

**Question for written answer E-001003/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: War: high petrol prices and protecting the road transport sector

As a result of the rise in raw material costs, compounded by the war in Ukraine, petrol and diesel prices in the EU have hit record highs. In Italy, for example, they have now reached EUR 2.2 and EUR 2.1 per litre respectively, having increased by 70 cents (i.e. 50%) in just one year.

Tax accounts for half of the price per litre in Italy, where the excise duty on diesel is 63 cents and on petrol is 73 cents. A VAT rate of 22 % is also applied to all pricing components, excise duties included. There are now 70 000 HGVs that are out of use because of the price increases, putting food supplies throughout Italy at risk.

Given that many European sectors depend on road transport, can the Commission say:

1. Whether it will amend current legislation to introduce a maximum excise duty rate for each Member State?
2. What measures it will take to support the Member States most affected by the drop in oil imports from Russia?
3. Whether it will adopt a single European trading mechanism to establish uniform prices for the main raw materials in the EU?