

Commercial Policy

At present, import licences and other trade restrictions are routinely used by Spain, e.g. embargo on Canadian fish, to stabilize supply and as bargaining tools with trading partners. Spain will have, perhaps progressively, to abandon the use of such instruments.

On the positive side, commercial prospects are good, especially for the Community, but Spanish exporters will also gain by better access to the canned tuna and sardine markets of EEC countries.

The alignment of Spanish tariffs with the CCT implies liberalization of trade on its part. How this liberalization will affect third countries isn't known.

Structural Policy

The Community has a great interest in the rationalization of the Spanish fleet. The Spanish industry can expect to benefit from financial assistance under the CFP settlement of 1983 on structural projects. In accession discussions, Spain was seeking recognition of the particular dependence of several of its regions upon fisheries and claiming, on this basis, entitlement to the higher rate of financial contribution made by FEOGA to projects in priority regions. The budgetary implications of extending the Community's structural policy to Spain are certain to be closely scrutinized. As in the Ten, there will continue to be a role for national aid schemes in Spain after accession. But it will be necessary to ensure that such aids are in conformity with the EEC Treaty.

IX. ACCESSION OF PORTUGAL TO THE COMMUNITY

Portuguese accession raises some problems concerning access but they are not insurmountable. Portugal will bring into the Community a vast fishery zone in the Atlantic, covering 1.6 million square kilometres and with a potential sustainable yield of around 500,000 tonnes or ten per cent of the catches of the Community of Ten. Portugal's fishing fleet, consisting mainly of small craft, many without motors, is not in a position to exploit fully these resources. Portuguese catches in all waters are presently around 265,000 tonnes (see table 1.2).