

**Question for written answer P-010618/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: EU support for Moldova's energy security

In its resolution of 12 September 2013¹, Parliament strongly criticised Russia for the pressure it has been exerting on the Eastern Partnership countries in the run-up to the Eastern Partnership Summit in Vilnius and called on the Commission to take action in defence of the Union's partners, to send out strong messages of support for all Eastern Partnership countries and to come forward with concrete effective measures to support those partners.

Moldova, which has a good track record when it comes to pro-European policies and is a member of the Energy Community, is particularly vulnerable to pressure from Russia, which is currently the country's sole supplier of gas. Although the Commission's efforts with regard to the Iasi-Ungheni pipeline (which is to link Moldova to the Romanian gas market by 2014) are to be commended, what other steps does the Commission plan to take to support Moldova's energy security, in particular as regards:

- (a) the country's efforts to diversify sources and routes of energy supply, through, inter alia, further integrating Moldova into the EU's energy infrastructure, including by means of electricity interconnections;
- (b) the process for Moldova's implementation of the Energy Community acquis (especially the Third Energy Package) and the restructuring of its gas sector, including through the work of the Joint Expert Group set up in December 2012?

In the light of recent steps taken by Russia vis-à-vis Moldova, and the concern expressed by Moldovan ministers at a possible cut-off by Gazprom of energy supplies during the coming winter, is the Commission drawing up provisional contingency plans to aid Moldova should this occur? If so, what are they? How can the EU further speed up the process of making Moldova less dependent on Russia's monopoly of the gas supply market?

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2013)0383.