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Information and Notices

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I

(Information)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO WHICH NO ANSWER HAS BEEN
GIVEN (*)

These questions are published in accordance with Rule 45 (3) of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament: 'Questions to which no answer has been given within one month by the Commission, or within two months by the Council, ... shall also be published in the "Official Journal of the European Communities".'

WRITTEN QUESTION No 79/80

by Mrs Vayssade and Mr Jacques Moreau

to the Council of the European Communities

(28 March 1980)

Subject: Places of work of the Secretariat of the European Parliament

1. Are the Ministers aware of plans drawn up by the departments of the French administration for the dispersion of the departments of the Secretariat of the European Parliament among the cities of Strasbourg, Luxembourg and Brussels?
2. Are they aware that by way of compensation the City of Luxembourg would be offered the relocation to Luxembourg from Brussels of an entire directorate-general of the Commission of the European Communities?
3. Can they say whether officials or other servants of the Council, the Commission or the European Parliament have participated officially or unofficially in these preparatory activities and discussions?
4. Do they believe that this fragmentation of the Secretariat of the European Parliament is likely to improve relations between the Community institutions or is simply intended to make Parliament operate more effectively?
5. Would they not agree that in fact the sole object of this move is to serve political or individual interests in one or other of the places of work?
6. Do they share the view that the French plans might be the product of certain difficulties in bilateral relations between France and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg?

(*) The answers will be published as soon as they are received from the institution concerned.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 82/80

**by Mrs Vayssade and Mr Jacques Moreau
to the Council of the European Communities**

(28 March 1980)

Subject: Operations of the International Development Bank (IDB)

On 28 February 1980 the Swedish Parliament narrowly failed to adopt a proposal for Sweden's withdrawal from the IDB tabled by the Socialists and Communists. In their proposal these two parties asserted that, paradoxically, the IDB tended to assist the richest countries instead of the developing countries.

1. Can the Council provide a general survey of the IDB's activities in recent years?
2. Which countries or groups of countries have been the principal beneficiaries of IDB loans?
3. What is the annual contribution to this organization of each Community Member State?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 84/80

**by Mrs Vayssade and Mr Jacques Moreau
to the Council of the European Communities**

(28 march 1980)

Subject: Tax avoidance and tax havens

In its replies to the many written and oral questions put by Members of the European Parliament concerned at the existence of tax havens in the Community (Liechtenstein, Monaco, Luxembourg), the Commission invariably states that to abolish these would mean a flight of capital to non-member countries. This view was reiterated in a document presented by the Commission at the recent Council of Europe colloquium in Strasbourg on international tax evasion and avoidance (26 and 27 February 1980). This kind of argument, which might be feasible in other international organizations, is hardly tenable in the Community. As a result of this situation a country like Luxembourg enjoyed the highest standard of

living in the world in 1979 (after Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates) according to UN statistics while the same statistics show the surrounding areas, Lorraine, the Belgian province of Luxembourg and the German Eifel region as having a standard of living which is scarcely more than a third of this level.

1. Is it acceptable for the Community which would like to strengthen its policy of combatting regional imbalances, to encourage not only the continued existence but even the strengthening of tax havens within its borders?
2. If so, does the Council not feel that it would then be fair to propose that the tax legislation of the other Member States should be harmonized on the legislation of the tax havens within the Community

- at the risk of making the Community as a whole one big tax haven?
3. If not, does the Council not feel that it is necessary to tighten Community laws against tax evasion and

avoidance and draw up a programme for the gradual harmonization of the tax legislation of the Member States, particularly on holding companies?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 273/80

by Mr Damseaux

to the Commission of the European Communities

(25 April 1980)

Subject: The taking-up and pursuit of the business of direct insurance other than life assurance

Under Article 8.1(b) of the First Council Directive (73/239/EEC) on the coordination of laws, Regulations and administrative provisions relating to the taking-up and pursuit of the business of direct insurance other than life assurance, insurance companies must limit their business activities to the business of insurance and operations directly arising therefrom (*).

Can a Belgian savings bank, a public institution, extending its activities to cover the entire field of banking, engage in insurance activities falling within the scope of the abovementioned directive?

(*) OJ No L 228, 16. 8. 1973, p. 3

WRITTEN QUESTION No 274/80

by Mr Damseaux

to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Right of establishment of doctors

French Law 76.1288 of 31 December 1976, implemented by Decree 77.637 of 21 June 1977 lays down the conditions and formalities applicable to practising Community doctors from another Member State wishing to practise in France. These provisions stipulate that, except in case of emergency, a prior

declaration to the Departmental Medical Council is required. Article 7 of the abovementioned decree specifies however that the provisions of this text do not override the provisions of conventions currently in force applicable to doctors practising in frontier areas and that the provisions of the Convention between France and Belgium, signed on 25 October 1910, concerning the practice of medicine in the

frontier districts of these two countries, continue to apply in full.

The French Government does not consider it possible unilaterally to apply derogations from a bilateral agreement if such derogations are not provided for therein.

As a result, problems arise with primary sickness insurance schemes where a French doctor sets up

practice in a district previously without a French practitioner and consequently covered by a Belgian doctor.

Does the Commission consider the application of the Convention of 25 October 1910, the Law of 31 December 1976 and the Decree of 21 June 1977 compatible with international developments, and more specifically, with Community directives which recognize the right of doctors to freedom of establishment in EEC Member States?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 275/80

by Mr Damette

to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Discrimination against frontier workers

Frontier workers employed in the French ARBED mines who reside in Luxembourg and work in France are about to be made subject in France to a standard income tax of 15 %, to be deducted at source, irrespective of the size of their households.

Does the Commission not consider that this measure clearly discriminates against frontier workers and therefore runs counter to the Treaty of Rome?

What solution does it envisage in response to the claims put forward by these frontier workers?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 276/80

by Mr Radoux

to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Investments in Comecon countries

Can the Commission state the amount of public and private investment in Comecon countries in Europe, otherwise referred to as the Eastern bloc, during the last five years (or a shorter period) and originating from:

- the Member States of the EEC,
 - the Member States of EFTA,
 - the USA?
-

WRITTEN QUESTION No 277/80
by Mr Radoux
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Imports of military equipment into the Community

Until now imports of military equipment from third countries have generally been exempt from customs duty. Member States have invoked Article 223 of the Treaty of Rome in such cases.

Presumably as a result of the entry into force of the system of own resources, the Commission has expressed the opinion that this article does not give Member States the right to grant customs exemptions.

Can the Commission state:

- (a) If this point of view is universally accepted in the Community?
 - (b) Whether the Commission sees a need to introduce rules which would be binding on all parties?
-

WRITTEN QUESTION No 278/80
By Mr Moreland
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Interpretation of tariff, quota and other customs regulations

Is the Commission satisfied that the Community tariff, quota and other customs regulations are interpreted on a consistent basis by customs officials in the different Member States?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 279/80
by Mr Moreland
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Legislation on aerosols

The Commission has proposed and the Council approved legislation on the emission of chlorofluorocarbons from aerosols.

In view of the destruction by fire of a factory in Stoke-on-Trent, United Kingdom, producing aerosols, does the Commission propose further legislation on the production, storage, use and handling of aerosols to minimize the risk of fire?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 280/80
by Mr Moreland
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Entitlement to medical care in the Community

Why is a United Kingdom citizen who has always been self-employed, excluded from financial coverage for medical treatment when visiting another Member State?

Does the Commission not consider it a disgrace and unfair discrimination that the wives and children of the self-employed are excluded from financial coverage for medical treatment when other wives and children are entitled?

Does the Commission not consider it to be discrimination on the basis of sex that a wife is automatically covered if her husband is covered for medical treatment but that a husband is not automatically covered if his wife is entitled to medical treatment?

Does the discrimination against the self-employed and their families relate to citizens from the United Kingdom only?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 281/80**by Mr Moreland****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: Cost of medical care in the Community

A citizen of the Community is entitled to medical care when visiting any Member State.

Does the financial contribution from the citizen toward the cost of care vary according to the Member State being visited? If so, what efforts are being made to equalize the position and/or ensure that some Member States are not paying more than others?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 282/80**by Mr Moreland****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: Drivers' hours

Drivers' hours legislation has been introduced into the Community primarily to ensure that undue strain is not placed on drivers and for the furtherance of road safety.

1. Does the Commission ensure that Member States enforce the relevant regulations?
 2. What derogations are currently in force?
 3. Has consideration been given for exemptions for
 - (a) Minibuses,
 - (b) Factory tractors,
 - (c) Drivers starting or finishing journeys in remote areas,
 - (d) The carriage of livestock,
 - (e) Landrovers?
-

WRITTEN QUESTION No 283/80**by Mr Moreland****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: EEC legislation on weights and measures

To what extent has the Commission been directly responsible for publicizing and giving advice on the application of EEC weights and measures legislation in Member States?

Has it ensured that the legislation is being applied? Has it ensured that those affected by the legislation are fully aware of its implications? Has it received any complaints of difficulties over the legislation? Has it been prepared to provide financial assistance, when necessary, to a company or local government authority when the legislation involves them in additional costs?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 284/80**by Mr Seefeld****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: Inland postage rates for intra-Community postal traffic

1. It was stated in reply to my Question No 65/79 (1) that a Commission 'Study on the application of domestic rates for letters not exceeding 20 grams and for postcards' would be forwarded to the Council. What result has this had?

2. What obstacles remain to a final decision in this matter and for what reason?

(1) OJ No C 150, 15. 6. 1979, p. 12.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 286/80**by Mr Battersby****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: Cod stocks — Heligoland Bight

Does the Commission intend to bring in a closed period for fishing in the Heligoland Bight for 8 to 10 weeks from mid-January to mid-March 1981, in view of the fact that excessive quantities of immature cod have been caught in the first months of 1980 and used for fishmeal and pet food to the detriment of future resources for human consumption?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 287/80**by Mr Battersby****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: Catches in Greenlandic waters

1. Can the Commission give details of catches in Greenlandic waters, if possible separately, for fresh fish trawlers and freezer trawlers, by catching state, live weight, species and region of capture?
2. Can the Commission state the ports where such catches were landed and the quantities at each port?
3. Can the Commission state if the catches recorded in the log books for catches in Greenlandic waters coincided with the landed tonnages when converted to live weight, and, if not, what is the degree of discrepancy?
4. Is there any form of bilateral agreement between Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany concerning fishing in Greenlandic waters and, if such an agreement exists, does it differentiate between fresh fish trawlers and freezer trawlers?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 288/80
by Mr Albers
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Cheap-rate international telephone calls

Various Member States of the Community have introduced cheap tariffs for local and trunk telephone calls within the country concerned in the evenings and at weekends. The aim is to relieve the pressure on telephone exchanges during working hours by encouraging private calls at other times.

1. Can the Commission state which Member States have already introduced this system?
2. Does the Commission share my opinion that reduced-tariff international telephone calls between Member States outside working hours could promote personal contacts between people in the Community?
3. How does the Commission view the importance of simple, cheap telecommunications in a future energy-conservation programme?
4. What initiatives does the Commission intend to take in this connection?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 289/80
by Mr Berkhouwer
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Freedom of establishment of doctors

Is the Commission aware that doctors who have obtained their qualifications at Belgian universities are encountering difficulties in setting up as general practitioners in the Netherlands?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 290/80**by Mr Berkhouwer****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)**Subject: Heart surgery*

Having regard in particular to the freedom of establishment of doctors in the European Community, is the Commission aware that the Netherlands lacks the facilities to be able to meet the demand for open-heart surgery? Is the Commission prepared to mediate in this connection so as to ensure that, in future, patients will no longer have to be flown to Houston, Texas, and American medical staff brought in from there, these problems being solved by having patients or medical staff transferred between the countries of the Community?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 291/80**by Mr Berkhouwer****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)**Subject: Introduction of tolls on Belgian motorways*

1. Is the Commission aware of the Belgian government's intention to introduce as from 1 July 1980, tolls on Belgian motorways for the use of which non-Belgian motorists will also have to purchase a 'sticker' at a cost of Bfrs 500 per fortnight?
2. Will the Commission take appropriate steps to prevent the Belgian government from taking this measure which is intolerable in that:
 - (a) its specific purpose is not to finance the building of new motorways but to charge for the use of already existing ones;
 - (b) it contravenes taxation agreements in force between Netherlands and Belgium and contradicts the letter and spirit of the Benelux agreements, the letter and spirit of the EEC treaties and the principle of freedom of movement within the Community?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 294/80**by Mr Lima and Mr Giummarra****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: The wine market and free movement of goods

In view of the serious situation of the Sicilian wine market, which is aggravated by the disturbingly high level of inflation and the consequent stupendous rise in production costs, and in view of the implications of the EEC Council of Ministers' decisions as regards the ban on new plantings, the grant of cessation of farming premiums and the need to obtain authorization to add sucrose to wine and to import blending wines from non-Community countries, how does the Commission propose to guarantee the free movement of goods within the Community? Moreover, what action does it intend to take to encourage wine consumption on a far wider scale, to eliminate the protective measures applied to other national products (beer, whisky, etc), to increase the amount of wine for distillation, to abolish the authorization required to increase the alcoholic strength of wines through the addition of sucrose, to launch a publicity campaign to promote wine exports to other areas and, finally, to adopt a wine-growing planning policy based on the classification of vine species, incentives to suitable regions (Sicily and the Mezzogiorno in general) and support for the production and marketing of wines with a registered designation of origin?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 298/80**by Mr Spencer****to the Commission of the European Communities***(29 April 1980)*

Subject: Aid to the Cameroons

Since 1967 Cimenteries du Cameroun (CIMENCAM) has received 3 loans from the Community totalling 4.29 million u.a. Most recently, on 11 December 1979, the European Investment Bank announced a loan of 6.6 million u.a. for 10 years at 7.3 % interest allowing a 3 % subsidy from the resources of the European Community Development Fund.

However, the Cameroon Government is holding political prisoners without trial and thereby contravening normal human rights.

Can the Commission

- (1) state the official Community policy on aid to countries that breach human rights?
- (2) say what pressure they can bring to bear on the governments of countries benefiting financially from the terms of the Lomé Conventions in order to encourage them to respect human rights in their countries?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 299/80

by Mrs Cassanmagnago Cerretti

to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Interest on social security benefits

The judgment handed down by the Court of Justice on 14 February 1980 in Case 53/79⁽¹⁾ (ONPTS v. F. Damiani) affirms that 'Article 45 (4) of Regulation (EEC) No 574/72⁽²⁾ does not prevent the national court before which an action is brought against the failure of the competent institution to meet the obligations imposed on it under Article 45 (1) of the abovementioned regulation from awarding the claimant, at his request and in accordance with the national law, interest at a rate to be fixed by the court on the amount of the benefits payable on a provisional basis'.

- In which Community States and in accordance with what provisions are interest payments made on social security benefits paid late by the competent institution?
- Is there any legal requirement within the Community for legal rates of interest to be paid by insured persons who have unlawfully but in good faith drawn benefits in excess of their entitlement?

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 126, 13. 5. 1979, p. 4 and OJ No C 58, 8. 3. 1980, p. 4.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 74, 27. 3. 1972, p. 1.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 300/80
by Mrs Cassanmagnago Cerretti
to the Commission of the European Communities

(29 April 1980)

Subject: Conversion of invalidity benefits into old age benefits

Article 43 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 of 24 June 1971 ⁽¹⁾ stipulates that 'invalidity benefits shall be converted into old age benefits, where appropriate, under the conditions laid down by the legislation under which they were granted'.

- In which Community States and at what age are invalidity benefits converted into old age benefits?
- Is conversion automatic or do persons in receipt of the invalidity pension have to apply for it?
- In which States does such conversion represent an advantage for the persons concerned?
- In which States may the old age pension be less than the invalidity pension it replaces?

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 149, 5. 7. 1971, p. 2.

COMMISSION

ECU ⁽¹⁾ — EUROPEAN UNIT OF ACCOUNT ⁽²⁾

2 July 1980

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc	40.2651	Swiss franc	2.32047
German mark	2.51720	Spanish peseta	100.282
Dutch guilder	2.75497	Swedish krona	5.93271
Pound sterling	0.605309	Norwegian krone	6.91852
Danish krone	7.80496	Canadian dollar	1.64320
French franc	5.83763	Portuguese escudo	69.9143
Italian lira	1203.84	Austrian schilling	17.8789
Irish pound	0.670139	Finnish markka	5.18567
United States dollar	1.42974	Japanese yen	313.757
		Greek drachma	61.7391

The Commission has installed a telex with an automatic answering device which gives the conversion rates in a number of currencies. This service is available every day from 3.30 p.m. until 1 p.m. the following day.

Users of the service should do as follows:

- call telex number Brussels 23789;
- give their own telex code;
- type the code 'cccc' which puts the automatic system into operation resulting in the transmission of the conversion rates of the EUA;
- the transmission should not be interrupted until the end of the message, which is marked by the code 'ffff'.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EEC) No 3180/78 of 18 December 1978 (OJ No L 379, 30. 12. 1978, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Council Decision 75/250/EEC of 21 April 1975 (Convention of Lomé) (OJ No L 104, 24. 4. 1975, p. 35).

Commission Decision No 3289/75/ECSC of 18 December 1975 (OJ No L 327, 19. 12. 1975, p. 4).

Decisions of the Council of Governors of the European Investment Bank of 18 March 1975 and of 30 December 1977.

Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 concerning the general budget of the European Communities (OJ No L 356, 31. 12. 1977, p. 1).

Average prices and representative prices for table wines at the various marketing centres

(Established on 1 July 1980 for the application of Article 4 (1) of Regulation (EEC)
No 337/79)

Type of wine and the various marketing centres	ECU per % vol/hl	Type of wine and the various marketing centres	ECU per % vol/hl
R I		A I	
Bastia	No quotation	Bordeaux	2.089
Béziers	2.217	Nantes	2.058
Montpellier	2.213	Bari	1.603
Narbonne	2.227	Cagliari	No quotation
Nîmes	2.206	Chieti	1.650
Perpignan	2.243	Ravenna (Lugo, Faenza)	1.848
Asti	No quotation	Trapani (Alcamo)	1.744
Firenze	1.867	Treviso	No quotation
Lecce	No quotation	Representative price	1.715
Pescara	No quotation		
Reggio Emilia	2.451		<hr/> ECU/hl <hr/>
Treviso	No quotation	A II	
Verona (for local wines)	No quotation	Rheinpfalz (Oberhaardt)	36.15
Representative price	2.212	Rheinhessen (Hügelland)	35.93
		The wine-growing region of the Luxembourg Moselle	No quotation (*)
R II		Representative price	36.07
Bastia	2.143		
Brignoles	No quotation	A III	
Bari	2.168	Mosel-Rheingau	64.47
Barletta	No quotation (*)	The wine-growing region of the Luxembourg Moselle	No quotation (*)
Cagliari	No quotation	Representative price	64.47
Lecce	No quotation		
Taranto	No quotation		
Representative price	2.151		
	<hr/> ECU/hl <hr/>		
R III			
Rheinpfalz-Rheinhessen (Hügelland)	60.22		

(*) Quotation not taken into account in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 2682/77.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Second amendment to notice of standing invitation to tender No 1/1980 and first amendment to notice of standing invitation to tender No 2/1980 for exports of sugar to third countries

Notice of standing invitations to tender No 1/1980 (*) and No 2/1980 (†) shall be amended as follows with effect from 3 July 1980:

The second indent of Chapter I (2) shall be replaced:

(a) in notice No 1/1980 by the following text:

‘— Regulation (EEC) No 561/80 (*), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1731/80 (†).’

and the footnote shall be amended to read:

‘(*) OJ No L 170, 3. 7. 1980, p. 19’;

(b) in notice No 2/1980 by the following text:

‘— Regulation (EEC) No 1216/80 (*), as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1731/80 (†).’

and the following shall be added to the footnote:

‘(*) OJ No L 170, 3. 7. 1980, p. 19.’

The following shall be added as the last subparagraph of Chapter II (2):

‘Nevertheless, the period for submitting tenders which was due to end:

(a) on Wednesday, 19 November 1980, shall end on Tuesday, 18 November 1980 at 10 a.m.

(b) on Wednesday, 24 December 1980, shall end on Tuesday, 23 December 1980 at 10 a.m.

Moreover, no partial invitation to tender will be issued in the period which ends on 31 December 1980.’

The text of Chapter VI (2) shall be replaced by the following:

‘2. Export licences issued in connection with a partial invitation to tender shall be valid from the day of issue until the end of the fifth month following that in which the partial invitation was issued.

Nevertheless:

(a) export licences issued in connection with a partial invitation issued between 9 July 1980 and 15 September 1980:

— shall be valid only with effect from 15 September 1980, and

— shall remain valid until 31 January 1981;

(b) export licences issued in connection with a partial invitation issued after 29 April 1981 shall be valid only until 30 September 1981.’

(*) OJ No C 56, 6. 3. 1980, p. 35.

(†) OJ No C 120, 16. 5. 1980, p. 9.

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Features of this new edition, introduced in response to hundreds of questionnaires completed by users, are that all entries are now listed under all the important key words contained in them, and the layout has been redesigned to make the glossary easier to consult.

There is a complete list of all acronyms and abbreviations used in the explanatory notes which accompany entries wherever necessary.

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Mr Noelke shows quite clearly that Europe and the Third World are equally dependent on each other. For Europe, cooperation with the developing countries is not only a moral duty but also an economic necessity. Moreover, only cooperation which culminates in genuine development, that is to say in a higher standard of living for the most needy people of the world, is in Europe's interest.

To the reader already familiar with the problems of development, this work offers a mine of up-to-date information on Europe's dependence in terms of energy and raw materials on trade with the Third World, the impact of industrialization, financial flows and so on. Everyone will find food for thought on a crucial political problem which will remain a burning issue for the rest of the twentieth century.

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This Handbook for Students has been prepared, for the assistance of students and their advisers to bring together in all Community languages the basic information needed by those considering a period of higher education in another Member State.

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