

## Versione in lingua inglese

*Considering the current energy crisis and possible rationing of energy as of next autumn, what should the European Union do to secure the energy needs of Member States, protect vulnerable citizens, and stay on track with its renewable energy goals?*

Submitted by: Milica Lepedatovic, Chiara Viatori, Victoria Djuric, Ester Mauri, Milijan Stojimirovic, Sara Marengo

**The European Youth Parliament aims to protect vulnerable citizens and meet the energy needs of European Member States (EU MS), who are facing the current energy crisis due to the recent Russian-Ukrainian war, and at the same time to come to terms with the European objectives of a greener and more sustainable economy through the exploitation of renewable energy sources in place of fossil fuels,**

### *Because*

- European nations are being threatened by the effects of a potentially long-lasting war in Ukraine, caused by the Russian invasion of the country in February 2022, from an economic, political and social perspective,
- The EU requires a huge increase in renewables such as wind and solar power to reduce its dependence on Russian fossil fuels and to “find an extra €210bn (£178bn) over the next five years to pay for phasing out Russian fossil fuels and speeding up the switch to green energy”<sup>1</sup>,
- In July the International Energy Agency (IEA) warned that European industry and even households would need to ration their fuel<sup>2</sup> and that the freezing winter, soaring inflation and higher costs of living could bring millions of families to the brink,
- Russian gas supplies have been reduced in a number of EU countries as Russian retaliation against European sanctions towards Russia and the Nordstream 1 pipeline<sup>3</sup> has been shut down indefinitely,
- The imports of liquified natural gas (LNG) are done via ship and vulnerable MS like Czechia, Austria, Slovakia and Bulgaria do not therefore have direct access to the terminals,
- Alternative energy sources to Russian gas and oil are proving difficult to access in a sufficient quantity and the main problem is now seen as getting through the winter,
- Millions of people and small businesses are struggling with the recent high prices of electricity and gas bills,
- Many people have significant economic issues, and may have problems obtaining information about how to act during this energy crisis,
- Some EU MS like Italy are planning to revive the use of mothballed coal-fired power plants in order to break their dependence on Russian gas and oil<sup>4</sup>,
- The current Emission Trading System (ETS) is allowing CO2 producers to buy permits for every ton of CO2 they produce at a very low rate and for this reason many companies are unwilling to concentrate on renewable energy<sup>5</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/may/18/eu-plans-massive-increase-in-green-energy-to-rid-itself-of-reliance-on-russia>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/jul/13/the-guardian-view-on-europes-energy-crisis-facing-down-putin-will-not-come-cheap>

<sup>3</sup> In the past years Russian gas has been delivered through four pipelines: Nordstream 1 (in the Baltic Sea), Yamal (via Poland), Ukraine and Turkstream (across Turkey) (<https://www.bruegel.org/dataset/european-natural-gas-imports> )

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ispionline.it/en/pubblicazione/italys-energy-future-crossroads-36772>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/fit-for-55-eu-emissions-trading-system/>

- The REPowerEU Plan recently published by the European Commission contains measures to phase out Russian oil and gas only by 2027 and in most cases, it can take years to obtain a permit for a windfarm or solar power<sup>6</sup>,
- As stated in the Fit for 55 Package, buildings in the EU cause a large amount of pollution (over than one third of the greenhouse gas emissions<sup>7</sup>);

*by*

1. Urges national policy makers to act quickly, solving problems affecting businesses, households and the most Vulnerable, for example pregnant women, children and the elderly;
2. Calls upon EU MS to accelerate the pace of transition to renewable energy, such as solar, hydroelectric, wind and geothermal energy, and promote energy efficiency;
3. Encourages European leaders to take decisive action in the short term, including energy conservation to build up gas stockpiles for the winter;
4. Trusts European government agencies to develop wind, solar, biomass, hydro and geothermal energy and increase controls to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
5. Proposes to build small info-points powered by renewable energy, where more precise information is given about how to act consciously, preserve energy and/or save money;
6. Invites the European Commission to reach the objectives of the REPowerEU sooner than 2027 and reduce the European reliance on Russian fossil fuels by speeding up the development and implementation of renewable energy power plants;
7. Encourages the European Commission to draw up a proposal of new European legislation, by:
  - a) decoupling the price of gas from that of electricity,
  - b) sparingly granting allowances by the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS);
8. Further encourages the European Council to implement the CBAM regulation and the Fit for 55 package by 2023 with no further delays;
9. Asks the Directorate General for Energy of the European Commission to draw up a policy plan, by:
  - a) regulating and decoupling the price of the CBAM permits from the demand and offer market prices,
  - b) giving long or short-term funds to electric power stations and industries, to increase investing in renewable energy sources;
10. Recommends EU MS to lower the external energy dependence and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, by:
  - a) upscaling the production of biogas and biomethane more sustainably,
  - b) allowing swift permits for renewable energy projects,
  - c) supporting power purchase agreements and empowering citizens;
11. Reminds the EU countries that they should work more closely together and host or contribute financially to

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<https://www.nonsoloambiente.it/meccanismo-di-adequamento-del-carbonio-alle-frontiere-cbam-richiesti-maggiori-dazi-da-parte-del-parlamento-europeo>

<sup>6</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_22\\_3131](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_3131)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/fit-for-55-making-buildings-in-the-eu-greener/>

innovative and sustainable projects;

12. Further asks the European Commission to propose a Regulation in order to improve the partition of resources according to the needs of each MS;
13. Further invites the European MS to develop educational plans which will allow the younger generations to be aware of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy waste of the city buildings to create more sustainable urban centers.