

**Priority question for written answer P-001465/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Marie Toussaint (Verts/ALE), **Ignazio Corrao** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Phasing out of all gas consumption, not only Russian gas

All sectors of the EU economy need to play their part to rapidly get the EU off Russian gas, but in the meantime they should not build dependency on any other third country. Industry sectors account for almost a quarter of the EU's natural gas use. Recent analyses highlighted that gas consumption in industry can be reduced significantly in the next three to five years through cost-effective energy efficiency and electrification measures.

A joint analysis by E3G, Ember, Bellona and the Regulatory Assistance Project¹ estimates that fast-tracking these measures in industry can reduce fossil gas consumption by up to 18 billion cubic metres (bcm) by 2025, while Agora Energiewende estimates² the potential to be 23bm by 2027. This is currently underleveraged in the REpowerEU plan. We also know that 64 % of gas used by industry could be replaced by heat pumps or alternative technologies.

1. Could the Commission provide a breakdown of industry's latent potential to reduce gas consumption in the next three to eight years and of a potential phase out (by 2035)?
2. Could the Commission outline how it plans to engage and support industry in implementing fast-track measures able to reduce gas consumption?
3. Will the Commission draw up rules or guidelines for State aids related to Putin's war to be directed towards ending gas use?

¹ https://9tj4025ol53byww26jdkao0x-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/Briefing_EU-can-stop-Russian-gas-imports-by-2025.pdf

² https://static.agora-energiewende.de/fileadmin/Projekte/2021/2021_07_EU_GEXIT/253_Regaining-Europes-Energy-Sovereignty_WEB.pdf