Question for written answer E-003575/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Carolina Punset (ALDE) and María Teresa Giménez Barbat (ALDE)

Subject: Request to calculate the reduction in prices for end-users from renewables

The political debate about incorporating renewable energy sources into power generation focuses on the cost to the taxpayer of the institutional support needed to provide clean energy. As a result, consumers see renewables as expensive and unprofitable.

However, the savings for the taxpayer from renewables have not been highlighted. It is well-known that starting to use renewable energies, such as solar and wind, in the energy market causes energy prices to fall.

A number of Member States calculate how much consumers could save from renewables and not just the costs, but no official body does so in Spain. Having put the question to the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Ángel Arias Cañete, we were told that the Commission had not calculated the savings from using renewables in the energy market at EU level.

What steps will the Commission take to ensure that Member States calculate the extent to which prices to end-users are reduced through renewables use?