %)
Deutschland B.R.	February	436.500	536.121	+ 99.621 (+ 23 %)
France	January	383.892	510.442	+ 126.550 (+ 33 %)
Ireland	February	18.718	21.163	+ 2.445 (+ 13 %)
Italia	December **	372.600	435.100	+ 62.500 (+ 17 %)
Luxembourg	January	65	148	+ 83
Nederland	February	36.575	47.285	+ 10.710 (+ 29 %)
Great Britain)) U.K.)	February	132.484	274.610	+ 142.126 (+ 107 %)
N Ireland)	February	9.137	15.160	+ 6.023 (+ 66 %)

= on the basis of membership of unemployment insurance funds

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JOB VACANCIES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
 OFFRES D'EMPLOI DANS LES PAYS DE LA COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE
 OFFENE STELLEN IN DEN STATEN DER EUROPÄISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

Country/Pays/Land	Month/Mois/Monat	1975	1976	1976/75
Belgique	February	4.764	3.756	- 1.008 (- 21 %)
Danmark	January	622	1.270	+ 648 (+ 104 %)
Deutschland B.R.	February	246.236	208.539	- 37.697 (- 15 %)
France	January	137.475	98.404	- 39.071 (- 28 %)
Ireland		N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Italia		N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Luxembourg	January	233	156	- 77 (- 34 %)
Nederland	February	44.686	34.574	- 10.112 (- 23 %)
G ^t Britain)	February	221.866	114.818	- 107.048 (- 48 %)
)				
) U.K.				
N. Ireland)	February	5.355	2.912	- 2.443 (- 46 %)
)				
)				

N.A. = not available

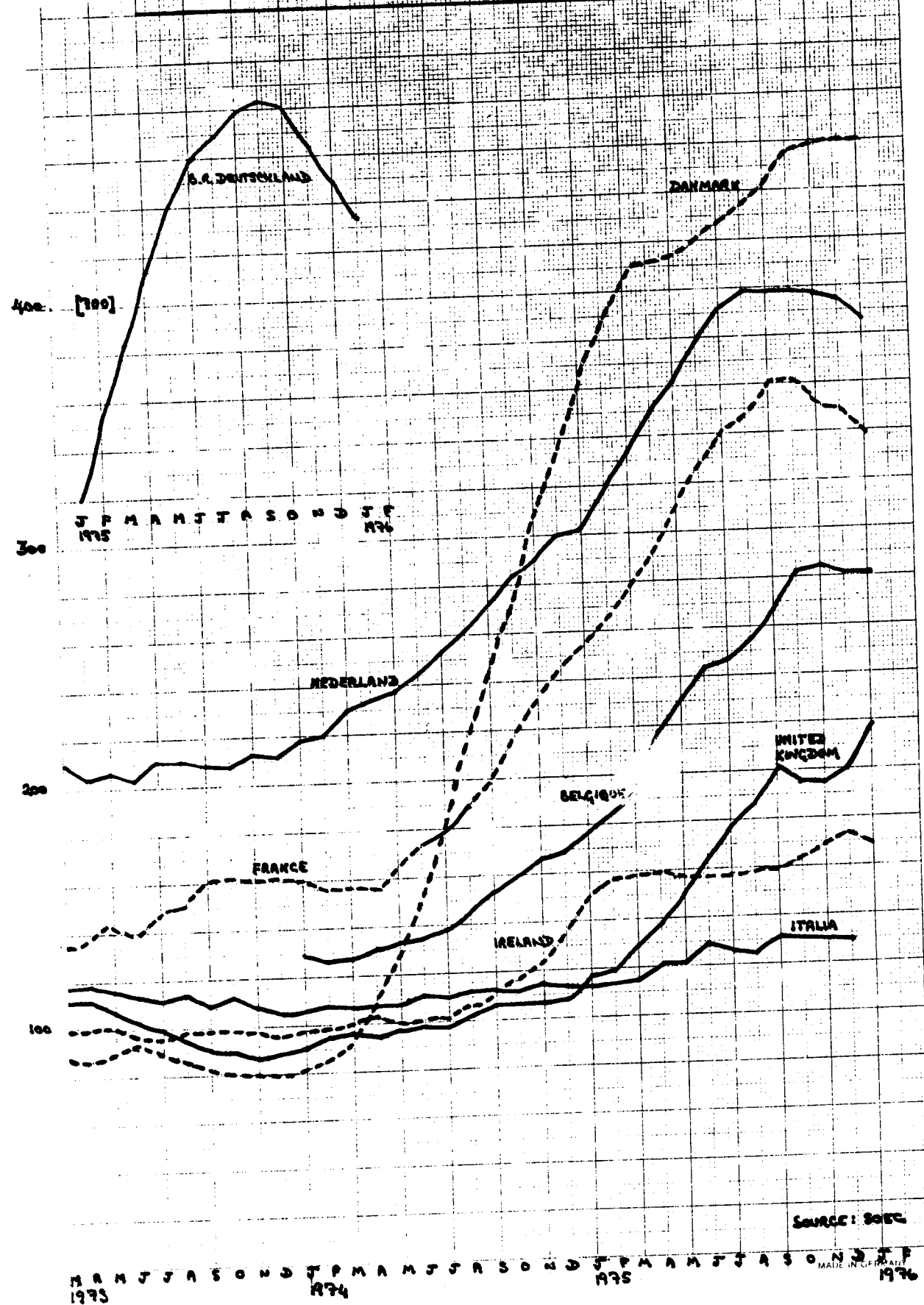
NUMBER OF SHORT-TIME WORKERS IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
 NOMBRE DE CHOMEURS PARTIELS DANS LES PAYS DE LA COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE
 KURZARBEITER IN DEN MITGLIEDSTATEN DER EUROPÄISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

Country/Pays/Land	Month/Mois/Monat		1975	1976	1976/75
Belgique	October **		46.724	65.000	+ 18.276 (+ 39 %)
Danmark			N.A.	N.A.	-
Deutschland B.R.	February		956.514	493.130	- 463.384 (- 48 %)
France	December **		421.192	379.372	- 41.820 (- 10 %)
Ireland	February		9.939	3.695	- 6.244 (- 63 %)
Italia	July **		234.000	349.000	+ 115.000 (+ 49 %)
Luxembourg	December		0	790	+ 790
Nederland	January		48.397	45.134	- 3.263 (- 7 %)
Great Britain	December **		72.000	151.000	+ 79.000 (+ 110 %)

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SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDEX OF UNEMPLOYMENT
 SAISONNIEREMENT CORRIGÉ INDEX DES ACCÉNTS/LOZKEIT 1970=100
 INDICE DE CHÔMAGE DÉSAISONNIER



SOURCE: SOEC

JAN 1973 JAN 1974 JAN 1975 FEB 1976
 1973 1974 1975 1976

TABLE 1: Unemployment of young people 1973-1975
 TABLEAU 1: Le chômage des jeunes 1973-1975
 TABELLE 1: Arbeitslose Jugendliche 1973-1975

Member State Etat Membre Mitgliedstaat	Numbers unemployed - Nombre de chômeurs - Zahl der Arbeitslosen					
	Mid 1973 Milieu 73 Mitte 1973	End 1973 Fin 1973 Ende 1973	Mid 1974 Milieu 74 Mitte 1974	End 1974 Fin 1974 Ende 1974	Mid 1975 Milieu 75 Mitte 1975	End 1975 Fin 1975 Ende 1975
Belgique	14.596	26.187	18.564	46.677	50.987	89.224
B.R. Deutschland	-	51.001	105.459	158.051	253.711	287.373
Danmark	4.184	-	7.435	-	-	-
France	94.800	187.100	123.400	331.500	276.400	462.000
Italia	287.963	277.888	308.336	311.820	369.598	-
Nederland	27.130	37.065	33.761	59.935	62.370	87.234
Great Britain	154.256	-	174.122	-	436.226	-

Notes to table 1

(a) Young people are defined as all persons below the age of 25, except in the case of Italy where the figures given are for all unemployed persons under the age of 21 plus all persons who are looking for their first job, irrespective of their age.

(b) The months of the count are as follows

	<u>Mid-year</u>	<u>End-year</u>
Belgique	June	December
B.R.D.	May	September
France	June	December
Italia	June	December
Nederland	May	November
Great Britain	July	-
Danmark	July	-

(c) Figures for Ireland and Luxembourg are not available on a regular basis.

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1972	86,8	29,9	246,4	383,5	72,0	1047,8	0,0	107,9	885,5
1973	91,7	20,3	273,5	394,1	66,6	1004,8	0,0	109,9	630,3
1974	104,7	44,5	582,5	497,7	70,6	997,2	0,1	134,9	631,0 (1)
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Décembre	140,1	101,5	945,9	723,4	83,9	1024,4	0,1	180,8	(2)
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6
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CHOMAGE COMPLET ENREGISTRE DANS LES PAYS DE LA COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE
REGISTRIERTE ARBEITSLOSIGKEIT IN DEN STATEN DER EUROPAISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

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OFFENE STELLEN IN DEN STATEN DER EUROPAISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

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N.A. = not available

9

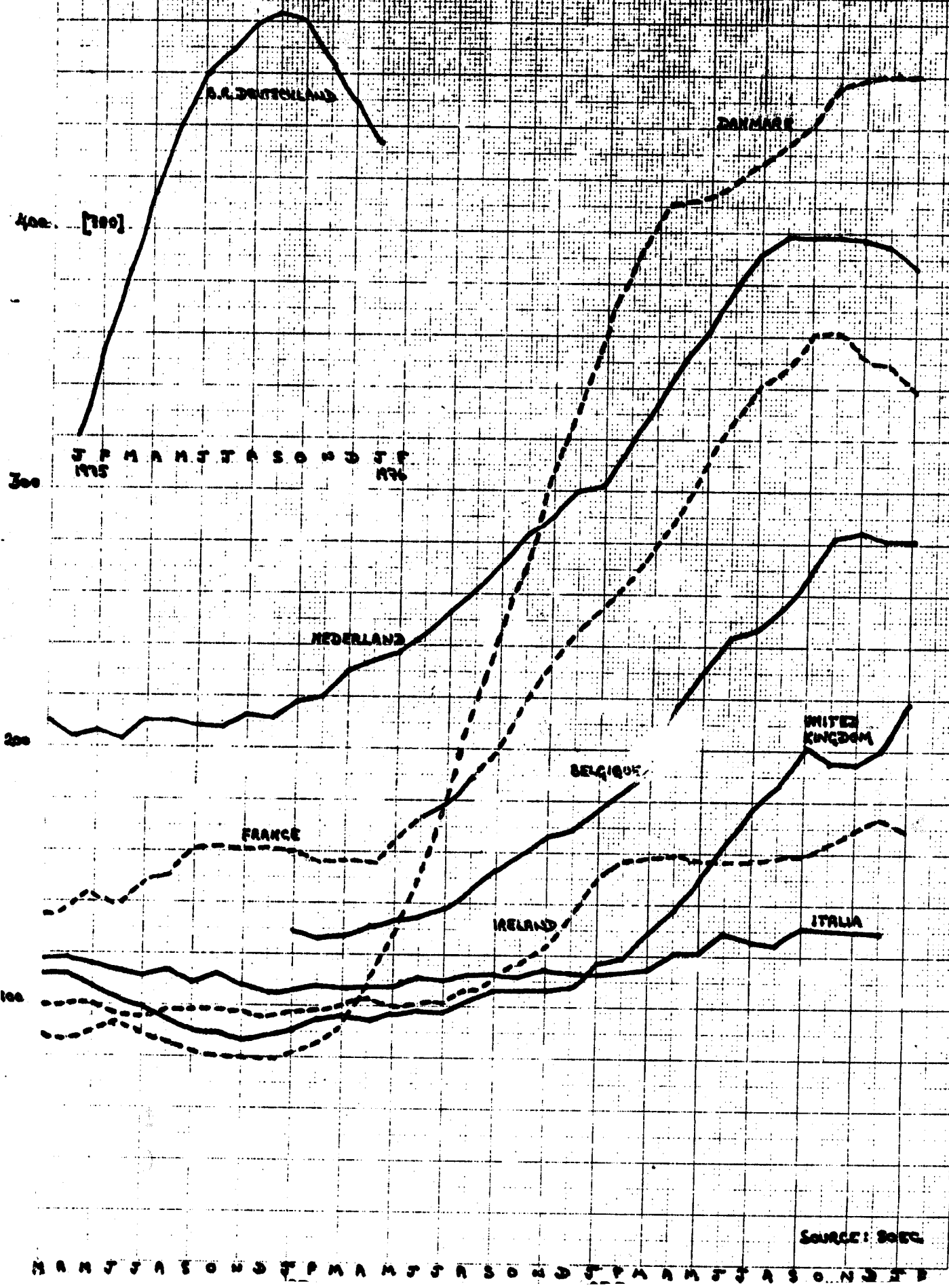
NUMBER OF SHORT-TIME WORKERS IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
 NOMBRE DE CHOMEURS PARTIELS DANS LES PAYS DE LA COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE
 KURZARBEITER IN DEN MITGLIEDSTATEN DER EUROPÄISCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

Country/Pays/Land	Month/Mois/Monat	1975	1976	1976/75
Belgique	October **	46.724	65.000	+ 18.276 (+ 39 %)
Danmark		N.A.	N.A.	-
Deutschland B.R.	February	956.514	493.130	- 463.384 (- 48 %)
France	December **	421.192	379.372	- 41.820 (- 10 %)
Ireland	February	9.939	3.695	- 6.244 (- 63 %)
Italia	July **	234.000	349.000	+ 115.000 (+ 49 %)
Luxembourg	December	0	790	+ 790
Nederland	January	48.397	45.134	- 3.263 (- 7 %)
Great Britain	December **	72.000	151.000	+ 79.000 (+ 110 %)

N.A. = not available

** = figures relate to 1975 and 1974

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDEX OF UNEMPLOYMENT
FRANCAISSEMENT DE LA SÉRIE ET ÉCRIVAINMENT. 1930-1955
TABLE DE CHANGEMENT DÉTAILLÉE



SOURCE: OECD

JANUARY 1930 FEBRUARY 1931 MARCH 1932 APRIL 1933 MAY 1934 JUNE 1935 JULY 1936 AUGUST 1937 SEPTEMBER 1938 OCTOBER 1939 NOVEMBER 1940 DECEMBER 1941 JANUARY 1942 FEBRUARY 1943 MARCH 1944 APRIL 1945 MAY 1946 JUNE 1947 JULY 1948 AUGUST 1949 SEPTEMBER 1950 OCTOBER 1951 NOVEMBER 1952 DECEMBER 1953 JANUARY 1954 FEBRUARY 1955

TABLE 1: Unemployment of young people 1973-1975
 TABLEAU 1: Le chômage des jeunes 1973-1975
 TABELLE 1: Arbeitslose Jugendliche 1973-1975

Member State Etat Membre Mitgliedstaat	Numbers unemployed - Nombre de chômeurs - Zahl der Arbeitslosen							
	Mid 1973 Milieu 73 Mitte 1973	End 1973 Fin 1973 Ende 1973	Mid 1974 Milieu 74 Mitte 1974	End 1974 Fin 1974 Ende 1974	Mid 1975 Milieu 75 Mitte 1975	End 1975 Fin 1975 Ende 1975		
Belgique	14.596	26.187	18.564	46.677	50.987	89.224		
F.R. Deutschland	-	51.001	105.459	158.051	253.711	287.373		
Danmark	4.184	-	7.435	-	-	-		
France	94.800	187.100	123.400	331.500	276.400	462.000		
Italia	287.963	277.888	308.336	311.820	369.598	-		
Nederland	27.130	37.065	33.761	59.935	62.370	87.234		
Great Britain	154.256	-	174.122	-	436.226	-		

Notes to table 1

- (a) Young people are defined as all persons below the age of 25, except in the case of Italy where the figures given are for all unemployed persons under the age of 21 plus all persons who are looking for their first job, irrespective of their age.
- (b) The months of the count are as follows

	<u>Mid-year</u>	<u>End-year</u>
Belgique	June	December
B.R.D.	May	September
France	June	December
Italia	June	December
Nederland	May	November
Great Britain	July	-
Danmark	July	-

- (c) Figures for Ireland and Luxembourg are not available on a regular basis.