

ORAL QUESTION H-0325/01
for Question Time at the part-session in May 2001
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Per Gahrton
to the Council

Subject: Euro Council

Despite earlier Council decisions that the preparatory talks held prior to ECOFIN meetings between ministers from the 12 euro countries would be completely informal and that only euro-related issues would be discussed, the signs are increasing that such talks are becoming formalised to resemble a 'euro Council' and, in practice, by taking preliminary decisions on a range of ecofin issues, are taking over real power from ECOFIN. Belgium, in particular, has put forward proposals for 'developing' the informal euro Council. In view of this situation, what steps will the Council take to put an end to all attempts contrary to the Treaty to formalise a 'euro Council' and gradually transfer ECOFIN's powers to such a Council?

Tabled: 22.03.2001
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