

**Priority question for written answer P-001119/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Ban on fossil fuel boilers from 2040

The European Parliament and the Council have adopted the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). In the Directive, the Commission proposed the phasing out and banning of fossil fuel boilers in buildings.

However, the final text of the Directive setting out the ban on boilers is ambiguous.

The EU media have reported differently on the ban on boilers after 2040. Some say boilers will be banned (the Guardian<sup>1</sup>, Euractiv<sup>2</sup>, oenergetice.cz<sup>3</sup>), while others say that the use and purchase of new fossil fuel boilers will be possible even after 2040 (Pravda.sk<sup>4</sup>, gasnet.cz<sup>5</sup>, euractiv.sk<sup>6</sup>).

According to a Commission press release, Member States will also have to set out specific measures with a view to a complete phase-out of boilers powered by fossil fuels by 2040<sup>7</sup>.

The ambiguous wording of the Directive, as well as the incomprehensible press releases, make it impossible for the ordinary citizen to understand what is happening in the EU.

1. Does the Directive ban the use of fossil fuel boilers, including gas boilers, after 2040?
2. Does the Directive ban the purchase of new fossil fuel boilers for households after 2040?
3. As this is a Directive, specific measures to phase out boilers have to be taken by Member States. If a Member State does not ban the use of fossil fuel boilers after 2040, will the Commission consider this to be a breach of the Directive for which the Member State is liable to legal action?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/dec/08/eu-agrees-deal-to-cut-emissions-in-homes-and-buildings>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/eu-agrees-2040-fossil-boiler-ban-in-revamped-green-buildings-law/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://oenergetice.cz/energeticka-legislativa-eu/eu-se-dohodla-na-zakazu-kotlu-na-fosilni-paliva-od-roku-2040>

<sup>4</sup> <https://ekonomika.pravda.sk/energetika/clanok/703622-nova-smernica-z-eu-zakaze-kurenie-plynom-slovenski-plynari-vysvetluju-o-co-ide/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gasnet.cz/o-spolecnosti/novinky/2024/03/komise-plyn-2040>

<sup>6</sup> <https://euractiv.sk/section/budovy/news/slovensko-musi-podla-novej-smernice-prist-s-cislami-pre-fotovoltiku-aj-tepelne-cerpadla/>

<sup>7</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_23\\_6423](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_6423)