

**Question for written answer E-009725/2014
to the Commission
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (NI)**

Subject: Ukraine's inability to pay threatening supply of gas to the EU

According to media reports, the gas dispute between Ukraine and Russia now appears to have been settled. However, Russian natural gas group Gazprom recently disclosed that there is a critical risk of disruption to the supply of gas which transits through Ukraine.

In 2009, after it was revealed that gas had been stolen in Ukraine, Gazprom briefly suspended its use of the Ukraine transit route. What steps has the Commission taken, in the form of agreements with Ukraine or otherwise, to ensure that from now on the risk to supplies of gas in transit through Ukraine to EU Member States will be minimised?

How does the Commission intend to ensure that aid granted to Ukraine to meet its gas bills will be used for the purpose intended? How much aid altogether has Ukraine received from the EU to help it meet its gas debts?

Is there a danger that, on top of the aid it has already granted, the EU will once again have to cover the cost of Ukraine's gas debts to Russia in order to secure its own gas supplies?