

**Question for written answer E-000117/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Kostas Papadakis (NI), Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: New colour-coded energy pricing system will bleed working families dry

Despite the government's claims that electricity prices would fall, figures published by Greece's Independent Power Transmission Operator (ADMIE) show that in 2023 electricity prices went up by 85% compared to 2019 when the SYRIZA government introduced the energy exchange initiative. The weighted average has increased by 133.3% compared to 2015. The five biggest power companies that have a monopoly over the Greek electricity market made a total profit before tax of EUR 1.6 billion, up by more than 50% compared to 2021. This trend will continue in 2023.

With this in mind:

1. What view does the Commission take of the fact that, despite the announcements and promises regarding a reduction in pricing and guaranteed low electricity prices, in the end, the EU's energy liberalisation strategy, the green 'transition' and the energy exchange initiative, are placing the burden on workers so that energy companies can secure a profit?
2. What view does it take of the fact that tailoring the energy mix to suit the needs and interests of business groups, with natural gas being used as a 'transitional fuel', phasing out dependency on Russian gas only to replace it with more expensive American LNG that is harmful to the environment, and the measures to boost the renewable energy share based on the terms of the 'liberalised market', entrench and raise the high prices working families have to pay, to double or more what they paid three years ago?

Submitted: 16.1.2024