

Question for written answer E-001949/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Energy poverty and taxes on heating oil

A recent survey of energy poverty by the European Parliament estimates that the percentage of energy poverty in Greece stands at 36%. Although there is a heating subsidy, tens of thousands of households are unable to buy heating oil.

Excise duty on heating oil in the winter was EUR 21 per 1 000 litres in 2010, climbed to EUR 60 in 2011, then to EUR 330, and is now EUR 230 per 1 000 litres, with VAT at 23%.

Can the Commission please state what stance it will take as a member of the troika, should the Greek government, in order to reduce energy poverty, decide to launch the following actions for domestic heating oil for non-business use:

1. in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2003/96/EC, a reduction in the excise duty from EUR 230 per 1 000 litres to EUR 21 per 1 000 litres or any other intermediate amount as is the case in other EU Member States?
2. in accordance with Article 102 of Directive 2006/112/EC, a reduction of the VAT from 23% to 5%, as is the case in other EU Member States?