

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002526/25
to the Commission
Erik Kaliňák (NI)
(24 June 2025)**

Subject: Who will benefit from ETS2 and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive?

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and the ETS2 emissions trading system are raising serious concerns on account of their significant negative impact on ordinary EU citizens. The problems include both the mandatory building renovations required by the directive and the increase in energy and fuel prices that ETS2 will bring. Both of these regulations will significantly increase the cost of living, leaving low-income households and small businesses hardest hit. These measures are not necessary, but rather a kind of ‘stunt’ from the desk of Brussels bureaucrats. Their positive impact is questionable, as these measures are only being imposed on EU Member States which have a negligible impact on a global scale. This is one of the reasons why there are growing calls from both ordinary citizens and businesses for both regulations to be repealed.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. Does the Commission plan to listen to the voices of EU citizens and review or, better still, repeal the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive in order not to artificially increase the financial burden on citizens?
2. How does the Commission plan to respond to calls for the abolition of ETS2, given its impact on energy prices and the cost of living?
3. How does the Commission feel about the fact that these and other similar measures are being imposed only on EU Member States, meaning that their effectiveness is minimal on a global scale?

Submitted: 24.6.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(26 September 2025)**

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) ⁽¹⁾ aims to cut long-term energy bills, improve living comfort, and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Proper implementation will boost the renovation rate and enhance competitiveness of the EU’s construction industry and clean tech companies.

The Commission will support Member States in the implementation, monitor the directive's effectiveness and review it in 2028 as requested by the co-legislators.

The new emissions trading system for buildings, road transport and additional sectors (ETS2) will provide a price signal to encourage decarbonisation and renovation of buildings. It is designed ensuring a smooth start of the system and is complemented by the Social Climate Fund (SCF).

The SCF will mobilise EUR 86.7 billion, mainly from ETS2 revenues, to support vulnerable citizens, such as through building renovation and the roll-out of clean heating and cooling.

Buildings represent the largest energy-consuming sector in Europe, responsible for 52% of gas consumption. The European building sector accounts for roughly 5% of global building energy use and about 11-12% of global building CO₂.

In addition, the EPBD and ETS2 have global relevance because they set a policy benchmark that inspires similar frameworks worldwide, drive innovation in energy-efficient construction technologies adopted beyond Europe and boost demand for sustainable building materials and systems across global supply chains.

⁽¹⁾ Directive (EU) 2024/1275 on the energy performance of buildings (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1275/oj/eng>).