

## **Answer to the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, Frans Timmermans**

Dear Mr Timmermans,

Since our original letter to you on 15 July 2021 on the Green Deal, we have received three responses from your subordinate officials, the latest one on 22 September 2021.

Unfortunately, each of the three responses merely generalises the known ideological views of the European Commission on decarbonisation policy.

Above all, we must reject the idea that the Green Deal, with its 2050 climate neutrality target, is a 'growth strategy' according to the EU leadership. So far, we have only witnessed the fact that speculative emission allowances, which have got completely out of control, are leading to the chaotic shutdown of stable and largely, no longer economically, greening coal-fired power sources. Intermittent sources (IR), of which only photovoltaic power plants are relevant in the Czech context, and wind power in countries with sea power, are not and NEVER will be able to fully replace stable turbine sources, given their characteristics. It is telling that neither PV nor wind have a full life cycle analysis of their overall environmental impact. As a result, major EU countries like Germany cannot imagine how they could otherwise compensate for IR outages without gas-fired reserve capacity coupled with capacity payments - see for example the threat of a blackout in Germany in mid-August. The result is a looming collapse of the energy market both in physical terms of capacity and, of course, subsequently in terms of unaffordable prices. Germany has already officially conducted its first blackout drill on 9 October.

Since the summer, we have been witnessing, not only in the Czech Republic, an explosion in the price of electricity and in the price of natural gas, which the Russian regime of President Putin is using very skilfully to pursue its geopolitical interests. If the European Commission now estimates that up to a third of the EU population may suffer from energy poverty and need social assistance, for the new Member States from Central and Eastern Europe, up to 4/5 of the population may be affected. The misleading term 'energy poverty' should also be rejected. The sharp rise in electricity prices will eventually affect all areas of the economy and society, causing a rapid overall impoverishment of a significant part of the population and a collapse of the economy.

As is well known from the work of the American sociologist Abraham Maslow, the problems of the nation, the world and the planet are addressed at the top of his well-known pyramid of needs by the best-off people. Citizens struggling at the base of this pyramid to provide housing, warmth, food and security for themselves, and their families are indifferent to the fate of the world, which, in their struggle for bare existence, is logically reduced to narrow selfish interests. No amount of billions of dollars of long-term unfunded transfers from some 'green beggars' and an ever-growing system of redistribution and subsidies can solve this situation. On the contrary, such frustrated citizens as voters can install extremist and populist politicians in power who will look for the quickest possible short-cut solutions. The formalistic, socially and regionally insensitive implementation of the Green Deal, whose possible positive effects will perhaps and theoretically be seen at the end of the 21st

century, is already having a hard impact on the current lives of EU citizens, especially in the comparatively not so affluent, post-communist member states.

The Czech Republic is already being hit hard by an impact of the Green Deal policy in the form of the forced promotion of electromobility. As elsewhere in the EU, it is virtually impossible to sell electric cars without subsidies, i.e., money from other taxpayers' pockets. European consumers do not see any added value in them, and it is already clear that it will be difficult to ensure that they are constantly recharged with scarce electricity. As a result, production is now grinding to a halt at Škoda Auto, the largest and most important company in the Czech economy, while other car manufacturers, Hyundai and Toyota, are also experiencing outages. The immediate reason is a shortage of chips, but the key reason is the rejection of electromobility, and the production of internal combustion engines punished by emission fines. The result is already a sharp drop in new car sales and rising volumes of ever older used cars. You will know this from your home country, the Netherlands. The production of cars and components accounts for 10% of the Czech GDP and roughly a quarter of the country's industrial production and exports.

Dear Mr Timmermans, electricity is not just a commodity; its abundance and affordability are a prerequisite for the functioning of our technologically oriented civilisation. Any attempts to change this paradigm would only mean the collapse of a civilisation that wanted to follow this adventurous path.

As the German weekly Focus wrote at the beginning of October, warning of the growing risk of blackouts in Germany, after just three days of total blackouts, (German) society will collapse.

The Czech Republic is the most industrialized country in the European Union in relation to GDP. Without a stable and affordable supply of electricity 24/7/365, domestic industry as the basis of the country's prosperity would be at risk, as dozens of leading Czech industrial entrepreneurs have already pointed out. The Czech Republic is still governed by its State Energy Concept, which assumes the dominant use of nuclear energy in the energy mix, which has long been approved by 70% of the Czech population in surveys. If the European Commission wants the Czech Republic to make a real contribution to the EU's decarbonisation plans in terms of its capabilities, then it should agree with the opinion of a number of EU Member States, led by France, and include nuclear power in the taxonomy as a supported resource as soon as possible and support the construction of new nuclear power sources directly financially. We are convinced, in line with Andrei Sakharov's famous essay, that without nuclear energy, our Western civilisation will not be truly free and independent.

We call on the representatives of the newly formed government and parliament of the Czech Republic, which emerged from the free democratic elections on 8 and 9 October, to make further acceptance of the EU Green Deal policy conditional on studies of the impact of this policy on key aspects of the life of EU countries in the field of energy, the economy and on the necessary social cohesion of society.

As you know, we, the citizens of the Czech Republic, have already experienced painfully first-hand, in the long 40-year period before 1989, what it means to implement an ideological policy which, in contradiction to the laws of nature and other conclusions of science, research and technological assumptions, promised a 'bright, rosy tomorrow'. Therefore, we will monitor and analyse with the utmost caution whether the Green Deal policy is in line with scientific knowledge and experience and whether it can really mean an improvement in the lives of the vast majority of the inhabitants of our common Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Prague, 20 October 2021

Think-tank Realistic energy and ecology  
([www.realisticka.cz](http://www.realisticka.cz))

Ing. Jaroslav Čížek, Chair

PhDr. Milan Smutný, Spokesman

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