

**Question for written answer E-002014/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Eugen Tomac (PPE)

Subject: Combating energy poverty in Romania

Energy poverty affects 28% of the Romanian population. This means that 5 million Romanians have difficulties paying their electricity bills, cannot heat their homes properly or do not have access to affordable sources of energy supply. Romania is still aiming for full electrification. 7% of all households in Romania have no access to electricity and 80% of Romanians living in rural areas rely wholly on wood for heating.

Living in energy poverty lowers one's chances of living well, and means that children cannot achieve their potential and that Romanians are unable to contribute to their country's economic development and performance.

1. How does the Commission intend, in concrete terms, to encourage Romania to take steps to combat energy poverty?
2. Which EU funds, and what level of funding, can Romania access to: (1) implement measures to combat energy poverty; (2) subsidise vulnerable energy consumers; (3) increase connectivity to the electricity and gas supply; (4) energy-upgrade dwellings in towns and villages; (5) diversify energy sources; (6) ensure a just green transition?
3. What would the Commission recommend to Europeans who have to use wood for heating in winter due to their financial and geographical position?