

**Priority question for written answer P-000941/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Ștefan Mușoiu (S&D)

Subject: Immediate support scheme for small and medium-sized enterprises in the context of the oil crisis caused by war in the Gulf

The escalation of the conflict in the Gulf has led to a significant increase in fuel prices, generating considerable additional economic pressure on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The most affected are SMEs in countries on the EU's eastern flank, including Romania. The activity of these companies has already been affected by the war in Ukraine. They are now facing further rapid increases in transport, production and supply costs, which are affecting their competitiveness and stability.

I welcome the EU's efforts to strengthen Europe's energy independence through investments in gas, nuclear energy and renewable sources, so that the economy becomes less vulnerable to geopolitical shocks. Unfortunately, most of these projects will not have immediate effects for SMEs. Considering the key role SMEs play in maintaining jobs, it is necessary to adopt urgent measures to limit the negative effects of this crisis.

In view of this, I ask the Commission:

1. Does it intend to propose, as a matter of urgency, a European support scheme for SMEs affected by rising energy costs?
2. Is it considering introducing temporary measures that would allow Member States greater flexibility in granting State aid to support SMEs?

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