

Brussels, 27 June 2022  
(OR. en, bg)

10743/22

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2021/0203(COD)**

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**ENER 343**  
**ENV 679**  
**TRANS 454**  
**ECOFIN 682**  
**RECH 415**  
**CLIMA 328**  
**IND 264**  
**COMPET 551**  
**CONSOM 172**  
**CODEC 1036**  
**IA 110**

**NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. Cion doc.:	10745/21 + REV 2 + ADD 1 + ADD 1 REV 1
Subject:	Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on energy efficiency (recast) - Statementy by Bulgaria

Delegations will find attached in the Annex the statement by Bulgaria, in relation to the Council general approach for the Recast of the Energy Efficiency Directive (recast) as set out in document ST 10697/22 and discussed at the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council meeting held on 27 June 2022.

**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**  
**on the English version of the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on**  
**Energy Efficiency (recast)**

The Republic of Bulgaria attaches great importance to the promotion and protection of human rights. The country is, and will remain, dedicated to its human rights commitments.

In 2018 the Bulgarian Constitutional Court adopted a decision stating that the Council of Europe's Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence ('Istanbul Convention') promotes legal concepts related to the notion of gender that are incompatible with main principles of the Bulgarian Constitution. In addition, in 2021 the Constitutional Court further clarified that the notion of 'sex' used in the Constitution, could, in the context of the national legal order, only be regarded in the sense of its biological determination (men and women).

The Republic of Bulgaria does not oppose the adoption of a general approach on the draft Directive on Energy Efficiency, but with regard to the simultaneous use of the terms 'sex' and 'gender' in recital 99, declares in accordance with the abovementioned decisions of the Constitutional Court, that it does not accept any **differentiation between 'sex' as a biological (women and men) category and 'gender' as a social construct.**

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