

**Question for written answer P-002694/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
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Subject: Cooperation with Ukraine with the aim of ensuring energy security for the EU

According to a report¹ from the Polish Institute of International Affairs, Russia is putting pressure on Ukraine on the issue of gas prices in order to reduce the value of the Ukrainian company Naftogaz and then take over the Ukrainian gas infrastructure. As a signatory to the Energy Community Treaty, Ukraine has undertaken to comply with the provisions of the EU's Third Energy Package, including the separation of fuel production, transmission and distribution. A take-over of Naftogaz assets by Russia's Gazprom could pose a threat to the energy security of the EU. At the same time, high gas prices are making it difficult for the Ukrainian authorities to fulfil their obligations to the International Monetary Fund, and thus to continue reforms.

In January 2012, the Commissioner for Energy, Günther Oettinger, gave his assurance that the EU would be involved in gas negotiations between Ukraine and Russia. In this connection, I should like to put the following questions:

1. What concrete measures is the Commission taking in cooperation with Ukraine in order to ensure the EU's energy security?
2. What is the legal basis for the EU's involvement in the gas negotiations between Ukraine and Russia?
3. Is the controversy surrounding the imprisonment of Yulia Tymoshenko by the Ukrainian authorities having any effect on the measures taken by the Commission in respect of the reform of the Ukrainian gas system, and thus on the energy security of EU Member States?

¹ <http://www.pism.pl/publications/bulletin/no-23-356>.