

**Question for written answer E-000715/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Eva Kaili (S&D)

Subject: An EU response to rising wholesale electricity prices in the Member States

Wholesale electricity prices have increased significantly in the past 12 months across all Member States, including increments of up to 500 % in Greece, Croatia and Bulgaria in January 2022 compared to January 2021. Given the lack of a harmonised EU response to this crisis, Member States have implemented a patchwork of measures ranging from tax cuts and price caps on heating, to cash handouts and discounts – all of them unsustainable for national budgets beyond a few months.

1. What is the Commission's concrete analysis to explain these stark differences in the increase of wholesale electricity prices between Member States in the past 12 months (January 2021– January 2022)?
2. Does the Commission agree that a legislative solution at European level is necessary to address the sharp increases in wholesale electricity prices across the EU and avoid stark fluctuations between Member States?
3. What concrete legislative measures is the Commission preparing to help Member States address soaring energy prices, which are likely to remain at a historic high?