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(Information)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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

These questions are published in accordance with Rule 46 (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 1488/84

by Mr Jaak Vandemeulebroucke (ARC — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities
(7 January 1985)
(85/C 79/01)

Subject: Social security of artists

Does the Commission consider that all the Member States of the Community have introduced adequate social measures to protect artists and their families by means of a real social security scheme?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1489/84

by Mr Jaak Vandemeulebroucke (ARC — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities
(7 January 1985)
(85/C 79/02)

Subject: Member States' cultural policy abroad

The Member States conduct their cultural policies abroad through various institutions such as the British Council, the Internationale Culturele Betrekkingen, etc.

Can the Commission say how much is spent by the various Member States on cultural policy abroad and what percentage of their budgets this represents?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1492/84

by Mr Niall Andrews (RDE — IRL)
to the Commission of the European Communities
(7 January 1985)
(85/C 79/03)

Subject: Lead smelter in Ranelagh

There is a considerable disquiet in the Ranelagh area of Dublin caused by continuous emissions of lead from a smelter situated in the heart of a residential area. Parents are very concerned about their children's health and are offended by the emissions from the lead smelter.

Will the Commission indicate whether or not any EEC Directives exist which ban the emissions of such smelters in residential areas?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1493/84

by Mr Niall Andrews (RDE — IRL)
to the Commission of the European Communities
(7 January 1985)
(85/C 79/04)

Subject: Harassment of Irish Members of the European Parliament at London airport in transit from Dublin to Brussels

In view of the fact that an inquiry has been called for into an incident involving a German Member of the European Parliament who was travelling on official business through the Netherlands to Brussels and who was stopped and subjected to harassment despite his diplomatic passport by a Dutch customs official:

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

1. Will the Commission now inform the British authorities of a similar incident which took place on Monday 29 October 1984 at London airport during which the author of this question, Mr Niall Andrews, TD, MEP and Mr Richie Ryan, MEP, were requested to fill in landing forms and were subjected to totally unacceptable harassment in contravention of our right to freedom of movement as Members of the European Parliament by British Airport officials?
2. Furthermore, will the Commission ensure that an inquiry into this incident is undertaken so that any repetition of these most undesirable incidents is avoided in the future?
2. if it is true that at present, and since the third quarter of 1984, the price of gas charged to the Belgian industry is 5 % higher than the price charged to the Dutch industry (= Bfrs 200 million p.a. for Société Carbochimique)?
3. whether it regards this disparity as normal, or as one to be investigated as a discriminatory practice?
4. apart from this disparity, what type of reimbursement in terms of damages can the companies affected hope to receive for the period covered by 1983 and the first quarter of 1984? Is each company required to submit a separate complaint?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1494/84

by Mr Niall Andrews (RDE — IRL)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/05)

Subject: Entitlements to social welfare and treatment benefits by returned development workers

In view of the Communities commitment to development cooperation, will the Commission be proposing in the near future, to the Council of Ministers, that entitlements to social welfare and treatment benefits in all Member States of the Community be granted to returned development workers who presently by virtue of their working overseas in developing countries on request from a bona fide sending agency are denied these benefits at present?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1500/84

by Mrs Undine-Uta Bloch von Blotnitz (ARC — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/07)

Subject: Dumping and storage of hazardous waste on the sea bed

Does the Commission plan to submit a proposal to the Council concerning the dumping and storage of hazardous waste (chemical and radioactive waste) on the sea bed and the incineration of such substances at sea?

When is the submission of such a proposal envisaged?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1498/84

by Mrs Anne-Marie Lizin (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/06)

Subject: Stage reached in proceedings against Gazunie for price discrimination against companies manufacturing ammonia

Can the Commission state:

1. what stage has been reached in the proceedings brought before it by France and Germany?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1506/84

by Mr James Provan (ED — GB)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/08)

Subject: Control of pollution

Concern has been expressed at the workload and cost of implementing anti-pollution measures in the European Community, the main provisions of which have recently been brought into force in Great Britain, consequential to the Control of Pollution Act 1974.

Will the Commission please, therefore, state to what extent, and to what effect, other countries in the European Community are implementing Directives relating to the control of pollution, and provide me with as much information as possible on this question?

2. From what agricultural products can ethyl alcohol be most profitably extracted?
3. Does the Commission intend to submit a Directive governing the addition of alcohol to petrol?
4. What repercussions could this practice have on surplus wine production in Europe and the resulting extraction of ethyl alcohol?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1508/84

by Mr Pol Marck (PPE — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/09)

Subject: Use in Belgium by the wife of a Community official of a car registered in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

The Belgian Ministry of Finance, Customs and Excise Department, clearly takes the view that it is an offence for a Community official's car, registered in Luxembourg, to be taken into Belgium by his wife, who holds a Luxembourg driving licence and a European official's 'Titre de légitimation' on the grounds that the car is an undeclared import.

1. Does the Commission consider that this is compatible with the free movement of people and goods?
2. Is it compatible with the current provisions applying to Community officials?
3. What action does the Commission intend to take as no well-defined and uniform procedure appears to be followed in such cases?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1509/84

by Mrs Vera Squarzialupi (COM — I)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/10)

Subject: Community measures and decisions concerning the use of ethyl alcohol as a petrol additive

1. What stage has research on the use of ethyl alcohol as a petrol additive reached?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1512/84

by Mr Jaak Vandemeulebroucke (ARC — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/11)

Subject: Fees and the *numerus clausus* at universities

The Commission is perhaps aware that there is quite some confusion in education circles concerning fees and the *numerus clausus*. This is a problem for university students who come from the European Community and who take up or complete courses of higher education in Member States other than their home country. Can the Commission indicate:

1. Which Member States require foreign students who are nationals of a Community country to pay higher fees than those required for their own students?
 2. Whether a distinction is made depending on the faculty?
 3. Which Member States apply a *numerus clausus* for university education, and for which subjects, and whether it varies according to whether home or foreign students are involved? ('Foreign' in this case meaning students from another Member State).
 4. Whether it considers that general provisions relating to Community students are required?
 5. What its views are on points 1, 2 and 3?
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WRITTEN QUESTION No 1513/84

by Mr Jaak Vandemeulebroucke (ARC — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/12)

Subject: Information on the Community for educational establishments

What practical steps do the various Community information offices take to ensure that pupils and students in secondary and higher education are aware of the activities and purpose of the European institutions?

Are appropriate packs of teaching material available and is there contact and formal cooperation with teachers' organizations? If so, with which ones?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1519/84

by Mrs Yvette Fullet (S — F)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/14)

Subject: Harmonization of legislation controlling the sale of firearms to private individuals

In view of the proliferation of both so-called 'light' firearms and firearms sold with a licence for the purpose of 'self-defence', bearing in mind an increase in violence in various Community countries which is facilitated by the ease with which firearms can be obtained and in view of the fact that 21 141 licensed and 10 million unlicensed firearms were registered in France in 1980, is the Commission prepared to submit to the Council and the European Parliament a proposal for a Directive to harmonize European legislation on restrictions on the sale of firearms to private individuals in the Community?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1514/84

by Mr Jaak Vandemeulebroucke (ARC — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/13)

Subject: The European film industry

It is a matter for some misgiving that the number of cinema-goers in the Community fell by 46 % between 1973 and 1983 and by even more (up to 69 %) in some countries, for example, Italy and the United Kingdom. French Government initiatives *vis-à-vis* the French film industry have ensured that the situation in that country is developing in a much more healthy fashion. At the same time, however, film-makers are raising the alarm, claiming that the American film is threatening to oust the European film completely from its home ground.

Can the Commission state whether it shares the view that the situation in the European film industry gives cause for concern and, if so, what proposals it might be considering to improve the position?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1520/84

by Mr François Roelants du Vivier (ARC — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/15)

Subject: Shipments of radioactive substances and waste between Mol (Belgium) and Ispra (Italy)

On Friday, 23 November 1984 two drums each containing 25 g of 93 % enriched uranium were intercepted and turned back by customs officials at the Franco-Belgian frontier post at Gué-d'hossus on the Couvin — Rocroi road.

1. Is the Commission aware of this occurrence? Can it state what offences have been committed in this case?
2. Will the Commission specify the various authorizations required for the shipment of radioactive substances or waste from the Euratom centre at Mol to the Euratom centre at Ispra?

3. Will the Commission give details of the frequency and nature of shipments of radioactive substances or waste and of the amounts transported annually between Mol and Ispra?
4. Will the Commission give details of the route normally used when radioactive substances or waste are sent by road from Mol to Ispra, and of the number of shipments of radioactive substances or waste made by air between Mol and Ispra?
5. Is the Commission aware of previous cases similar to that referred to above? If so, which?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1521/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/16)

Subject: European public servants

1. Does the Commission regard the remuneration of European public servants as appropriate and, in particular, how does it justify the extremely high level of salaries and their regular adjustment to changes in purchasing power?
2. Does the Commission share my view that this excellent level of remuneration must be matched by outstanding work on the part of each individual public servant?
3. In terms of its responsibility to Community taxpayers how does the Commission guarantee and monitor the correlation referred to under point 2 in all the institutions?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1523/84

by Mr Ernest Glinne (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/17)

Subject: The Bekaert-Cockerill case and Directive 76/207/EEC

The Charleroi Labour court in Belgium has decided partly in favour of 13 women employees who were dismissed because they refused to be put on part-time

working, basing their stand on the principle of equal treatment for men and women at work; an unspecified level of compensation, to be paid by the employer, has been awarded to each plaintiff.

The aim of the '13 angry women', however, was and still is to return to their jobs with the firm. Unlike French and German legislation, Belgian law (the Law of 4 August 1978) apparently does not give judges the power to force employers to reinstate a person who the court rules has been unfairly dismissed.

Will the Commission therefore provide answers to the following questions:

1. Does Directive 76/207/EEC⁽¹⁾ on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards access to employment, vocational training and promotion, and working conditions, and particularly Articles 3 (b) and 4 (b) thereof, not imply that those who suffer unfair dismissal have a right to be reinstated?
2. What is the Commission's view of the judgment made in the case by the Charleroi court in the light of the Belgian law and the European Directive?
3. Can the right of the '13' to be reinstated not be guaranteed by recourse to Directive 76/207/EEC?
4. If there are loopholes in this Directive of 9 February 1976, does the Commission not think that they should be filled and the Member States' laws implementing it thereby tightened up to the same level?

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 39, 14. 2. 1976, p. 40.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1527/84

by Mr Jean-Pierre Abelin (PPE — F)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/18)

Subject: Community rules on sheepmeat

In view of the considerable disparities between the European producers of sheepmeat, the normal rules of competition no longer apply. British sheepmeat, which costs half as much to produce as French sheepmeat, receives 221 times more subsidy from the European Community than the latter. This was stated in the last Court of Auditors report.

This imbalance creates a situation for French producers, and in particular those in Poitou-Charentes, which can only deteriorate if nothing is done to remedy it.

Can the Commission indicate what measures it intends to take to establish a fair balance between the Member States?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1528/84

by Mr Raphaël Chanterie (PPE — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/19)

Subject: Acid rain, death of woodlands

Can the Commission give an accurate picture of the countries and regions of the Community, with special reference to Belgium and Flanders, where trees show signs of disease attributable to acid rain and can it state whether the damage is already irreparable?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1531/84

by Mr Axel Zarges (PEE — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/20)

Subject: New United States measures in the textiles and clothing sector

1. In the bilateral negotiations with the USA on the new US rules of origin in the textiles and clothing sector, did the Commission have the impression that the USA would take into account Community objections, in particular as regards the finish of fabrics, the recognition of Community origin and simplification of the certificate?

2. What does the Commission intend to do if the USA does not relax its position?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1533/84

by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/21)

Subject: Division of loading costs between ships and shippers

Can the Commission provide information on the system used by the major Community ports to divide the costs of loading a ship between shipowners and shippers?

Does the Commission have powers to take action in this field should a competition war develop between European ports, as was almost the case last year when Rotterdam attempted to introduce a port tariff based on a division of costs in the ratio of 90:10 between shipowners and shippers?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1535/84

by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/22)

Subject: Consumer safety on the occasion of Christmas and New Year festivities

Is the Commission aware of the checks carried out systematically on certain products in some Member States prior to the Christmas and New Year festivities. Those affected by these checks are tradesmen selling toys, bangers and fireworks, etc. Can the Commission state whether such checks are also carried out at the frontiers and if there are special customs crossing points for these products?

Is there a Community record of infringements of safety standards for such products imported from third countries?

Does the Commission not consider that such specific and systematic checks conflict with the decisions of the Court of Justice and are also not effective as, outside the period when such checks are carried out, a negligent or less careful importer could place dangerous products on the market.

In view of the serious nature of the accidents — injuries, burns and fires — caused by pyrotechnical products (bangers, fireworks), does the Commission consider that the sale of these products should be controlled and the consumer warned of the danger?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1536/84

**by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities**

(7 January 1985)

(85/C 79/23)

Subject: Biomechanical and physiological tests on living beings

Can the Commission indicate for each Member State the sectors or categories of products in respect of which biomechanical or physiological research and safety tests are carried out?

What scientific bodies carry out such research?

Is there cooperation between these various bodies at European level? Do they receive Community grants or are they involved in work financed by the Commission? If so, what?

Is it true that these bodies use live animals and human corpses for their experiments, in particular for toxicity, mutagenic and resistance tests (study of internal lesions or fractures)? Is there an ethical code for the use of such anatomical subjects? Where do these research bodies obtain their supplies?

Does the Commission intend to draw up a European ethical code for research, especially as the subjects of the experiments are incapable of giving their consent?

Does similar legal protection exist for animals?

Has the Commission studied the use of computerized mathematical models or *in vitro* experiments? If so, what was the outcome?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1537/84
by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/24)

Subject: Safety of children at school and at public recreational and sports facilities

Some years ago a serious fire destroyed the secondary school at Pailleron in France, causing numerous casualties. A few days ago the collapse of a school at Courtrai in Belgium killed and injured several children. Now and again the press report the most dramatic cases, isolated but frequent cases. Nevertheless, how many children have been killed or injured during their school leisure or sporting activities?

Does the Commission have detailed statistics for each Member State on the number and causes of fatal and non-fatal accidents to children at school and on recreational or sports grounds? If not, why are these accidents not listed under the system provided for in Council Decision 81/623/EEC of 27 July 1981 (1)?

Do the Member States have safety standards which apply to school buildings and to public recreational and sports facilities?

Has the Commission carried out studies in this field and if so, what conclusions did it draw?

(1) OJ No L 229, 13. 8. 1981, p. 1.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1538/84

by Mr Rudolf Wedekind (PPE — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/25)

Subject: Carcinogens in foodstuffs

Is the Commission aware that substances that are harmful to health and carcinogens such as copper sulphate and saccharin are used in the production of foodstuffs in some Member States, although these substances may not be used by law in other Member States?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1539/84

by Mr Rudolf Wedekind (PPE — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/26)

Subject: Supply of foodstuffs to the Kingdom of Morocco

Can the Commission provide information on the amount and cost of food aid to Morocco in recent years?

Is the Commission aware of any adverse effects of food imports for Morocco?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1542/84

by Mr Rudolf Wedekind (PPE — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/28)

Subject: Freedom of world trade

Does the Commission share the view, based on the results of current opinion polls, that there has been a considerable increase in protectionism throughout the world?

Can the Commission state which countries are particularly involved in this development and what form the protectionist measures have taken?

What is the Commission's assessment of the newly adopted export restrictions with regard to Community countries?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1540/84

by Mr Rudolf Wedekind (PPE — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/27)

Subject: Consequences of the enlargement of the Community to the south

It is generally known that the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal will have considerable economic consequences for the Maghreb and Mashreq States and for Israel and Turkey.

On the basis of existing export and import figures for trade between the Community and these (groups of) countries, can the Commission indicate the extent to which the future membership of Spain and Portugal will affect trade with these (groups of) countries?

Does the Commission share the view that import restrictions on agricultural products from the Maghreb and Mashreq countries would have catastrophic effects for them?

Can the Commission indicate what steps it intends to take to mitigate the adverse effects for these countries of the Community's enlargement?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1548/84

by Mr Andrew Pearce (ED — GB)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/29)

Subject: Bureaucratic delays at frontiers between Member States

What steps did the Commission take during October 1984 to reduce bureaucratic delays at frontiers between Member States?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1549/84

by Mr Kurt Wawrzik (PPE — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/30)

Subject: EAC overseas staff in Commission delegations to the ACP and MMI States

Given the anomalous situation in which the Commission is represented within its delegations to the ACP and MMI States by employees of a Belgian public undertaking, does it intend to establish them as Community officials and integrate them into the Community administration?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1550/84

by Mrs Elise Boot (PPE — NL)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/31)

Subject: Implementation of Directive on hairdressers

1. Can the Commission indicate which Member States have been obliged to adjust their legal and administrative provisions in order to comply with Council Directive 82/489/EEC of 19 July 1982⁽¹⁾ on the right of establishment and freedom to provide services in hairdressing?

2. Did the Member States concerned bring into force the measures necessary to comply with the Directive by 19 January 1984? If not, which Member States failed to do so?

3. Can the Commission communicate the provisions of national law applying in the field covered by the Directive, indicating its sources?

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 218, 27. 7. 1982, p. 24.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1551/84

by Mr Ernest Mühlen (PPE — L)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/32)

Subject: Customs formalities at the new Mesenich frontier point

Is the Commission aware that for more than two years the 'Verband Spedition und Lagerei Rheinland-Pfalz EV' (Rhineland-Palatinate Forwarding and Storage Agents' Association), which represents the interests of forwarding agencies, has been unsuccessfully attempting to obtain for its members permission to effect customs clearance operations at the new Mesenich frontier point on the A 48 motorway between Luxembourg and Trier, and that this request has been rejected on the grounds that a central customs clearance office for all motorways connecting Luxembourg with other countries is to be opened in Luxembourg—Gasperich?

Can the Commission confirm the information given to those concerned, that authorization for forwarding agencies to operate on the A 48 would not be in accordance with Community policy concerning border controls?

Is the Commission certain that it will be possible to put the new central customs clearance office in the centre of Luxembourg into service before the opening of the Luxembourg—Trier motorway or the new Mesenich frontier point, or is it otherwise prepared to cooperate with the Luxembourg Government in finding a provisional solution authorizing forwarding agencies on an interim basis at least, to carry out customs clearance formalities for freight transport, at the new frontier point as at the frontier point on the motorway at Dudelange (between Luxembourg and Thionville)?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1552/84

by Mr Karl von Wogau (PPE — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/33)

Subject: Obstacles to the intra-Community art trade

1. The intra-Community art trade is being hampered by numerous and costly barriers.

For example, a German art dealer wishing to import a work of art from France faces the following obstacles:

- firstly, an export permit must be requested from the competent French authorities, which takes an average of three weeks,
- in addition, for works of art which are more than 20 years old and worth over FF 10 000, the authorization of the Arts Commission must be requested; this body convenes only once a week, involving a correspondingly longer delay;
- the dealer must select a forwarding agency approved by the French customs authorities to act as his customs agent and, in addition to the actual transport costs is charged for the following services: customs administration fees, carrier's fees, a handling commission, Chamber of Commerce fees, the cost of drawing up two export documents, customs inspection, insurance during storage and standard fees, all of which total approximately 3 % of the value of the item to be imported.

2. Chapter 99 of the Common Customs Tariff relates only to traditional techniques; modern techniques are excluded.

- A picture by Andy Warhol was classified for tariff purposes as a silk-screen;
 - sculptures by Claes, Oldenburg, Kienholz and Dieter Rot were classified, not as works of art, but on the basis of the materials used, and the corresponding customs duties and/or the full rate of value added tax were charged.
3. Not only are modern techniques excluded from the concessions granted under Chapter 99 of the Common Customs Tariff, which affects the rate of turnover tax at importation, but, while they are classified according to the material used, customs duties or taxes are charged according to criteria other than the trade value of the material;
- hence, while a work by Dan Flavin was classified according to the material used — neon tubes — under tariff No 85.20-31, for the purposes of customs duty and tax, the criterion applied was not the trade value of the three neon tubes, worth about DM 16, but the value of the object as a work of art, amounting to DM 18 200.

What measures does the Commission consider appropriate to ensure that existing obstacles are removed and that, in the art trade also, the necessary conditions for a European internal market are created?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1554/84

by Mrs Jessica Larive-Groenendaal (L — NL)
to the Commission of the European Communities
(8 January 1985)
(85/C 79/34)

Subject: Comparison of actual periods of absence through sickness for men and women

In the Netherlands, a study was recently carried out by the Central Statistical Office showing that, while female employees were absent more frequently and in greater numbers (%) than their male colleagues, they were nevertheless absent for fewer calendar days than men.

Despite this, women still have the reputation for a greater degree of absenteeism than men.

Does the Commission possess the above information, for example within the framework of positive action to be taken for women, which calls primarily for a change in attitude, and if not, will it immediately

carry out studies in this area and inform Parliament of the results, which should include:

comparative statistics from the Member States on:

- the frequency of absence through sickness,
- the percentage of absences,
- the average period of absence,
- the reasons for the absence (i.e. sickness of the employee or sickness of dependant insofar as legal provisions exist granting entitlement to 'nursing' leave,

classified according to

- sex,
- nature of the work (i.e. part-time or full time)?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1555/84

by Mr Hans-Joachim Seeler (S — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities
(8 January 1985)
(85/C 79/35)

Subject: Textile trade with Turkey

Turkey is continuing to subsidize its textile exports to the European Community to a considerable degree.

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to halt the steep increase in exports of textiles and clothing from Turkey to the Community at subsidized and sometimes dumping rates, particularly in the light of Turkey's refusal to negotiate an arrangement with the Community?
2. Does the Commission agree that the protection clause contained in the Association Agreement between the Community and Turkey, which is brought into force on an annual basis, is in practical terms proving unacceptable to the European textile industry and to other Mediterranean countries with which the Community has concluded agreements, since on each occasion Turkey has been able to take advantage of it to increase its own annual quota?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1556/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/36)

Subject: Coordination between European and national public services

1. What measures has the Commission taken to introduce a degree of coordination between the European and national public services in respect of remuneration, output, staff selection and staff training?
2. To what extent are secondments and exchanges between staff organized in one or other direction, and what relevant statistics and trends can the Commission give for each of the Member States?
3. Have any particular problems arisen within this context, and what measures has the Commission taken to solve these problems, where necessary by amending the Staff Regulations?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1557/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/37)

Subject: Commissioners' office staff

1. What general criteria apply to the recruitment and quality of Commissioners' office staff?
2. When the Commissioners' term of office comes to an end, do their office staff generally leave the Commission? If not, which members of the staff remain and what is the statistical proportion of those remaining?
3. What tasks are generally assigned to the office staff of former Commissioners? Has the Commission formulated a policy on this matter and was it done in consultation with staff representatives? Does it affect the careers of other officials, taking into account their measurable output?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1558/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/38)

Subject: Investigations initiated by written questions from Members of the European Parliament

1. In reply to my Written Question No 425/84 ⁽¹⁾ on the authorization of vehicles powered by gas in Belgium and France, the Commission indicated that it was only on commencing its inquiries in connection with my Written Question that it learned of the problems concerning procedures and legal provisions in one of these Member States. How does the Commission explain this?

Is this an area not covered by the EEC Treaty, is there a shortage of staff, or was this the result of a major oversight by Commission staff?

2. Is it general practice for Commission staff to examine and assess the legal and *de facto* situation in all the Member States for the area of inquiry concerned?
3. Have there been similar cases in which questions from Members of the European Parliament have directly initiated investigations with similar results and how many times does the Commission estimate that this occurs each year?

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 301, 12. 11. 1984, p. 5.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1559/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/39)

Subject: Dismantling of border controls between Member States

1. Can the Commission indicate how many of its staff are engaged more or less permanently in this area, covering identity checks and checks on freight, and can it give separate figures for each if possible?

Is this one of the Commission's main areas of activity?

2. Does the Commission know how many officials and other staff are engaged in this area in the individual Member States, and is it prepared to obtain this information if necessary?

3. Can the Commission provide regular information — figuring prominently in its annual report or in an appropriate alternative publication — concerning the specific changes, that is to say improvements and concessions which have been achieved each year concerning the relaxation of both identity controls and checks on freight at borders between Member States?

4. Does the Commission agree that the provision of such information would greatly contribute to increasing the awareness of the cooperation taking place in Europe among the individual citizens, many of whom travel across the borders?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1561/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/40)

Subject: Staff of the European Communities

1. Does the Commission have sufficient staff and does it consider that the other Community institutions have sufficient staff?

2. Does this apply to all career categories and if not, why not? What are the specific problems arising in connection with the categories concerned?

3. Has the Commission ensured that all Community institutions use a uniform recruitment policy and selection procedure? Is this an economical method?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1563/84

by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/41)

Subject: Diamond distribution system

Does the Commission think that the current distribution system for uncut diamonds operated by the Community's leading importer, the Diamond Trading Company, complies with the European Community's rules on competition?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1564/84

by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/42)

Subject: Mileage allowances

Will the Commission provide details of the mileage allowances paid to civil servants of the various Member States and of the Community who use their private cars for official purposes?

Are the mileage allowances paid in the private sector in the Member States comparable with those paid in the public sector?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1567/84

by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/43)

Subject: Imports of diamonds from India

What is the Commission's attitude to bulk imports of diamonds from India which are threatening jobs in the processing industry and retail trade?

Since diamonds do not receive preferential import treatment, will the Commission call for a reciprocal opening-up of the Indian market to imports?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1568/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/44)

Subject: Trouble-free intra-Community trade

1. In its answer to my Written Question No 465/84 7 August 1984 (1), the Commission informed me that it intended to send authorized officials on a more regular basis than hitherto to local customs offices and other administrative departments concerned in the Member States to make sure that intra-

(1) OJ No C 262, 1. 10. 1984, p. 15.

Community trade is moving smoothly at frontiers and that the rules are being correctly applied.

Can the Commission state how many officials have been sent on such missions since 7 August 1984 and with what results?

2. How many officials could have been sent had the Commission's staff levels been adequate?

How many additional posts have been requested for this purpose in the 1985 budget and how many have been approved?

3. What possibility does the Commission see of using for these duties officials from the Member States who are no longer needed as a result of the gradual reduction of border checks at internal frontiers between the Member States?

4. Has the Commission taken any steps to arrange assistance from the Member States on a contractual basis to cover inadequate staff levels in the Community institutions?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1569/84

by Mr Dieter Rogalla (S — D)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/45)

Subject: Use of a vehicle with a Luxembourg registration in Belgium — the case of Mr Paul van Durme (EP official)

1. Is the Commission familiar with the case of Mr Paul van Durme, whose wife was stopped and questioned for one and a half hours for driving a vehicle with a Luxembourg registration number in the region of Ghent and was subsequently questioned again at her home? They have been ordered to pay a fine of Bfrs 155 000 on the grounds that the car was fraudulently imported into Belgium.

Mrs van Durme was stopped a second time in November by the Flying Squad and taken to the customs offices.

2. How does the Commission propose to put a stop to the anomalies which are likely to have a very damaging effect on the image of European cooperation?

3. Does the Commission share my view that European citizens should be able to expect a flexible

approach at the highest level (if there is a suitable solution to the problem) which will make them feel part of a single community and also foster an economic climate in our countries favourable to the creation of a genuine common market?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1570/84

by Mr Alasdair Hutton (ED — GB)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/46)

Subject: Forestry publications

What forestry publications has the Commission undertaken since its policy review in 1979?

What programme of forestry publications has the Commission planned for the future?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1571/84

by Mr Alasdair Hutton (ED — GB)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/47)

Subject: Forestry policy

What obstacles does the Commission see to the implementation of a forestry policy in the European Community?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1572/84

by Mr Alasdair Hutton (ED — GB)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/48)

Subject: Wood production

In view of the foreseen world shortage of timber, what provision has been made by the Commission to increase the Community's forest area and wood production?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1575/84
by Mr Benjamin Visser (S — NL)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/49)

Subject: Border checks on rail transport

1. Is it true that, in connection with the international transport of goods by rail, wagons are often checked at the Community's internal frontiers, and that this can result in considerable delays? Can details be given of such checks (nature, scope, frequency, length of delay, etc.)?

2. If the first part of question 1 is answered in the affirmative, does this not make the railways less attractive for the transport of goods than other modes of transport? What measures have been or are being considered by the Commission in order to reduce such delays to a minimum?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1576/84
by Mr Benjamin Visser (S — NL)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/50)

Subject: Discriminatory practices in maritime transport

What action does the Commission intend to take against the British shipping line which grants United Kingdom passport holders and residents special prices to travel as ships' passengers which are 50 to 70 % less than the cost for other Community citizens?

Example: a passage with the QE2 (Cunard Line) to New York: normal price in England approximately £ 800, in Belgium and Germany approximately DM 5 000; the special price for United Kingdom residents is £ 400.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1577/84
by Mr Benjamin Visser (S — NL)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/51)

Subject: Passenger services in the air transport sector

What action does the Commission intend to take in the face of the refusal by a national airline to accept

bookings and issue tickets for flights with another airline that does not have a permanent office in the country of destination?

Example: A flight Brussels—Stanstead by UK Air: no reservation possible in Brussels, Sabena refuses to provide information, accept reservations and issue tickets.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1578/84
by Mr Louis Eyraud (S — F)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/52)

Subject: Horsemeat

The consumption of horsemeat in the Community is around 100 000 tonnes. Production was only 55 000 tonnes in 1983 and will drop by a further 10 % in 1984.

The bulk of imports come from the Eastern bloc countries and South America and arrive in the Community in the form of living animals which either have to cross Europe by rail or the Atlantic Ocean by ship in conditions that are of such a nature that they arrive exhausted and their meat is not without risk to the consumer.

What measures does the Commission intend to propose in order to support Community producers who have experienced a slump in prices in recent months?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1580/84
by Mrs Elise Boot (PPE — NL)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/53)

Subject: Free movement of payments — consequences of the Luisi and Carbone Judgment

By Judgment of 31 January 1984 of the Court of Justice in joined Cases 286/82 and 26/83, the Luisi

and Carbone Judgment, the Court laid down criteria for the assessment of national measures impeding the free movement of foreign currency and payments between the Member States.

1. Does the Commission share the view that this Judgment contained some rather fundamental rulings about the free movement of payments such as are comparable with the rather fundamental rulings contained in the Cassis Judgment with regard to the free movement of goods?
2. Does it share the view that it would be desirable to put out a communication to the Member States on the consequences of the Luisi and Carbone judgment?
3. If so, would it spell out in this communication exactly what restrictions on payments imposed by the Member States should be eliminated?
4. When could a possible communication on the consequences of the Luisi and Carbone Judgment be expected?
5. Lastly, is the Commission examining national measures that restrict the movement of payments between countries? And, has it instituted infringement procedures against Member States for contravention of Article 106 of the EEC Treaty? If so, against which Member States?
6. What does it think of the fact that, according to a report in the *Financial Times* of 1 December 1984, restrictions still apply in Italy to tourists wishing to take with them more than 700 ECU per trip in foreign currency?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1581/84

by Mrs Elise Boot (PPE — NL)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)

(85/C 79/54)

Subject: Free movement of goods after the Vinchlozolin Judgment

By Judgment of 18 September 1984 of the Court of Justice in the Vinchlozolin case (Case No 94/83), the Court stated in recital 16 that 'in so far as certain pesticides are not covered by Community legislation, the Member States may lay down rules relating to the presence of residues of such pesticides which may vary from country to country depending on the climate, staple diet and state of health of the population'.

As the Court has not indicated how the authorities in the importing country are to take account of the above factors in their legislation, there remain questions of interpretation such as:

- how can the importing country assess sound agricultural practice in the exporting country where this is dependent on the climate?
- what is meant by staple diet?
- what is meant by the state of health of the population?

This is also important in regard to recital 14 of the Judgment, which states that this power vested in the Member States is limited by the last sentence of Article 236 of the EEC Treaty?

In recital 18, the Court ruled that 'the authorities in the importing Member State are required to review the established maximum quantity if it becomes apparent to them that the grounds on which it was established have been modified, for example, where a new use is discovered for a specific pesticide'.

The situation outlined above seems to require disproportionately cumbersome administrative procedures which must in themselves be considered as being at variance with the principle of the free movement of goods.

1. How does the Commission interpret recitals 16 and the factors mentioned therein?
 2. Does it share the view that recital 18 must be interpreted in the sense that the Member States are also required to review the maximum established quantity in order to allow the import of foodstuffs and beverages lawfully produced and marketed in other Member States, where such products do not constitute a health hazard in the importing country?
 3. Is it prepared to oversee and guarantee that Member States implement the requirement mentioned in recital 18 in such a way as to avoid disproportionately cumbersome administrative procedures which must for these very reasons in themselves be considered as contravening the principle of the free movement of goods?
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WRITTEN QUESTION No 1583/84
by Mrs Elise Boot (PPE — NL)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/55)

Subject: Legislation on pesticide residues in the Member States

1. Can the Commission state whether there exists in all Member States legislation governing pesticide residues on foodstuffs and beverages? If not, which Member States do not have such legislation?
2. Can it provide a summary of the relevant legislation currently in force in the Member States, showing the appropriate reference and the most recent date of amendment?
3. Does the legislation referred to under paragraph 2 above relate to the same categories of foodstuffs and beverages?
4. Can the Commission indicate to what extent the letter of the law is applied to foodstuffs and beverage imported from other Member States?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1589/84
by Mr Sergio Pininfarina (L — I)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/56)

Subject: Authorization of a United Kingdom Government subsidy to a Japanese undertaking

In February of this year, the Commission instituted proceedings under Article 93 (2) of the EEC Treaty with respect to a plan which had been submitted to it by the United Kingdom Government for the installation at Worcester of an automated factory owned by the Japanese undertaking Yamazaki. The United Kingdom Government decided to grant a subsidy of more than £ 5 million for the construction of a plant which would manufacture numerically controlled lathes and 'machining centres'.

On 18 July, the Commission acknowledged that this financial aid constituted a distortion of competition, but established that the plan might be eligible for a derogation within the meaning of Article 92 (3) of the

Treaty, in that the plant would afford an opportunity for a transfer of advanced technology from which the entire machine tools sector in the EEC could benefit.

Given that the factory in question would use a form of technology which has in fact already been tested in numerous European production plants, from which it differs solely in terms of size,

1. on that technical factors did the Commission base its assumption that the planned Worcester plant would introduce a new form of technology into the Community?
2. How does the Commission intend to guarantee that Yamazaki will make the technology used at Worcester 'permanently accessible to European undertakings for the purposes of demonstration and dissemination' (1)?

(1) Quoted from the letter dated 27 July 1984 from Frans Andriessen, Member of the Commission, to the European Committee for Cooperation of the Machine Tool Industries.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1669/84
by Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (S — B), Mr Rudi Arndt and Mr Fritz Gautier (S — D)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(10 January 1985)
 (85/C 79/57)

Subject: Fisheries fraud

Evidence has recently come to light of large-scale fraud involving the registration of catches in fishmarkets in the Netherlands; the purpose of this fraud was to circumvent the national quota which became fully operative for the first time in 1984.

Can the Commission indicate the scale of the overfishing which has occurred as a result and the extent of the damage to fish stocks in the North Sea?

Does the Commission know of similar practices in other Member States?

What action has the Commission taken against the Netherlands and what steps does it intend to take? What surveillance measures will the Commission propose in order to put a stop to the environmentally harmful practice of overfishing?

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1671/84

by Mr Karel De Gucht (L — B), Mr Jørgen Nielsen (L — DK) and Mrs Jessica Larive-Groenendaal (L — NL)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(10 January 1985)

(85/C 79/58)

Subject: Outcome of the International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea held in Bremen on 31 October and 1 November 1984

Noting with satisfaction the holding of the first meeting of the International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea,

Regretting, however, that the final declaration is in no way binding and is restricted to a purely formal list of intentions,

1. Can the Commission say what negotiating mandate it received for the purpose of this conference?
2. In particular, what proposals are referred to when mention is made in the declaration of the Commission's participation in measures to reduce pollution of telluric origin?
3. Can the Commission explain the significance of the term 'special zone' which may possibly confer special status upon the North Sea?
4. Can the Commission explain why, for this purpose, the coastal States have not agreed to draw up a general convention on the protection of the North Sea?

5. Can the Commission indicate what action is to be taken with the International Maritime Committee in order to introduce a compulsory declaration scheme for ships transporting dangerous and radioactive substances?
6. Does the Commission intend to take measures, in accordance with the declaration, to introduce a joint programme of inspection and surveillance together with the bodies set up under the Oslo Convention, which confers observer status on the Community, and under the Paris Convention, to which it is a co-signatory?
7. Can the Commission explain how the decisions taken in Bremen can be implemented, since no deadline has been fixed, no precise terms of reference given, no controls envisaged and no date fixed for the next conference.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 1674/84

by Mr Patrick Lalor (RDE — IRL)

to the Commission of the European Communities

(10 January 1985)

(85/C 79/59)

Subject: European charter on the rights of patients

What progress is the Commission making in drawing up proposals for a European charter on the rights of hospital patients as proposed and requested by the European Parliament last January?