

Interview with Paul-Henri Spaak (14 July 1965)

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[Paul-Henri Spaak] Bilateral talks are taking place at the moment. Everyone is getting together. Everyone is meeting. Everyone is talking in an attempt better to understand each other's positions.

[Journalist] Are some positions right and others wrong?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] I have never held this viewpoint. There are many different viewpoints, some of which I approve and others of which I do not.

[Journalist] In your opinion, Minister, will France be represented in Brussels on 26 July?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] That is a question for Mr Couve de Murville.

[Journalist] Is the crisis likely to be drawn out, Minister, very, very drawn out?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] I don't think that there will be any quick fixes, no.

[Journalist] In your opinion, therefore, how much time will it take to repair Europe?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] Well, I think that, inevitably, the Commission will take action and this will be the first truly new element to come into play in addition to all the bilateral talks that have been taking place.

[Journalist] Do you believe that the solution could come from the Commission?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] No, not straight away.

[Journalist] Are you insinuating, as you appear to be, that theoretically France is in the right in this conflict?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] I think that in ... that France's position is justified on several points, yes.

[Journalist] Do you believe that France's position is still intransigent today?

[Paul-Henri Spaak] I'm not even sure that France's position was intransigent on 30 June.