

INFORMAL COOPERATION

Informal cooperation actually means that you use the opportunity to look thoroughly for ways to reach agreement with the other parties - before falling out in public.

The Council and the Commission came every Wednesday in any case, to explain their reports before Parliament. Therefore, I introduced the practice of inviting the Presidents of the Council and the Commission and their Chefs de cabinet to lunch each time. So this happened at each plenary session in Strasbourg. This was an opportunity to discuss informally all the problems we had on our minds, and some surprising common results emerged.

The informal meeting generally meant that disputes between the Council, the Commission and the Parliament did not arise in the first place.