

**Question for written answer E-005554/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Renegotiation of the Energy Charter Treaty: position of the EU regarding fossil fuels protection, ISDS and public information

The European Green Deal aims at reaching carbon neutrality by 2050. Achieving this target is paramount to curb global warming and preserve our future. It requires a profound energy transition.

However, the European Union and most Member States are parties to the Energy Charter Treaty which could protect 2150 billion euros of investments in fossil fuels by 2050 against public policies aimed at phasing them out. Companies are already challenging States' environmental regulations before opaque tribunals with claims that reach billions of euros.

The EU participates in the ECT "modernization" process with the goal of aligning it with its "decarbonization ambition" and the Paris Agreement. However, unanimity of all parties is required, and some openly oppose any reform.

- 1 What is the exact position of the EU regarding fossil fuels in the modernization process? Should a "modernized ECT" end the protection of fossil fuel investments?
- 2 What is the exact position of the EU regarding the reform of the ISDS mechanism? Will it reject a revised treaty that is not in line with the EU's MIC proposals?
- 3 Will the Commission publicly report on the ongoing negotiations considering the current lack of public information and the importance of this process?