

**Priority question for written answer P-004030/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: European tax on energy sector profits

I consider it unacceptable that the European Commission thinks it is appropriate to stand by and watch rather than do something to control the energy market, which is at massive risk of speculation.

It is not enough for the incumbent Commissioner for energy to simply issue a public warning that energy prices are going to go up significantly this winter. What is needed is a European instrument in order to take action in a situation in which the burden on citizens is becoming unbearable.

There is already the precedent of the 2022 EU windfall profits tax, which was introduced during the energy crisis. Today, we are once again in need of a temporary and targeted measure to control the market.

Triggering the flexibility margin to lower the gas storage filling target from 90 %, as the relevant EU regulation provides for, to 80 % by 1 December, would not be enough to ease the pressure on prices.

Is the Commission considering introducing a tax on the profits of energy companies, which would be derived from speculation on supply difficulties?

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