ORAL QUESTION H-0819/02 for Question Time at the part-session in December 2002 pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure by Enrico Ferri to the Commission

Subject: Application in the Member States of European standard EN 1317 on road safety barriers

Is the Commission aware of the barrier to intra-Community trade caused by the failure on the part of the United Kingdom, Ireland, Germany and Italy to apply standard EN 1317 on the production, in accordance with precise Community standards, of road safety barriers? As things stand at present firms from other Member States are excluded from the award of public contracts for the supply of barriers which comply with the Community standard introduced by EN 1317 and Community road safety standards are thus not being respected.

If it is aware of this, can the Commission say what kind of action it intends to take in the interests of road safety and the internal market in goods, which is thus being seriously jeopardised, since manufacturers who comply with Community legislation are excluded from the market? If it is not already aware of the problem, can the Commission assure Parliament that it will tackle the issue as a matter of urgency and will come back to Parliament with an appropriate action plan as soon as possible?

Tabled: 02.12.2002

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