

**Question for written answer E-004174/2021**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Jordi Cañas** (Renew)

Subject: The lack of genuine competition on the Spanish electricity market

Earlier this year, the Commission published a study<sup>1</sup> warning that Spain was the Member State with the most barriers to competition in the electricity retail market. It also made a series of recommendations for action to be taken.

Among the barriers to competition discussed in the study, one of the most worrying was the advantage held by major industry players in Member States which control marketing, distribution and generation, benefit from their dominant position and use pricing tactics that are not an option for their competitors.

In Spain, just three major companies still control around 90% of the electricity market, which shows there is a lack of interconnection with other players in the single market.

In the light of the foregoing and bearing in mind the impact on consumers and efforts to complete an integrated European electricity market:

1. Can the Commission state whether Spain is implementing its recommendations with regard to removing existing barriers, ensuring an effective level of competition in the single market and maintaining affordable prices?
2. What additional steps could the Commission take in this direction?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/2ac2008f-71ad-11eb-9ac9-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-191693505/>