

**Question for written answer E-001439/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Arlene McCarthy (S&D)

Subject: Zero taxation for household energy products

Energy prices continue to rise for households across the EU. In the UK, prices have risen by 37 % since 2010, up to eight times the rate of average earnings. At a time when citizens' incomes and public expenditure is being cut across the EU, families are having to choose whether to heat their households or put food on the table.

Given these high prices, can the Commission confirm that there is the possibility for Member States to introduce zero VAT rates for energy products (gas and electricity) used by households?