Question for written answer E-001977/2024 to the Commission Rule 144 Nicolás González Casares (S&D)

Subject: AI and energy consumption

The EU is a pioneer in regulating artificial intelligence. However, although the legislation itself warns of the energy required by this technology, it does not include provisions on this aspect of its development. AI requires significant quantities of energy to function and the International Energy Agency estimates that the total demand from the use of artificial intelligence and data centres could double between 2022 and 2026. Big companies with investments in AI are trying to buy zero-emission electricity at above-market rates to obtain decarbonised electricity.

In view of this:

- 1. Has the Commission carried out any evaluations of the development of electricity use, and specifically of zero-emission electricity, in AI technology and its effects on climate goals, or of energy efficiency and of renewables in the EU?
- 2. In light of the fact that this unchecked development could put the provision of zeroemission electricity to citizens and other industries at risk, what steps will the Commission take to tackle this issue?

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