

**Priority question for written answer P-005589/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Anna Zalewska (ECR)

Subject: High EU ETS prices

Interpellation 2

Today, on 9 December 2021, the price of an emission allowance for one tonne of CO₂ (EUA) on the EU ETS market exceeded EUR 89. On 2 June 2021, I wrote a letter to you in which I called for urgent intervention in accordance with Article 29a of the current EU ETS Directive. You stated in your response that you saw no reason to react. In September 2020, emission prices rose to EUR 28 per tonne. A year and a half later, they reached EUR 50. They have almost doubled since then, approaching EUR 90 per tonne.

Ignoring this issue is certainly does not conducive to achieving our climate goals; rather, it only makes achieving them less likely. This is a matter of great urgency, given the ongoing energy price crisis, high inflation in the EU and the permanent shortage of necessary allowances in the EU ETS market for countries that need them. Europeans are also concerned by the ever-growing role of speculators in the market, which is driving up prices. Citizens cannot afford the green madness that the Commission is proposing in its current form. Environmental protection cannot lead to impoverishment on such a large scale as it does at present, as this would cause it to become ineffective.

In this connection:

1. When will the Commission fulfil its obligations and intervene, inter alia by convening the Climate Change Committee, in accordance with Article 29a of the EU ETS Directive?
2. When will the Commission respond to the requests to investigate the reasons for the increase in EU ETS market prices?

I would be grateful if you could reply as a matter of urgency.