

**Question for written answer E-011180/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Francesc Gambús (PPE)**

Subject: Energy diversification

The European Union imports more than half of the energy that it consumes, which makes it vulnerable to external energy suppliers such as Russia, a country from which it imports one third of the oil and 39% of the gas which it consumes. Similarly, Russia is the sole supplier of gas to six EU countries. On 11 December last, the Russian Energy Minister, Alexander Novak, advised the European Commission of Russia's withdrawal from the South Stream pipeline project. It is a fact that the EU must work to improve the interconnections between European markets and the diversification of gas supply, a task in which the MidCat pipeline can play an important role.

Given the latest information available to the Commission, and in accordance with the agreements signed in the European Council, the applicant is interested to know:

1. Does the Commission have alternative plans to the South Stream project for the import of gas?
2. Given the insecurity of Russian gas supply, does the Commission plan to strengthen its support for the construction of the MidCat pipeline?