

For Immediate Release

22 October 2021

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How to protect consumers from skyrocketing energy prices

An online event from Euroconsumers on the impact of the unfolding energy crisis on consumers

Brussels - 21st October - On the 28th October from 15:30 to 16:30 Euroconsumers will hold an online event to discuss the issues consumers are facing in the energy crisis, and the solutions being identified and utilised in different countries, in an open dialogue between its member organisations Test Aankoop/Test Achats (Belgium), OCU (Spain), Altroconsumo (Italy) and Deco Proteste (Portugal), the European Commission and international energy experts.

The debate around energy has never been more important, or contested. With the EU Summit, the EU Energy Council, the G20, and COP26 all arriving in quick succession this Autumn, at a time of acute energy problems, and an ever worsening climate, dialogue on a way forward to continue the green transition, while providing consumers with affordable and reliable energy, is vital.

With energy prices skyrocketing across the EU, and the world, many consumers are struggling to warm and light homes, and carry out their normal daily lives with access to a basic human need in the 21st century: affordable energy. Retail prices of electricity and gas have already risen significantly this year. In the absence of a solution, the number of consumers at risk will grow sharply.

Euroconsumers' member organisations in Belgium, Spain, Portugal and Italy are at the forefront in this energy crisis, pulling out all the stops to help consumers in the best way possible. Their first hand experience and insights will be at the basis of an interesting exchange on the pressing energy matter.

Among the topics that will be discussed during the webinar:

- Reducing or removing taxes in energy bills.
- Impact of the marginal price system currently in place in the EU electricity market .
- The way forward in the green transition in the context of rising energy bills.

“Skyrocketing energy prices have left many consumers suffering,” said Els Bruggeman, Head of Policy and Enforcement at Euroconsumers. “Costs are rising for everyone, in particular putting vulnerable consumers at severe risk heading into winter. This webinar will be a platform of discussion identifying possible policy solutions to mitigate, if not resolve, the problems consumers are dealing with.”

“The future is the green transition,” added Marco Pierani, Director of Public Affairs & Media Relations at Euroconsumers. “But the key is to provide reliable and affordable energy to consumers while continuing in this period of change. No one must be left behind.”

Speakers will include:

- Adela Tesarova, Head of Unit for Consumers, Local Initiatives and Just Transitions at the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Energy.
- Experts from Euroconsumers member organisations Test Aankoop/Test Achats (Belgium), OCU (Spain), Altroconsumo (Italy), Deco Proteste (Portugal).
- Jan Cornillie, Head of Strategy and Policy at 3E, Research Associate at the School of Transnational Governance (European University Institute).

The webinar will take place from 15:30 to 16:30 on Thursday 28. You can register [here](#).

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.