

**Question for written answer E-001854/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Guido Reil (ID)

Subject: EU climate policy

Russia's attack and war against Ukraine shows how unsustainable the EU's climate policy is. The EU's first priority should be energy independence and security of supply at affordable and competitive prices.

Germany's planned phasing out of coal and nuclear power threatens the internal stability of the country. Coal is needed more than ever. The chemical group Evonik from Essen stated that it wanted its own coal-fired power plant to run longer than planned¹.

In times of uncertainty, the EU needs to support its heavy industry, in particular its steel and aluminium industries, in order to maintain the continent's competitiveness in the long term. In this connection, the role of coal should not be underestimated.

Extending the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) to buildings and transport is counterproductive. A further increase in housing and transport prices would result and this must be firmly rejected at a time of fast-growing inflation.

1. Against this background, how does the Commission justify its approach in the CEEAG² with lenient, flexible rules on public aid contributing to EU climate objectives, and strict rules on aid for the early closure of coal mines?
2. Does the Commission intend to reverse the extension of the ETS to housing and transport?
3. How does the Commission intend to increase the competitiveness of heavy industry?

¹ Germany returns to coal, *Markt und Mittelstand*, 28 April 2022.

² Commission Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy (CEEAG)