Priority question for written answer P-004921/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Stelios Kouloglou (The Left)

Subject: Accuracy and impartiality: the Greek Government's failure to incorporate Directive (EU) 2019/944, which protects electricity consumers

Consumers in Greece face an increase of up to 170 % in the cost of their electricity bills. At the same time, a consumer protection organisation has recorded numerous complaints1 about unfair and misleading commercial practices, opaque terms and unilateral changes, unjustified penalties and abusive charges for switching providers, incomplete explanations for consumption calculations and price regulating and inelastic regulations for vulnerable consumers.

Directive (EU) 2019/9442 on common rules for the internal market for electricity regulates the conditions of the electricity market and includes provisions to facilitate switching providers, monitor individual energy consumption on fair terms, provide free internet tools for price comparisons and ensure electricity supply to vulnerable households.

The regime of impunity in the Greek electricity market would have been prevented by the implementation of Directive (EU) 2019/944, but the Greek Government has not incorporated it into national law even though it was obliged to do so by 31 December 2020.

1. How does the Commission intend to deal with the unfavorable situation in the electricity market immediately and effectively to protect consumers in Greece and all Member States?

2. Did it request an explanation for the Greek Government’s failure to incorporate Directive (EU) 2019/944 into Greek national law by the set deadline and did it take the appropriate steps in response to that failure?

---