

# 'What are the results of the Common Market's stepping up its pace?' from Communauté européenne (October 1960)

**Caption:** In October 1960, the monthly publication Communauté européenne reviews the application of the measures adopted on 12 May 1960 by the Council of Ministers with a view to accelerating the implementation of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community (EEC).

**Source:** Communauté européenne. Bulletin mensuel d'information. dir. de publ. Fontaine, François. Octobre 1960, n° 10; 4e année. Paris: Service d'information des Communautés Européennes. "Où en est l'accélération du Marché commun?", p. 4.

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**Last updated:** 05/07/2016

## What are the results of the Common Market's stepping up its pace?

Here is everything you need to know about the work which the Commission of the European Economic Community, its executive body, has been doing to accelerate the pace of economic integration in Europe.

When, last spring, the EEC Council, in response to a Commission proposal, took measures to step up the pace of implementation of the Treaty's provisions on the customs union, in particular with regard to the abolition of customs duties and quotas, and the introduction of a common external tariff, it also undertook to move ahead more quickly in all other sectors relating to economic integration. The Council then invited the Commission to come up with specific proposals for these various sectors.

That was four months ago. To what extent have those words been translated into deeds? Our readers will find the answer to that question in the summary below. They will realise that all the proposals and recommendations put forward in many areas by the Commission since May and the measures adopted by the Council constitute a highly important facet of the policy to achieve economic integration in Europe.

In the next few months, the Commission intends to pursue its activities along those lines.

### Workers' rights

- The Commission has proposed to the Council a number of Directives on the free movement of workers in the Community.
- The EEC has submitted to the six Member States its recommendations for the implementation of Treaty provisions on equal pay for men and women.
- The Commission has forwarded to certain Member States a number of recommendations on accelerated vocational training with a view to facilitating the mobility of workers from Italy, where high unemployment persists, to Member States, such as Germany and the Netherlands, where a shortage of labour is curbing economic expansion. In the next few weeks, the Commission will be submitting to the Council a Communication on the problems of vocational training of a more general nature.
- The EEC is drawing up proposals designed to benefit certain categories of workers whose problems have yet to be resolved, such as border workers and seasonal workers, in addition to provisions on social security cover for migrant workers.

### Competition

- The Council has approved the Commission's proposals for the rapid resolution of problems arising from the application of Treaty provisions on countervailing charges on imports and export refunds.
- The Commission does not want the establishment of the Common Market to be hampered in the area of competition by disparities between the Member States' legal systems or tax regimes. In order to forestall such an outcome, the Commission is drawing up a programme designed to align Member State legislation and an additional programme for the harmonisation of sales and turnover taxes. Both programmes will be submitted next year to the Council of the six Member States.

### Transport

- The Commission has stressed the enormous importance it attaches to the development of transport infrastructure able to accommodate the creation of the EEC and the requirements of the Common Market. The EEC has devised an overall plan and has defined the priorities of the work to be carried out by the various EEC Member States.

– The Commission is pursuing its review of measures to be taken with a view to the elimination of certain forms of discrimination in the area of pricing and conditions for goods transport, and is looking into the common rules to be laid down for international transport.

– The Commission has referred to the Council a number of problems concerning the procedures to be applied in determining the cost price of transport and in establishing a uniform nomenclature of goods.

### **Freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services**

– In the wake of its plan to abolish restrictions on freedom of establishment in the Common Market, the Commission has sent to the Council its proposals for a general programme to eliminate restrictions on freedom to provide services.

### **Agreements**

– Before the end of this year, the Commission will be submitting to the Council an initial regulation on agreements in the Common Market.

### **Overseas countries**

– In the next few weeks, the Commission will be forwarding to the Council its proposals for ensuring that the association of overseas countries will continue for those countries that have attained independence or will shortly do so.