

**Priority question for written answer P-003013/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU transition to hydrogen

Major disparities exist between Member States regarding the transition to widespread use of hydrogen, with some of them only just beginning to develop a national strategy, while others already have trains running on hydrogen. The reservations felt by many Member States are attributable mainly to the fact renewable low-carbon hydrogen is uncompetitive.

In order to ensure a coherent energy transition and avoid any widening of existing disparities within the EU, I believe it necessary to invest in the adaptation of existing gas infrastructures for the production, storage and transport of hydrogen. I am therefore in favour of the transitional period compromise proposed by the Portuguese Council Presidency in connection with the revision of Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 on trans-European Energy Networks (TEN-E). At the same time, the joint statement by 11 Member States calling for the rejection of hydrogen/fossil fuel 'blending' strikes me as unrealistic.

1. Does the Commission plan to support investment in energy infrastructure projects to facilitate a sustainable transition to hydrogen?
2. What measures does it favour with a view to encouraging an energy mix combining low pollution levels with economic profitability?