

24/03/2022

To the attention of:

Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium Alexander De Croo
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Spain Pedro Sánchez
Prime Minister of the Italian Republic Mario Draghi
Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic António Costa

Re: Collective EU strategy to address the energy crisis facing consumers

Euroconsumers welcomes the call from the leaders of [Italy](#), [Spain](#), [Portugal](#), and [Belgium](#) for a **common EU strategy** to address the energy crisis facing EU consumers, by mitigating rising energy prices.

We write to you, as the Prime Ministers of Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Belgium to declare our experience and knowledge at your full disposal in view of the EU Summit of 24th and 25th of March . We are indeed available to discuss any possible and welcome first step towards collective EU action on addressing skyrocketing energy prices.

With Euroconsumers' four EU member organisations Altroconsumo, OCU, DecoProteste and Test Achats, based in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Belgium, **Euroconsumers has a wealth of experience [working with consumers struggling with rising energy prices](#)** in these Member States, particularly in the field of collective purchases. For example, through our [Hintdeal](#) activities we continuously assist critical masses of consumers through the entire process of collective purchases: analysis, design & development, and support.

Euroconsumers hopes that in the European Council beginning Thursday 24th March, the Council can agree on such a joint energy strategy to lower energy prices. The European Commission's [communication](#) of possible market interventions provides examples of policy choices member states can take to help consumers.

The EU must use its collective financial and regulatory leverage to protect its consumers. Collective action - such as common purchase and storage and maximum price for gas - is needed to protect consumers, and prevent vulnerable consumers sliding further into energy poverty.

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Euroconsumers and its member organisations stand ready to assist and divert all their knowledge and experience to this problem.

Yours Sincerely,



Ivo Mechels
Executive Director of Euroconsumers

About Euroconsumers

Gathering five national consumer organisations and giving voice to a total of more than 1.5 million people, Euroconsumers is the world's leading consumer cluster in innovative information, personalised services and defence of consumer's rights. We work closely together with Consumers International to ensure consumers are safe, that markets are fair and benefit from honest relations with businesses and authorities. Our European member groups are also part of the umbrella network of BEUC, the European Consumer Organisation. Together we advocate for EU policies that benefit consumers in their daily lives. Such market interventions range from financial compensation such as income support, capping electricity prices, and reducing taxation, to regulatory measures such as a fixed price for generators.