

European Parliament

2019-2024



Committee on Petitions

PROGRAMME

Public Hearing

organised by the Committee on Petitions (PETI)

***“The responsibilities of fossil fuel companies
in the cost of living crisis”***

Wednesday, 14 February 2024

14:30 - 16:00

European Parliament, Brussels

Room SPINELLI 1G3

Opening remarks

14.30-14.35 **Dolors MONTSERRAT**, Chair of the Committee on Petitions

Panel 1

The cost-of-living crisis and energy poverty in the EU: social and economic impact

The aim of the first panel is to analyse the impact of the Ukraine war on energy prices. In the same context, the panel will address the cost-of-living crisis and energy poverty in the EU, examining the alleged responsibilities that fossil fuel companies bear for the social and economic difficulties faced by EU citizens.

14.35 – 14.45 **Fossil Fuel Profits and Inflation in the Energy Crisis: Winners and Losers**

Isabella Weber, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst - remotely

14.45 – 14.55 **Energy poverty in Europe: Contemporary policy challenges and responses**

Stefan Bouzarovski, Professor of Human Geography, University of Manchester - in presence

14.55 – 15.10 **Q&A session**

Panel 2

EU's response to increased energy prices in Europe

The aim of the second panel is to analyse EU's response to the energy crisis in order to secure energy supply and ensure affordable prices for consumers (e.g. renewable energies in the context of the Ukraine crisis, energy sovereignty, European Green Deal and REPowerEU plan). The panel will also address in this context the need for an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representatives associations and civil society, independent from the fossil fuel industry.

15.10 – 15.20 **Governments' interventions in retail energy prices - an evaluation**

Sebastian Dullien, Scientific Director of The Macroeconomic Policy Institute (IMK) in the Hans Böckler Foundation and Professor of General Economics, Berlin University of Applied Sciences - remotely

15.20 – 15.30 **Improving governance of vested interests - a prerequisite for public interest policy making: lessons from tobacco control**

Anna Gilmore, Professor of Public Health, Director of the Tobacco Control Research Group and Co-Director Centre for 21st Century Public Health, University of Bath - remotely

15.30 – 15.40 Statement by Mr. Brendan Devlin, Advisor for Methane, Fossil Fuel Phase out and International Just Transition (EU Energy Platform Task Force), Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission

15.40 - 15.55 Q&A session

Concluding remarks

15.55 – 16.00 **Dolors MONTSERRAT**, Chair of the Committee on Petitions