

Case 160/86

Ministère public
v
Jacques Verbrugge

(reference for a preliminary ruling
from the tribunal de police, Reims)

(Fixed prices for books)

Report for the Hearing	1784
Opinion of Advocate General Sir Gordon Slynn delivered on 19 March 1987	1786
Judgment of the Court (Third Chamber), 9 April 1987	1788

Summary of the Judgment

Community law — Principles — Equal treatment — Discrimination on grounds of nationality — Production — National legislation on the price of books — Different treatment of re-imported books — Permissibility
(EEC Treaty, Art. 7)

Free movement of goods — Quantitative restrictions — Measures having equivalent effect — National legislation on the price of books — Different treatment of re-imported books — Permissibility
(EEC Treaty, Art. 30)

Neither Article 7 nor Article 30 of the EEC Treaty nor the principle of non-discrimination applies to a difference of treatment under legislation which provides that the retail selling price of books is to be fixed by the publisher or the importer of a book, which is binding on all retailers and according to which the price of books

published and printed in the Member State concerned may be freely determined where the books are re-imported after having first been exported to another Member State, whereas the price is fixed by the publisher where the books have not crossed a border within the Community in the course of being marketed.