

ORAL QUESTION H-0849/00

for Question Time at the part-session in November 2000

pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure

by Ioannis Theonas

to the Commission

Subject: Tax on fuel

The oil crisis which is still unfolding is having multiple adverse effects both on the economies of EU Member States and on the standards of living of various sectors of the population: workers, farmers, professionals and transporters. In addition to the rise in the international price of crude oil in US dollars, the effects of the galloping increase in the exchange rate of the dollar and the undervaluation of the euro in the international markets are making the crisis more severe. In Greece the situation is even worse, because of the fact that in addition to the already high special consumption tax on fuel, VAT is also imposed, not only on the added value of petrol and oil but also on the special consumption tax. This double taxation represents an added burden of 8% on the final price for the consumer. Does the Commission not consider that it is unacceptable to impose a tax upon a tax? What measures does it intend to take with regard to this issue?

Tabled: 26.10.2000

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