

**Question for written answer E-003703/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Carolina Punset (ALDE), Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz (ALDE), José Blanco López (S&D) and Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Signals to give investors in renewable energy confidence

The Climate Action and Energy Commissioner, Miguel Arias Cañete, has stressed the vital role of renewable energy in decarbonising Europe's economies. The Commissioner has said that, to achieve that goal, the EU must invest EUR 30 billion in developing low-carbon services and technologies.

However, the Commission's signals to the market completely contradict that, for example its reply to a question from the Petitions Committee on a possible breach of Directive 2009/28/EC by Spain.

According to the Commission, Spain has not breached the directive by retroactively cutting aid for solar energy production, because Member States have the right to decide how to allocate funding or change their aid systems. The legal and, above all, market uncertainty caused by such decisions, which are backed by the Commission, has a negative impact, not only on investment in solar energy, but on renewable energy in general.

What signals will the Commission send to the markets to foster the confidence necessary for investment in renewable energy, which the Commission says is essential to achieving the goal of EU decarbonisation?