

**Question for written answer E-003736/2026**

**to the Commission**

Rule 144

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**Subject:** We have ended our dependence. Are we competitive yet?

The EU presents the reduction in dependence on Russian gas as a means of strengthening energy security. According to the Commission, the share of Russian gas in EU imports has fallen from 45 % in 2021 to 12 % in 2025, with LNG already accounting for 45 % of gas imports into the EU<sup>1</sup>.

However, this has also created a strong price dependency on the global LNG market. The Commission itself notes that the switch to LNG has increased Europe's exposure to global price shocks<sup>2</sup>. On 15 September 2026, the European TTF was trading at around 82 EUR/MWh, whilst the US Henry Hub was trading at 2.97 USD/MMBtu (approximately 8.6 EUR/MWh)<sup>3</sup>. Although the Henry Hub is the US wholesale benchmark and LNG imports into Europe involve additional costs, the price difference remains significant.

1. Does the Commission consider a situation where the wholesale price of gas in the EU is several times higher than in the US to be compatible with the objective of ensuring affordable energy and the competitiveness of European industry?
2. What specific measures does the Commission plan to take to significantly reduce the price difference between the EU and its main competitors?
3. What level of difference between gas prices in the EU and the US does the Commission consider to be sustainable in the long term without further damaging the EU's competitiveness?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://energy.ec.europa.eu/news/focus-eu-energy-security-explained-2026-04-20\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/news/focus-eu-energy-security-explained-2026-04-20_en).

<sup>2</sup> [https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/economic-forecast-and-surveys/economic-forecasts/spring-2026-economic-forecast-slowdown-growth-energy-shock-drives-inflation/eu-energy-markets-evolving-gas-electricity-price-linkages-more-volatile-system\\_en](https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/economic-forecast-and-surveys/economic-forecasts/spring-2026-economic-forecast-slowdown-growth-energy-shock-drives-inflation/eu-energy-markets-evolving-gas-electricity-price-linkages-more-volatile-system_en).

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/finance/commodities-futures/european-natural-gas-prices-supported-as-market-remains-tight-380d8d95>.