

**Priority question for written answer P-000574/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Limited impact of EU sanctions on Russia's economy

As almost a year has passed since the start of Putin's unprecedented war in Ukraine, Russia's economy continues to withstand the pressure of EU sanctions. Indeed, based on forecasts by the International Monetary Fund, Russia's GDP is set to grow by 0.3% next year. This indicator reveals that the restrictive measures adopted with the past nine packages of sanctions failed to deal a significant blow to Russia's energy sector, whose profits are also basically funding the war. The European Parliament has repeatedly expressed its position that there must be a full economic embargo against Russia, as for example in the resolution of 2 February 2023 on the preparation of the EU-Ukraine Summit. However, there is currently no significant political result, in other words an embargo of Russian energy.

Could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the impact of the past nine packages of sanctions on Russia's economy, and has some sort of action been taken to close existing loopholes?
2. Have the Commission and other authorities supervising restrictive measures taken steps to ensure that Russia does not blatantly circumvent EU sanctions with the help of third countries, and, if so, are any actions intended to be taken against those third countries?
3. Does the Commission intend to take any specific action regarding a full embargo on the import of fossil fuels and uranium from Russia, including withdrawal from the Nord Stream 1 and 2 gas pipelines?

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