

**Question for written answer E-002040/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: High energy prices and the functioning of EU energy markets

In his speech at the closing ceremony of the COTEC summit in Coimbra, Mario Draghi stressed that high energy prices, combined with the weaknesses of the energy network, are ‘a threat to the survival of our industry, a major obstacle to our competitiveness and an unbearable burden for our households, and, if not addressed, the major threat to our decarbonisation strategy’.

One of the key measures suggested by Draghi, alongside a vast, European-level investment plan to build the networks and interconnectors needed to support the penetration of renewable energy, is action to ‘reform how our energy market operates, working to loosen the link between the prices of gas and renewables’. Draghi had the following to say about this issue: ‘it is disheartening to see how Europe has become hostage to consolidated special interests. The European Commission, which has already created a taskforce on transparency, may also want to launch an independent investigation into the overall functioning of EU energy markets’.

Given the above:

Does the Commission intend to open such an investigation to assess the effectiveness and transparency of energy markets and, if necessary, consider alternative market design options?

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