



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Security of supply and preparing for winter 2024-2025: state of play - Exchange of views

Delegations will find in Annex the Presidency background note on the “Security of supply and preparing for winter 2024-2025: state of play” in view of the TTE (Energy) Council on 4 March 2024.

To address the energy crisis triggered by the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU and its Member States have taken numerous measures, such as the REPowerEU plan to phase out Russian fossil fuels by 2030, save energy, diversify energy sources and accelerate the production of clean energy. Moreover, several emergency regulations were adopted in reaction to security concerns and market volatility.

Some of these regulations were not extended or will expire by the end of 2025¹. Some measures will be incorporated into the hydrogen and gas package which should enter into force in 2024.

In this context, many Member States have called for a legislative review to further reinforce our security of supply architecture in the longer term, to take into account the recent developments and lessons learned during the energy crisis.

The Presidency is of the opinion that the common effort made by the EU and Member States must continue. Factoring in various EU developments and the geopolitical situation, strengthening preparedness and the security of supply will remain of paramount importance for winters to come. Against this background, and considering the situation described by the Commission in document WK 3048/24 the Presidency invites Ministers to discuss winter preparedness and submits the following questions to guide the exchanges:

¹ Regulation on gas storage will expire by 31.12.2025 and the regulation on coordinated demand-reduction measures for gas was modified to a Commission proposal for a Council recommendation.

1. **What could Member States individually, and the EU collectively, do to ensure that gas demand does not revert to pre-crisis levels and to avoid new price shocks and impacts on the security of supply and on our decarbonisation objectives?**
 2. **Which elements should be included or replaced in our existing security of supply architecture ?**
 3. **Which complementary measures could be taken in addition to those already in place to strengthen energy security ahead of the next winter, ensuring a stable supply of energy to the EU's industries and citizens in case of further disruptions and achieving the REPowerEU goal to phase out Russian fossil fuels?**
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