

**Priority question for written answer P-005054/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Dolors Montserrat (PPE), Pilar del Castillo Vera (PPE)**

Subject: Price of gas in Spain

Over the last few months, natural gas prices have risen sharply at international level, shooting up by 140% in Spain during 2021 and creating problems for industries, small businesses and individual consumers. Industry, which alone accounts for 60% of domestic natural gas consumption, is now being driven into financial straits by high energy prices.

1. Is a VAT reduction for natural gas consumption admissible under EU law?
2. To what extent could Spanish excise duties on natural gas be reduced under Directive 2003/96/EC on energy taxes?
3. What other assistance could be provided for natural gas consumers?