

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0016/09
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to the Council

Subject: Regular supplies of Russian natural gas to the EU Member States

Over the last few days, friction between Russia and Ukraine has led to a fall in Russian gas supplies to the EU Member States. It is no secret that natural gas from Russia to the EU Member States traverses Ukraine, which is currently involved in financial disputes with Russia regarding payment for its own domestic natural gas consumption.

Given that this is the umpteenth time such a situation has occurred, can the Council provide the following information:

1. What measures and actions will it take to ensure the regular supply of natural gas, particularly during the winter months?
2. Does the Council intend to organise a trilateral meeting between the EU, Russia and Ukraine with a view to working out a definitive solution to this problem? If not, what are the obstacles to holding such a meeting?