

Commission Opinion on the applications for accession to the EC by Denmark, Ireland, Norway and the United Kingdom (19 January 1972)

Caption: On 19 January 1972, the European Commission delivers a favourable opinion in response to applications from Denmark, Ireland, Norway and the United Kingdom for membership of the European Communities.

Source: Documents concerning the accessions to the European Communities of the Kingdom of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic. Volume II. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 1987. 693 p. ISBN 92-77-19294-1.

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Commission Opinion of 19 January 1972 on the applications for accession to the European Communities by the Kingdom of Denmark, Ireland, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to Article 98 of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, Article 237 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and Article 205 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community;

Whereas the Kingdom of Denmark, Ireland, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have applied to become members of these Communities;

Whereas in its Opinions of 29 September 1967 and 1 October 1969 the Commission has already been able to express its views on certain essential aspects of the problems arising in connection with these applications;

Whereas the terms for the admission of these States and the adjustments necessitated by their accession have been negotiated in a Conference between the Communities and the applicant States; and whereas singleness of Community representation was ensured with due regard for the institutional dialogue provided for by the Treaties;

Whereas, on the completion of these negotiations, it is apparent that the provisions so agreed are fair and proper; and whereas, this being so, the Community's enlargement, while preserving its internal cohesion and dynamism, will enable it to take a fuller part in the development of international relations;

Whereas in joining the Communities the applicant States accept without reserve the Treaties and their political objectives, all decisions taken since their entry into force, and the action that has been agreed in respect of the development and reinforcement of the Communities;

Whereas it is an essential feature of the legal system set up by the Treaties establishing the Communities that certain of their provisions and certain acts of the Community institutions are directly applicable, that Community law takes precedence over any national provisions conflicting with it, and that procedures exist for ensuring the uniform interpretation of this law; and whereas accession to the Communities entails recognition of the binding force of these rules, observance of which is indispensable to guarantee the effectiveness and unity of Community law,

HEREBY DELIVERS A FAVOURABLE OPINION

on the accession to the European Communities of the Kingdom of Denmark, Ireland, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This Opinion is addressed to the Council.

Brussels, 19 January 1972

For the Commission

The President

Franco M. MALFATTI