

ORAL QUESTION H-0767/00

for Question Time at the part-session in October I 2000

pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure

by Ioannis Theonas

to the Commission

Subject: Immediate need to strengthen the European shipbuilding industry

Over the last few years the European shipbuilding industry has faced very serious problems, having lost a very large share of the market. The situation is progressively deteriorating, since a very large portion of vessels today are built by the Japanese and South Korean shipbuilding industries which receive significant orders, including many from European operators. The grave crisis affecting the traditional shipbuilding sector, especially in southern Europe, has led to the suspension of activities at many plants, making hundreds of thousands of persons unemployed.

Bearing in mind that the Community policies implemented during all these years are chiefly responsible for the slump in, and destruction of, the production capacity of European shipbuilding industry, will the Commission say whether it draws any conclusions from these policies and their consequences? Does it intend to promote specific measures to support and strengthen the European shipbuilding and repair sector, bearing in mind that it is promoting a series of directives will generate increased demand in this sector (double hull tankers, etc.)?

Tabled: 21.09.2000

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