

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1976 - 1977

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ORAL QUESTION (0-79/76)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

by Mr COUSTE, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject : / Crisis in the Community iron and steel industry

1975 saw a crisis in the Community iron and steel industry unparalleled since the war, and this year (1976) orders received by French undertakings and the majority of those received in the ECSC have dropped to the lowest level recorded in 1974

1. Since the Commission is aware of these circumstances, and their effects on employment and the financial situation of undertakings, does it intend to take any action ?
2. Can it state whether it has discovered major distortions of competition between the main steel-producing industrialized countries ?

3. Does it feel that in the present circumstances the mechanisms introduced after the war and based on the Treaty of Paris and GATT, are still appropriate ?
4. The Commission is planning to introduce a series of internal Community measures. Does it intend to supplement its programme by measures to protect the countries on the periphery of the Community market ?
5. Does the Commission agree that none of the measures now being devised will be fully effective unless they are coordinated with world-wide action by the governments of the steel-producing countries ?