

EN

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Answer given by Mr Jørgensen  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(23.9.2025)

In the context of the extension of the Gas storage regulation, unfavourable market conditions include, for example, indications of possible market manipulation or of trading activities that hinder cost-effective storage-filling thereby significantly limiting the ability to ensure that gas storages are filled according to Regulation (EU) 2017/1938<sup>1</sup>. If those conditions persist, the Commission can consider a potential increase of the level of allowed deviation taking into account, in particular, storage filling levels, global gas supply, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) supply outlook, and signs of market manipulation.

To meet the Union's gas needs while reducing supply risks, the overall framework must balance energy security considerations with market-based principles. The framework therefore sets filling targets while allowing flexibility to adapt to constant changes in the gas market and to take advantage of the best purchasing conditions. When such flexibilities are used, the Commission and Member States should assess their potential consequences and inform the Gas Coordination Group (GCG) immediately.

Each Member State defines its own filling trajectory and may decide to make use of the flexibilities provided in the regulation, as long as they do not negatively impact the ability of directly connected Member States to supply their protected customers or negatively impact the functioning of the internal market. Specific national circumstances are considered via provisions applicable to specific situations, such as storage capacity, the level of exports or domestic production.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/gas-supply-security-in-the-eu.html#:~:text=Regulation%20\(EU\)%202017%2F1938%20aims%20to%20strengthen%20European%20Union,vulnerable%20consumers%20are%20always%20supplied.](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/gas-supply-security-in-the-eu.html#:~:text=Regulation%20(EU)%202017%2F1938%20aims%20to%20strengthen%20European%20Union,vulnerable%20consumers%20are%20always%20supplied.)