

**Question for written answer E-011258/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Niki Tzavela (EFD)**

Subject: Crude oil indexation and the decision in RWE v Gazprom case

Following a ruling by an arbitration tribunal in Vienna, Gazprom will have to make price adjustments to its contract with German utility RWE. This court ruling could pave the way for ending the decades-long practice of linking gas prices in long-term deals to oil prices and moving towards gas market indexation.

Given that it has launched an anti-trust investigation against Gazprom concerning its dealings with Lithuania, does the Commission intend to make use of the court ruling in the RWE case to exert further pressure on Gazprom in this case?

Furthermore, does the Commission intend to use the RWE case as a precedent with a view to preventing Gazprom from overplaying its dominant position in other countries which it supplies, such as Greece, Bulgaria and Romania?

Does the Commission see the RWE ruling as a real opportunity to move away from the traditional crude oil indexation of gas prices, and, instead, move towards gas market indexation, in addition to the development of spot prices and new trading hubs in Europe?