



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE



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Government Offices of Sweden
Prime Minister's Office

Ursula von der Leyen
President of the
European Commission

08 SEP 2022
Copenhagen, Helsinki, Stockholm

Dear Ursula,

Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine has brought war to Europe. In this war, President Putin is using energy as a weapon against the European Union, our citizens and our businesses. This has pushed us to the brink of an energy crisis with skyrocketing energy prices and high inflation that pose a serious political challenge. A challenge that we must address decisively and with urgency before going into a winter that will only worsen the current situation.

While we have already taken important steps to address the situation, it is clear that our efforts so far to relieve the pressure are not sufficient.

Urgent action is necessary to tackle the unacceptably high costs our citizens are facing. We need to consider all initiatives that will have a decisive impact on consumers, an effect that makes a difference for households and businesses throughout the EU. We are in a crisis and we must act accordingly. We appreciate your clear message on the need for action and the bold initiatives you presented in your statement yesterday.

First of all, we must aim at a coordinated reduction in EU electricity demand and implement extensive energy efficiency initiatives to both strengthen our security of supply and put a brake on price hikes.

Secondly, we agree on the need to look at temporary adjustments to minimize the impact of high gas prices on energy for consumption, and to enhance stability of the electricity derivatives market. We should aim to do this in a way that does not unnecessarily limit our access to energy, remove incentives for further investments in renewable energy or create further pressure on inflation rates.

Finally, we must accelerate our transition to green energy resources which remains the best way to get rid of Russian fossil fuels and strengthen our energy supply.

We are looking to the Commission to guide us on how to achieve these goals and prepare a strengthened response that reflects our solidarity and unwavering commitment to addressing the challenges arising from Russian aggression.

Yours sincerely,

Mette Frederiksen

Sanna Marin

Magdalena Andersson