



PRESS RELEASE

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EUROPE'S PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE GUESTS OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, DC -- October 26 -- A delegation from the Parliament of the European Community (EC) arrives in Washington Sunday, October 28 for a series of meetings with Congressional and Executive Branch leaders -- the second such visit by an EC delegation to the Congress.

The 16 member delegation, led by its Chairman Pierre Cousté, will be here as guests of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The coming sessions, the fourth official exchange between representatives of Congress and the Parliament, were organized by Rep. Benjamin S. Rosenthal, (D-NY), chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe and Rep. Donald M. Fraser, (D-Minn.), chairman of the Subcommittee on International Organizations and Movements. In May, a Congressional delegation visited the Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

The parliamentarians will meet with members of Congress Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings, to present, hear, and discuss papers covering a broad selection of subjects affecting US-European relations, including developing countries, energy matters, international trade in agricultural commodities, and multinational corporations. The discussions will be closed to the public except for an open plenary session on Wednesday, October 31 at 11:30 AM in Room 2172 of Rayburn Building, where the discussions will be summarized and a joint communique issued.



During the afternoons of October 29-31, the European delegation will meet with Cabinet and White House officials, including Secretary of the Treasury George P. Shultz, Assistant to the President for International Economic Affairs Peter Flanigan, Under Secretary of State William J. Casey, Secretary of Commerce Frederick B. Dent, and Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz.

The European Parliament is composed of 198 members who are also elected members of their national legislatures. They are nominated to the European Parliament by their own legislatures. The headquarters of the Parliament is in Luxembourg and meets there and in Strasbourg.

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Biographical data on the delegation members are attached.



ANNEX

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF THE PARLEMENTARIANS
(European Parliament's Delegation)

Pierre-Bernard COUSTE

Born 1920, Rochefort-sur-Mer, France. Chairman of the Delegation, he has been a member of Parliament since 1967, belonging to the European Democratic Union Group. He is Chairman of the Committee for the Association with Greece and Vice Chairman of the Committee for the Association with Turkey.

A lawyer and specialist in foreign trade, he has been a member of the French National Assembly since 1962.

Jan BAAS

Born 1917, Wedde, the Netherlands. He has been a member of Parliament since 1963, belonging to the Liberal and Allied Group. He is Vice Chairman of the Parliamentary Conference of the Community's Associated African States and Madagascar.

An agricultural engineer specializing in economics, he has been a member of the Netherlands' First Chamber of States-General since 1960.

Renato BALLARDINI

Born 1927, Riva del Garda (Trento), Italy. He has been a member of the Parliament since 1969, belonging to the Socialist Group.

A lawyer, he has been a member of Italy's Chamber of Deputies since 1958.

Ludwig FELLERMAIER

Born 1930, Vienna, Austria. He has been a member of Parliament for Germany since 1968, belonging to the Socialist Group. He is Vice Chairman of the Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar. He has been a member of the German Parliament since 1965.

Roger HOUDET

Born 1899, Angers, France. He has been a member of Parliament since 1968, belonging to the Liberal and Allied Group. An agricultural engineer, he is Chairman of the Committee on agriculture.

He has been a member of the French Senate since 1952 and is former Mayor of Luneray.

Hans Edgar JAHN

Born 1914, Neustettin, Pomerania. He has been a member of Parliament for Germany since 1970, belonging to the Christian Democratic Group.

A Doctor of Political Science, author, and publisher, he has been a member of the German Parliament since 1965.

Peter Michael KIRK

Born 1928, England. He became a member of Parliament this year and is Chairman of the European Conservative Group. A former journalist, he was a member of the House of Commons from 1955 to 1964 to which he was again elected in 1965. Earlier he was Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Defense for the Navy (1970-72) and for the Army (1964).

Erwin LANGE

Born 1914, Essen, Germany. He has been a member of Parliament since 1970, belonging to the Socialist Group. He is Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee and has been a member of the German Parliament since 1949.

Silvio LEONARDI

Born 1914, Turin, Italy. He has been a member of Parliament since 1969, belonging to no group. A lawyer and engineer, he has been a member of Italy's Chamber of Deputies since 1963.

Christian de la MALENE

Born 1920, Nimes, France. He was a member of Parliament from 1959 to 1961 and to which he was reappointed in 1962, belonging to the European Democratic Union Group.

A sociologist, he has been a member of each National Assembly since 1958 and was Minister of Information, 1961-1962.

Wilhelmus J. SCHULJT

Born 1909, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. A member of Parliament since 1958, he belongs to the Christian Democratic Group. A Doctor of Philosophy and Letters and former journalist, he has been a member of the Netherlands' First Chamber of States-General since 1971 and from 1956-71 was a member of the Second Chamber of States-General.

Gerd SPRINGORUM

Born 1911, Halberstadt, Germany. A member of Parliament since 1966, he belongs to the Christian Democratic Group. He is Chairman of the Committee on Energy, Research, and Atomic Problems.

A mining engineer, he has been a member of the German Parliament since 1965.

Knud THOMSEN

Born 1908, Aalborg, Denmark. He became a member of Parliament this year and is Vice Chairman of the European Conservative Group and of the Committee on External Economic Relations.

A Danish industrialist, he has been a member of the Danish Parliament since 1960 and was Minister of Commerce from 1968 to 1972.

Francis VALS

Born 1910, Leucate, France. He has been a member of Parliament since 1958. He is Chairman of the Socialist Group and Vice Chairman of the Parliamentary Conference of the Community's Associated African States and Madagascar.

He has been a member of the French National Assembly since 1951 and is former Mayor of Narbonne.

Mario VETRONE

Born 1914, Venevento, Italy. A member of Parliament since 1969, he belongs to the Christian Democratic Group. A Doctor of Mathematics and Physics, he has been a member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies since 1948 and was Secretary of State for agriculture (1954-58), for labor and social welfare (1969-70), for external trade (1966-68), and for finance (1963-66).

Joseph WOHLFART

Born 1920, Helmdange, Luxembourg. He has been a member of Parliament since 1964, belonging to the Socialist Group. He was Vice President of the European Parliament from 1965-71.

He has been a member of Luxembourg's Chamber of Deputies since 1954 and is former Mayor of Lorentzweiler.

