

**Question for written answer E-000610/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Dimitrios Papadimoulis** (The Left)

**Subject:** Reduction of excise duty on energy consumption to counter spiralling fuel prices

Spiralling fuel prices are driving up costs in all sectors of the economy, leading to greatly reduced consumption and loss of revenue, imposing excessive burdens on hard-pressed households and small and medium-sized enterprises and bringing the recovery grinding to a halt. The various rates of duty, in particular excise duty, are leading to substantial fuel price disparities between the individual Member States. Greece one of the EU Member States in which fuel costs are highest, with duties exceeding 60% of the retail price. In October 2021, the Commission presented a toolbox of countermeasures in line with EU legislation and directly applicable by national governments, including targeted tax concessions for households. However, the Greek Government is obstinately refusing to cut, even provisionally, the excise duty on energy.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say how many and which Member States have so far reduced excise duty on energy products, making use of its proposed toolbox?
2. Is it considering further measures to stem the rise in the cost of fuel and staple consumer goods, given the prospect of a continued high inflation levels in 2022?