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ORAL QUESTION (0-80/82)

with debate pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure
by Mrs J. HOFFMAN, Mrs DE MARCH, Mr FRISCHMANN, Mr PIQUET,
Mr DAMETTE and Mr FERNANDEZ
to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Employment, qualifications, competitiveness
and research in the motor vehicle industry

In view of the motor vehicle industry's current problems, which are chiefly caused by the increasing number of motor vehicles imported from Japan and other third countries, would the Commission indicate what might be the main features of an effective trade policy designed to impose greater restrictions on such imports in order to afford greater protection to the Member States' domestic markets and to help their employment situation?

Would the Commission state its views on the features which an industrial policy for the motor vehicle sector ought to embody for it to be capable of generating productive employment in every country of the Community? Does the Commission agree that the introduction of robots and 'flexible workshops' and the general principle of encouraging technological progress in production processes, especially in the context of global growth, are important factors both

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in improving competitiveness, and in creating employment, particularly skilled employment? And do such trends not also greatly encourage the development of industrial democracy?

What action does the Commission intend to take, in terms of industrial policy or financial measures, to help Member States' research and development efforts in this sector?