

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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ORAL QUESTION (0-117/77)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure by Mr CALEWAERT, Lord MURRAY of GRAVESEND, Mr BAYERL, Mr HOFFMANN, Mr ADAMS and Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Legal policy of the European Communities

For some time the Commission has not been making much headway with its initiatives in the field of legal policy. There is, however, a great need for progress to be made with regard to legal policy at this time to ensure balanced integration and to back up policy in other fields. In addition, with the imminence of direct elections to the European Parliament and enlargement of the European Community, some consolidation is needed in legal policy.

We therefore ask the Commission:

I. What stage has work reached in the field of

1. Enforcement law
 - (a) bankruptcy and composition law
 - (b) the liquidation of direct insurance companies

2. Civil law and consumer protection
 - (a) protection against improper clauses in agreements with consumers
 - (b) consumer credit agreements and instalment financing business
 - (c) law on guarantees
 - (d) standardization of international private law in the field of the law of contract
 - (e) standardization of international private law in the field of the law of property

3. Law on securities
 - itinerant sales of securities

4. Industrial property, law against unfair competition and law of copyright
 - (a) trademark law
 - (b) employees' inventions
 - (c) the law against unfair competition
 - (d) law of copyright

5. Company law
 - (a) the fifth, eighth, ninth and tenth directives on company law
 - (b) trans-frontier mergers of limited companies

6. Insurance law?

II. On what points does the Commission intend to concentrate when examining special rights for the citizens of the Member States?

III. How might the cooperation of government experts in the preliminary work for the Commission's preliminary drafts in the field of legal policy be intensified and accelerated?

IV. Can the Commission describe the procedure for the issuing of legal acts involving legislation on the approximation of laws, from the stage of preparation to adoption by the Council, giving typical examples of the time required to complete the procedure and, if possible, suggesting ways of shortening it?