

**Question for written answer E-004217/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Common interfaces and protocols for automatic control of electrical appliances

Fluctuating electricity prices and the increased electrification of transport and of households are creating both challenges and opportunities for consumers, producers and the energy system as a whole. There are now a variety of – often proprietary – solutions to control electricity consumption. However, the lack of a common standard for software and requirements for interfaces means that integration across devices and systems is either impossible or costly and unmanageable for both citizens and businesses.

A pan-European standardised software or protocol requirement for the control of large electric appliances (such as electric cars, heat pumps, water heaters, washing machines and photovoltaic systems) could make it possible to automatically ensure that electricity is used at times when supply is cheapest and most climate-friendly. This would be financially beneficial for consumers, boost grid stability and support the green transition.

1. Can the Commission provide an assessment of the positive consequences of introducing a pan-European standard for interfaces and protocols that can automatically ensure that electricity is used at the most appropriate times?
2. At the same time, will the Commission make efforts to look into the possibilities of establishing a regulatory framework for such a standard, so that consumers can be better protected, make energy savings and make more efficient use of Europe's energy system?

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