

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001309/26
to the Commission
Catarina Martins (The Left)
(30 March 2026)**

Subject: Energy price containment measures

The war with Iran is causing serious problems in global energy distribution, with their effects already being felt and expected to worsen. As is well known, rising energy prices have an impact on all production chains, services and consumer goods. It is crucial to ensure that these impacts do not fall on end consumers, who are the least able to bear them. In light of the above:

1. Will the Commission re-implement measures taken during the pandemic, such as revenue caps for distributors, a sector solidarity contribution, a market correction mechanism and fixed pricing for small and medium-sized enterprises?
2. Is the Commission considering additional measures designed for these specific circumstances?
3. Is the Commission providing for derogations from internal market rules that would allow Member States to take their own measures?

Submitted: 30.3.2026

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(29 June 2026)**

The Commission presented on 22 April 2026 the AccelerateEU communication ⁽¹⁾ with concrete measures to be taken immediately at Member State level to protect households and businesses alike — including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) — building on the lessons learnt in the 2022 crisis.

Measures should be limited to addressing the concrete circumstances that currently lead to rising energy costs and must be targeted, temporary and avoid worsening supply conditions.

Measures should focus on protecting the most vulnerable and increase the efficiency of the energy system, accelerating deployment of electrification and homegrown clean energy to reduce dependency on fossil fuels as well as supporting demand flexibility for the benefit of consumers.

The Commission also adopted in April 2026 a set of detailed recommendations to implement the Citizens Energy Package ⁽²⁾, aimed at preventing consumer disconnections, prioritising consumer protection and switching to cheaper contracts, as well as expanding support for self-consumption and energy communities.

The internal energy market framework leaves margin for Member States to design the most appropriate measures adapted for their national circumstances, including by granting the state aid.

The Commission stands ready to assist Member States in designing measures that comply with internal market rules as well as in implementing the Middle East crisis Temporary state aid Framework ⁽³⁾, adopted in April 2026.

In parallel, as announced in the AccelerateEU Communication, the Commission is preparing legislative proposals to be presented in July 2026 on network charges and electricity taxes, which represent important components of the overall electricity bill.

⁽¹⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/accelerateeu-energy-union-affordable-and-secure-energy-through-accelerated-action_en.

⁽²⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/markets-and-consumers/energy-consumers-and-prosumers/citizens-energy-package_en.

⁽³⁾ https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/state-aid/legislation/metsaf_en.