

**Question for written answer E-008045/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Self-consumption

The 'Energy Union Package' document refers to an 'Energy Union with citizens at its core, where citizens take ownership of the energy transition'. It even uses the expression 'to empower consumers'. However, 'self-consumption' is mentioned just once in the document (and 'net balance' does not appear at all) and the Commission does not anywhere express a desire that the Member States encourage this.

Has the Commission calculated the impact of encouraging self-consumption in terms of:

- an increase in energy dependence;
- a lowering of energy bills; and
- an increase in access to energy by vulnerable consumers and a reduction in the number of such vulnerable consumers?

What measures do the European institutions intend to implement to ensure that the management of a growing section of the population which is producing its own energy is an explicit integral component of infrastructure development?

What measures of a technical and regulatory nature and in terms of investment does the Commission have at its disposal to prevent the Member States from penalising self-consumption, in view of the fact that this goes against the goal of energy independence as advocated by the document?