

**Priority question for written answer P-001489/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: EU support for energy infrastructure and networks indispensable for making Europe independent from Russian gas

On 8 March, the Commission unveiled its REPowerEU plan for reducing EU demand for Russian gas by two thirds before the end of 2022. One of the cornerstones of this plan is to increase imports of non-Russian liquefied natural gas (LNG) and pipeline gas by 60 bcm annually. The Commission has commendably identified that such an extensive diversification could pose a challenge to European energy infrastructure and networks. It is essential to ensure that measures are taken to alleviate bottlenecks throughout the value chain, including LNG carrier and terminal availability, transmission capacity and cross-border interconnections.

In this context:

1. What concrete steps will the Commission urgently undertake to ensure that there is enough LNG carrier and regasification capacity available throughout the EU? How soon can these measures be implemented?
2. Will the Commission allow for a fast track procedure, including accelerated permitting, to speed up investments in hydrogen-proof gas infrastructure projects, which are indispensable to cope with the changing supply patterns, in line with the objectives of the REPowerEU plan?
3. How will the Commission ensure that there is sufficient transmission capacity, especially for cross-border interconnections, for imported non-Russian gas?