

**Question for written answer E-000842/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Local energy communities in the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium

In the border regions of the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium, independent energy projects miss out on cross-border opportunities, due to uncoordinated regulations between Member States, hindering citizen participation across borders. The Commission gives substantial support to local energy communities (LECs) through the Clean Energy Package, by providing guidelines and assistance through established help desks and repositories. However, there are still notable gaps in coverage, as key countries, including the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany, are not adequately represented in the gathered data and policies.

Proposals for local energy initiatives to establish cross-border LECs have long existed in Dutch, German and Belgian border regions, such as to leverage shared wind turbine parks and industrial zones for connectivity. This would optimise energy production and consumption regionally, ensuring cost-effectiveness for residents and businesses on both sides of a given border. However, projects that need to connect to the Dutch electricity grid face challenges due to grid congestion, so the German grid may be better suited for integration. Agreements are necessary to ensure equitable distribution of benefits to the LECs.

1. Is the Commission planning to assess Dutch, German and Belgian LEC policies soon?
2. Has the Clean Energy Package been effectively used to promote cross-border cooperation among Member States?
3. How does the Commission propose facilitating LECs in border regions, considering existing differences in legislation?

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