

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001994/25
to the Commission
César Luena (S&D)
(19 May 2025)**

Subject: Fossil fuel subsidies

One of the chief obstacles to a fair and coherent energy transition in the European Union remains the persistence of fossil fuel subsidies.

In view of this state of affairs:

1. Does the European Commission have a clear roadmap, with deadlines and monitoring arrangements, for the swift elimination of all direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies, as it has repeatedly promised?
2. What specific arrangements does the Commission intend to adopt to ensure that no European funds finance, directly or indirectly, fossil fuel-related infrastructure, and that investments are effectively prioritised towards renewable energy, energy efficiency and effecting a fair transition?
3. Does the Commission not believe that maintaining fossil fuel subsidies while promoting a green transition sends mixed messages and undermines confidence in the EU's climate leadership?

Submitted: 19.5.2025

**Answer given by President von der Leyen on behalf of the European Commission
(18 July 2025)**

The Commission considers phasing out of harmful fossil fuel subsidies as essential to fulfilling the Green Deal objectives, fostering competitiveness and strengthening the EU's energy security. Commissioners for Energy and Housing and for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth have been mandated to work on this ⁽¹⁾.

Several Commission actions aim at tackling this issue. Country-specific recommendations under the European Semester call on 10 Member States to continue phasing out harmful fossil fuel subsidies on the basis of a dedicated analytical framework to ensure coherent and consistent approach for harmful fossil fuel subsidies.

In the Commission's assessment of the National Energy and Climate Plans, Member States are encouraged to set clear and credible phase-out timelines.

The Commission remains committed to this goal ⁽²⁾, notably through the upcoming revision of the regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action ⁽³⁾.

The Commission has already put in place mechanisms to prioritise EU funding for the green transition. The EU is set to spend at least 30% of its current budget to climate-related investments ⁽⁴⁾. Furthermore, the Recovery and Resilience Facility allocates a minimum of 37% of its envelope to green measures, with Member States exceeding it (43%).

Moreover, the Commission ensures that funding from the EU budget, to the largest degree, does not do harm to the environment ⁽⁵⁾. Finally, the Financial Regulation requires the next Multiannual Financial Framework to apply the 'do no significant harm principle' where feasible and appropriate.

⁽¹⁾ Mission Letters: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/1c203799-0137-482e-bd18-4f6813535986_en?filename=Mission%20letter%20-%20JORGENSEN.pdf and https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/27658b9f-f1f8-4e3a-b265-1cbbd7c2af82_en?filename=Mission%20letter%20-%20HOEKSTRA.pdf.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/97168210-2a5c-4d1a-9ed8-6a063e011537_en?filename=COM_2025_274_1_EN_ACT_part1_v6.pdf.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1999/oj/eng>.

⁽⁴⁾ MFF Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union of 16 December 2020, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.LI.2020.433.01.0028.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2020%3A433I%3AFULL>.

⁽⁵⁾ Commission SWD (2022) 225 final Climate Mainstreaming Architecture in the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2022-06/swd_2022_225_climate_mainstreaming_architecture_2021-2027.pdf.