

Question for written answer E-000167/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Protecting EU citizens from rising gas prices

The Market Correction Mechanism (MCM), came into being as a response to the energy crisis, exacerbated by geopolitical tensions, in order to prevent supply disruptions, is due to expire at the end of January 2025.

The MCM has been key to helping to keep down energy prices for consumers within a permissible period. Without this facility, there is a risk that from the end of January 2025 the public will once again face unaffordable gas prices. The first indication of this came when Ukraine decided not to extend the agreement on the transit of gas from the Russian Federation to Europe, and the price of gas in Europe rose above EUR 50/MWh, the highest since 2023.

Since an increase in the price of gas will inevitably also lead to an increase in the price of electricity, this will have a direct and lasting impact on energy affordability, security and sustainability for citizens across the Union. Given these circumstances, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What concrete measures will it take to ensure that energy remains affordable, especially for vulnerable populations?
2. How can the public be assured that with the expiry of the MCM they will not face the same difficulties as before, and what alternative solutions is the Commission proposing to ensure fair and stable gas prices for citizens regardless of market conditions?

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