

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001857/24
to the Commission
Mihai Tudose (S&D)
(27 September 2024)**

Subject: EU support for citizens impacted by energy prices

The statistics from the latest Eurobarometer on energy show that 77% of EU citizens have taken steps to reduce consumption at home, while 44% have done so at work. Three quarters of European consumers consider the EU energy label to have influenced their choice of appliances, thus proving that measure to be effective.

But there is a need for broader measures with greater social impact. Only 25% of Europeans feel that the EU has taken action to ensure they benefit from more affordable energy prices. Many consumers are therefore taking steps to insulate their roofs, walls and windows, while some are also installing solar panels — and there are clear signs that the public are willing to adjust to a new model of energy consumption.

However, 50% of Europeans feel an acute need for EU support for measures to reduce energy consumption, and 53% call for the EU to help households in energy poverty.

What urgent and resolute measures does the Commission think it should take to combat energy poverty more effectively, to support the large-scale deployment of cleaner technologies and to support consumers' efforts to save energy?

Submitted: 27.9.2024

**Answer given by Ms Simson on behalf of the European Commission
(11 November 2024)**

With the European Green Deal, the Fit for 55 package and the REPower EU initiatives, the Commission provided a framework for tackling energy poverty, and empowering and protecting vulnerable consumers to ensure that the energy transition is just and inclusive.

During this mandate, a first EU level definition of energy poverty has been adopted in the Energy Efficiency Directive ⁽¹⁾, which is important not only for acknowledging this serious situation, but also for establishing effective measures. The Commission published a recommendation ⁽²⁾ to support Member States in alleviating energy poverty.

The Commission provided a legislative framework to ensure that consumers can effectively exercise their rights, receive clear information, have access to innovative offers, have access to and benefit from energy self-consumption, sharing and home management.

The Renewable Energy Directive (Directive (EU) 2023/2413) enshrines energy communities, which are an effective tool contributing to energy resilience and autonomy.

According to the political guidelines of the President of the Commission, the Commission will remain committed to reduce energy poverty.

⁽¹⁾ Energy Efficiency directive (EU) 2023/1791.

⁽²⁾ C(2023) 4080 final.