

**Question for written answer E-000591/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Measures to cushion the impact of sudden electricity price rises in Spain

In January, the cost of electricity in Spain rose to the abnormally high rate of EUR 120/MWh.

The marginal price system ensures that, every hour of every day, consumers benefit from the cheapest rate. However, even if it only contributes 1%, the last rate needed to meet demand will form the basis for the price of all the energy generated that particular hour.

Consumers also pay an electricity tax, plus 21% VAT, on each invoice.

Does the Commission believe that a calculation algorithm with caps to prevent unexpected profits from basic technologies would be fairer for consumers?

Would the Commission recommend that the Spanish Government establish a system that remunerates the most expensive power stations fairly and at the same time prevents other generation technologies from making a windfall profit at the expense of consumers?

Could the Commission accept a reduction in VAT on the first tranche of consumption, in order to favour citizens with fewer resources, and a reduction in clean technologies?