



CIBUK - PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGO: Immediate release

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Will the lights go out in Europe?

EU's von der Leyen blacked out
by EU27 in deal to keep the lights
on this winter



Yesterday in Brussels, Ursula von der Leyen's EU Commission failed in its bid to impose severe energy reductions on EU member countries as a result of the over-reliance of some EU countries on Russian gas, which has now been cut by 80%.

In a hastily convened summit in Brussels, a decision among the EU27 has agreed a voluntary 15% reduction in gas use from August through to March of next year.

Thanks to Brexit, the UK escapes these EU-imposed strictures.

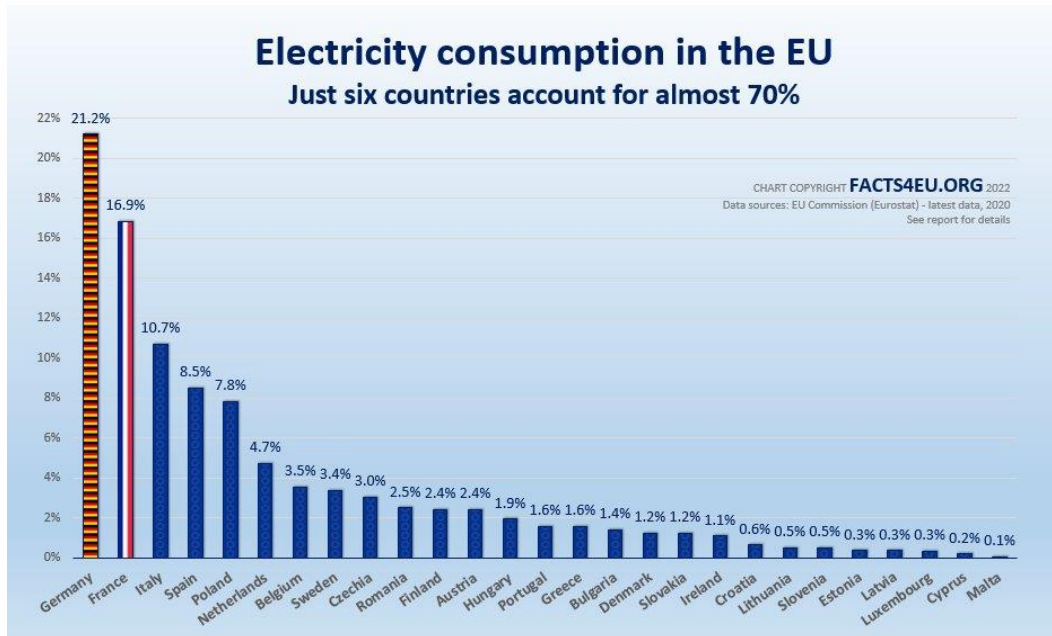
CIBUK (<https://cibuk.org/>) – the longest-established organisation for independence, freedom and democracy in the UK – exposes the policy 'fudge' behind the EU's latest statement which belies any sense of unity among the 27 member states with its multiple exemptions and derogations. The summary is below and the [full report is now available here](#).

The report below has been produced in association with our affiliated organisation and research think tank, [Facts4EU.Org](#).

Summary

Europe's 'big three' consume almost half the EU's total electricity supply

- Add in three more and these six EU countries account for 70% of total EU consumption
- The remaining 21 EU countries were being asked to make sacrifices for 'The Big Six'



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- Germany : 21.2%
- France : 16.9%
- Italy : 10.7%

Total of the 'Top 3' : 48.8%

- Spain : 8.5%
- Poland : 7.8%
- Netherlands : 4.7%

Total of the 'Top 6' : 69.8%

[Source: EU Commission statistics agency Eurostat, accessed 26 July 2022.]

ALWAYS LOOK BEHIND THE EU'S PROPOGANDA

- There is no unanimity behind the EU's latest statement because the policy itself has yet to be fully agreed
 - EU member countries refused to allow the EU Commission to issue a 'mandatory directive' on the reduction in energy consumption.
 - Instead this is now the prerogative of the EU Council of 27 national leaders and only if there is deemed to be an emergency
 - Finally, it's clear that many countries disagreed and have been exempted from the plan, or will have 'derogations' from it.
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OBSERVATIONS

Thank goodness the United Kingdom left the European Union when it did.

The attempts by the EU to present some kind of 'united position' yesterday are completely fictitious. There is no common policy.

It would be surprising if there were, given the disparity of energy supplies and usage across a bloc that contains countries with completely different characteristics.

For the full report click here: <https://cibuk.org/2022-july-eu-power-supply/>

For editors and journalists

[The full report is now available here.](#)

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To contact one of CIBUK's Officers the email is admin.office@cibuk.org. We are happy to provide more information.

About CIBUK: The Campaign for an Independent Britain ([CIBUK](#)) is a non-party political campaigning organisation of people from all walks of life. It is the UK's longest-running membership organisation for freedom, democracy and independence.

Founded in 1969, for over 50 years the CIBUK has made a significant contribution in campaigning on issues important to the majority of our population and in securing our exit from the European Union. Now it's time for the next chapter.