

WRITTEN QUESTION E-6207/07

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to the Commission

Subject: A charge for electricity exports

The Hungarian Government announced on 21 October 2007 that it will introduce a charge (fee) for power exports. This could have a huge negative impact on neighbouring countries as well as on the whole region.

In this respect and to be as complete as possible, could you please explain whether the proposed new charge is in line with EU law and fundamental EU principles relating to the free movement of goods and services. What impact does the Commission think this kind of measure would have on consumers, investors and the economy across the whole continent?

What does the Commission plan to do by January 2008, when Hungary is planning to introduce this protectionist measure, in order to prevent possible disruptions of electricity trade and to guarantee security of supply?