

**Question for written answer E-000126/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Increase in inflation and the green transition

According to the latest Eurostat estimates, annual inflation in the euro area could hit 5% in December 2021, up from 4.9% in November 2021. The main causes of this increase are to be found in the exceptional increase in prices of raw materials and problems relating to the production and transport of goods amid the ongoing pandemic.

Concomitantly, the cost of carbon allowances in the EU also increased by around 200% in 2021, thus turning the spotlight on the impact that policies aiming to promote the green transition can have on market price dynamics.

In view of the above:

1. Is the Commission not alarmed by this rise in inflation, and does it think this is a transient phenomenon or a structural one?
2. Does it not consider policies to promote the green transition and discourage CO₂ emissions to be among the main causes of rising energy costs and that these are having a structural impact by stoking consumer price increases?
3. Does it plan to take steps to curb this increase in prices – and in particular energy prices – which is impacting severely on production chains, distribution and, above all, the end consumer?