

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002980/25
to the Commission
Jacek Ozdoba (ECR)
(17 July 2025)**

Subject: Costs of ETS and ETS2

Member States are struggling with rising electricity costs. Rising energy costs are causing the EU to lose competitiveness to other countries, particularly China. Please answer the following questions:

1. According to the Commission's experts, what percentage of the cost of electricity bills in individual European countries is accounted for by EU charges and taxes, particularly ETS?
2. According to the Commission's calculations, how much will households pay after the introduction of ETS2? Please provide a detailed breakdown by Member State, together with the projected costs.

Submitted: 17.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(5 September 2025)**

Taxes and charges levied on electricity bills are a matter of national competence and vary widely across Member States. They accounted for 25% of household electricity bills in 2024 ⁽¹⁾.

This share has been declining (it was 41% in 2019), but did increase in 2024 due to the scaling back of temporary support measures introduced following the invasion of Ukraine.

Electricity retail prices also vary greatly across Member States. For instance, in Poland, household electricity prices (including taxes) are below the EU average. However, taxes and levies account for a greater share (48%).

The EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) is not an EU tax, but fossil-fired power plants pass on their ETS-costs to electricity consumers.

The more emission-intensive the generation mix of a country, the higher the ETS costs. These costs have reduced from an average of around EUR 84 per tonne of CO₂ equivalent in 2023 to EUR 64 in 2024, contributing to the year-on-year fall in electricity prices.

The impact of ETS2 on households across Member States is assessed in the Commission's impact assessment ⁽²⁾. It shows that direct costs to low-income households can be lowered by helping finance investments that ultimately save both fuel and money.

It also shows that households benefit from a balanced economy-wide climate policy where emissions are lowered cost-effectively through carbon pricing, while the carbon price itself is kept in check through complementary national measures that target obstacles to low-cost emissions reduction.

The revenues from ETS2 will be reinvested to help finance both of these aspects of the transition. In particular the new EUR 86.7 billion Social Climate Fund will support vulnerable households.

⁽¹⁾ Report on energy prices and costs in Europe, COM (2025) 72 final. See in particular Fig.4.

⁽²⁾ SWD(2021) 601 final, see Part 1/4, Section 6.3.3.2.