

**Question for written answer E-000881/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Maria Grapini (S&D)

Subject: Energy security

During the Strasbourg part-session of 13-16 March 2023, Commissioner Kadri Simson answered questions from MEPs in the course of a debate on EU energy security in 2023, a matter of major concern for European citizens. Unfortunately, she expressed herself in general terms and it was not made clear what could be done to shield the public from energy poverty and massive bills. Calling on the public to reduce consumption cannot be regarded as a solution. On the contrary, it is necessary to ensure adequate energy supplies and keep a close eye on the market to prevent any price escalation. The transition to green energy is an expensive process and must be carried out at a pace that each country can afford. In view of this:

1. Can the Commission specify what steps it will take to ensure that the least affluent are not left to freeze in the winter of 2023/2024 and that energy bills are no longer allowed to become unaffordable for millions of European citizens?
2. What specific measures will it take to ensure sufficient and fairly-priced energy supplies for SMEs and affordable bills for individual citizens?

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