

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002813/26
to the Commission
Fernand Kartheiser (NI)
(8 July 2026)**

Subject: Gas storage levels ahead of winter

Gas storage, particularly underground gas storage, is essential for ensuring the security of the EU's gas supply. It provides strategic reserves during periods of high demand and accounts for more than one quarter of the gas consumed during winter periods ⁽¹⁾.

Successive economic sanctions affecting Russian gas have deprived the EU of a major source of supply. Simultaneously, the crisis in the Middle East, including the Strait of Hormuz blockade, has further constrained global gas supplies, causing prices to skyrocket.

Moreover, extreme weather events, such as severe cold in winter and heatwaves in summer, increase energy consumption and underline the need to ensure that the EU can withstand supply and demand shocks.

In the light of the above:

1. What is the current level of gas storage across the EU, and does the Commission consider the present injection trajectory sufficient to meet storage targets ahead of the winter season?
2. How is the Commission working to ensure continuity of supply should another source encounter delivery problems?
3. What measures is the Commission taking to secure gas imports at the most competitive prices possible?

Submitted: 8.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(5 October 2026)**

As of 11 September 2026, EU storage facilities were filled at 67%. During the Gas Coordination Group meeting in July 2026 the Commission and Member States concluded that the filling of EU storage facilities to a satisfactory level is achievable.

The Commission continuously monitors the security of supply situation in the gas, oil and electricity sectors. It also remains in permanent contact with Member States via the Gas, Oil and Electricity Coordination Groups.

Responding to crisis situations remains primarily a responsibility of Member States. In case of a disruption that could affect the EU's security of supply, the Commission will convene the relevant Coordination Group without delay to assess the situation and coordinate with the Member States on the most appropriate actions and measures.

The Commission maintains regular energy dialogues, at political and technical levels, with the main current and prospective suppliers, most notably Norway, the US, Algeria, Azerbaijan and Canada, to promote secure and affordable gas supply to the EU.

Prices of imported gas are not administered or regulated but are determined by generally competitive and increasingly global markets that may be affected by geopolitical instability.

To protect European businesses and households from high and volatile gas prices, the Commission is implementing policies such as the AccelerateEU strategy ⁽¹⁾ and the Electrification Action Plan ⁽²⁾, which aim at permanently reducing gas consumption by promoting energy efficiency measures and electrification through homegrown low-carbon and renewable energy sources.

¹ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-security/gas-storage_en.

⁽¹⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/strategy/accelerateeu-strengthen-eu-energy-resilience_en.

⁽²⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/eus-energy-system/electrification_en.