

At European level. In July, Member States [committed](#) to a 15% reduction of gas consumption from 1 August to 31 March 2022. To ease the pressure on consumers, the Commission [is proposing](#) a reduction in electricity consumption of at least 5% during peak hours, a temporary cap on revenues for infra-marginal electricity producers at €180/MWh and a "solidarity contribution" on the profits of fossil fuels companies, where revenues exceed the average profits of the previous three years by 20%.

State	Measures taken to address the energy crisis
<p>Germany</p>	<p>From 1 September and for 6 months: it is forbidden "to use certain types of heating for swimming pools and bathing pools"; non-residential buildings are required to stop heating rooms where people do not regularly stay, such as corridors or large halls, except for "medical establishments, establishments dedicated to helping the disabled, establishments for the care of dependent persons, schools and nurseries". In non-residential public buildings, the obligation to switch off decentralised hot water installations is imposed. For historical buildings and monuments, lighting is no longer allowed, except for emergency or security reasons. In order to avoid heat loss, the doors of heated shops may no longer remain open at all times. In addition, their windows will no longer be lit between 10 pm and 6 am. The temperature in public buildings should not exceed 19°C. 19° C will also be the mandatory minimum temperature for offices in private companies.</p> <p>From 1 October: a gas heating monitoring system for property owners, as well as compulsory hydraulic calibration for large buildings. Companies whose consumption exceeds 10 gigawatt hours per year will be subject to energy audits with a view to renewing and optimising their systems.</p> <p>On 4 September, a €65 billion plan was announced by Chancellor Olaf Scholz. This package is mainly aimed at students, who will receive an energy voucher amounting to €2,000, and pensioners, who will receive €300 in aid. There is also closer cooperation with France; the latter will supply more gas to Germany and Germany will supply France with electricity.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 1.7% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source Source 2</p>

<p>Austria</p>	<p>To encourage Austrians to reduce their energy consumption, the Council of Ministers has adopted measures to reduce the cost of electricity for households up to the threshold of 2,900 kilowatt-hours, above which the market price must be paid.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 2.3% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>Belgium</p>	<p>Earlier this summer, Belgium presented its 'Winter 2022' plan. In addition to aid for companies and individuals, the plan calls on citizens, companies, and public authorities to reduce their consumption of gas, electricity and fuel. The temperature in all federal government buildings will not exceed 19°C, and lighting (including monuments) will be switched off between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. An awareness-raising campaign has been launched on the Jaiunimpact.be website, which contains a list of energy-saving practices such as turning down the heating by 1°C, heating your home less at night, paying more attention to energy-consuming appliances, and preferring cycling to more polluting means of transport. Belgium has also extended the life of its nuclear power plants by ten years to 2035. The Belgian government adopted on September 16 measures to support businesses and a reduced price package for households for the months of November and December, consisting of a deduction of €135 per month from gas bills and €61 from electricity bills.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 0.8% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>Croatia</p>	<p>In July, Croatia adopted energy saving guidelines for the period from 1 August 2022 to 31 March 2023. The guidelines encourage heating rooms to a maximum of 21°C, switching from traditional light bulbs to LED lighting, prioritising the use of public transport, and offering cheaper electricity tariffs.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 1.1% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>

<p>Denmark</p>	<p>Denmark has launched a campaign to encourage citizens to save money: "take shorter showers, dry clothes outside and unplug appliances before going on holiday".</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 0.1% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>Finland</p>	<p>Finland has launched a campaign to encourage citizens to save energy. Measures to be adopted include reducing indoor temperatures by at least 1°C, reducing time spent in the shower, using public transport, a speed limit for motorists, and reducing time spent on digital devices.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 0.5% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>Hungary</p>	<p>The Minister responsible for the Prime Minister's Office, Gergely Gulyás, informed citizens at a press conference on 8 September of the government's decision to reduce gas consumption in institutional buildings and public enterprises, except for hospitals and social care institutions, by 25%. The maximum temperature in public buildings should not exceed 18°C in winter.</p> <p>Source Source</p>
<p>Ireland</p>	<p>In Ireland, the Sustainable Energy Authority has launched a campaign bringing together a range of measures to reduce energy consumption, including reducing indoor temperatures, using public transport and using electronics responsibly.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 0.2% of its GDP for measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>Italy</p>	<p>Implementation of a 1°C reduction in the heating of buildings, setting a temperature of 17°C for industrial and commercial buildings and 19°C for all others.</p>

	<p>Citizens are called upon to adopt more responsible behaviour through a number of everyday actions: "reduce the temperature and duration of showers, use electric heat pumps used for air conditioning in summer also for heating in winter, turn down the heat after boiling and reduce the time the oven is used, use dishwashers and washing machines with a full load, unplug the washing machine when not in use, turn off or turn on the low-energy function of the refrigerator during holidays, do not leave televisions, decoders, DVDs on standby, reduce the number of hours the light bulbs are switched on"</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 2.8% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>The Netherlands</p>	<p>It is prohibited to exceed 19 C° in the home, heat only those rooms in the home where people spend time regularly and keep the temperature at 15 C° at night or during the day if no one is staying in the premises. Showers should not last longer than 5 minutes, the use of the tumble dryer should be limited, and the air conditioning system should be switched off in favour of the energy-saving fan. The shutters of the buildings should remain closed during the day to limit the loss of coolness in summer and heat in winter.</p> <p>From 2023, the obligation to adopt energy-saving measures will be extended to "at least" 1 000 companies.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 0.7% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>Poland</p>	<p>Poland is waiting for measures to be adopted at European level before implementing its own energy saving plan. In his speech on 13 July, Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki called on citizens to insulate their homes before facing a difficult winter. To support citizens in doing so, the government has pledged to allocate "billions more" to its clean air programme, which provides subsidies to homeowners for better insulation and the purchase of cleaner heating systems.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 1.3% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>

<p>Czech Republic</p>	<p>In July, the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade published a "handbook" of energy-saving measures. Individuals are asked to turn off lights and electronic devices to avoid energy waste from standby mode, as well as to favour LED bulbs, which consume up to 90% less energy than traditional bulbs. Similarly, closing windows during the day in summer is strongly recommended to avoid excessive cooling of rooms by air conditioning systems. More generally, the manual states that the difference between outdoor and indoor temperatures should be kept below 5°C. Some changes to the regulations are being developed, including a shortening of the heating season for buildings.</p> <p>To date, the country has allocated 2.5% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>
<p>France</p>	<p>The French government presented its energy sobriety plan on 5 September. The aim is to achieve energy savings of 10% compared to normal consumption to avoid rationing.</p> <p>Air conditioning and heating in public and private buildings are to be reduced, illuminated advertising is to be switched off between 1am and 6am, some public swimming pools heated by gas are to be closed, and the doors of heated or air-conditioned shops are to be systematically closed. The government has launched the Mon Ecowatt website, which will help users to see when electricity consumption is at its peak so that they can adapt their habits. The price buffer will be extended until 31 December to limit the increase in gas prices in January and electricity prices in February by 15%. In addition, energy vouchers worth between €100 and €200 will be distributed to the 12 million most vulnerable households.</p> <p>To date, France has allocated 1.8% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source Source</p>

<p>Portugal</p>	<p>On 5 September, the Portuguese government unveiled measures to reduce energy consumption. In public buildings, heating and air conditioning temperatures will have to be reduced and lights in buildings will have to be switched off when they are closed. For private sector buildings, these are only recommendations and not obligations. Decorative lights should be switched off after midnight.</p> <p>In agreement with the European Union, Portugal, like Spain, will only have to reduce its energy consumption by 7% by March 2023, (15% in the rest of the EU). In April, Portugal had already reduced taxes on petroleum products, which was equivalent to a 13% VAT cut. The government also released €2.4 billion to help households in difficulty.</p> <p>Source Source</p>
<p>Spain</p>	<p>On 1 August, Spain announced measures to reduce energy consumption. Spain is allowed to reduce its energy consumption by only 7% by March 2023. Public places, shops, cultural venues and public transport will be allowed to be heated to a maximum of 19°C and air-conditioned to 27°C.</p> <p>From 10pm onwards, shop windows and lighting in public buildings must be switched off. Doors to public areas should be closed to avoid wasting air conditioning or heating. Failure to comply with these rules can result in fines of up to €60,000.</p> <p>To date, Spain has allocated 2.3% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>

<p>Greece</p>	<p>On 7 September, Greece announced the measures taken as part of its energy sobriety plan. The aim is to reduce energy consumption by 10% this winter. Civil servants are asked to turn off the heating and air conditioning when leaving their workplaces. Heating should not exceed 19°C and air conditioning 27°C. Air conditioning should not be used all the time either.</p> <p>The government has also announced the creation of a €640 million budget, which could increase to €1 billion, to insulate public buildings. For households, new subsidies will be put in place to enable the poorest families to insulate their homes. Finally, the Greek population has been invited to change their household appliances for new, more efficient ones.</p> <p>To date, Greece has allocated 3.7% of its GDP to measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source Source</p>
<p>Lithuania</p>	<p>In Lithuania, the government presented its energy efficiency plan on 7 September. 2% of GDP is expected to be used to implement it. Among the measures defined, there is a cap on gas and electricity prices. Public buildings should not be heated above 19°C and air-conditioned below 27°C. In addition, remote working is encouraged on Mondays and Fridays to avoid heating or cooling buildings.</p> <p>To date, Lithuania has allocated 3.6% of its GDP for measures to protect consumers from rising energy prices.</p> <p>Source</p>