

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (0-28/79)

with debate pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

by Mr PRANCHERE, Mr PIQUET, Mr MAFFRE-BAUGE, Mrs LE ROUX, Mr GREMETZ, Mrs DE MARCH and Mr Maurice MARTIN to the Council of the European Communities

Subject: Draft Community regulation on sheepmeat

The draft regulation on sheepmeat drawn up by the Commission of the European Communities would have the effect of reducing by 30% to 40% the selling price of sheepmeat in France and of increasing France's trade deficit in sheep products.

But for the determined stand taken by the French sheep-producers' organizations, the Council of Ministers would undoubtedly have adopted the draft as it stood on 20 June 1979. The Council must be aware that, had it been adopted, the consequences would have been extremely grave for sheep farmers in several Community countries, particularly in France.

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Would the Council not agree, therefore, on the urgent need to reject firmly this draft regulation and consider measures that would:

1. assure the small and medium-sized sheep farms of guaranteed prices and an income consistent with national production costs;
2. impose levies on all imports of sheepmeat and put a stop to the deflections of trade, with particular reference to imports of live animals from third countries;
3. ensure that the burden of the cost of aid to producers in other European countries is no longer borne by the French consumer?