'Deal': EU green lights first-ever cap for gas prices in bid to tackle energy crisis

After months of political bickering that has seen a dizzying succession of draft proposals, joint letters, emergency meetings and increasingly exasperated statements, the European Union on Monday approved the first-ever cap on gas prices.

EU ministers hammered out a deal on the cap during the last Energy Council of the year in Brussels.

"Another mission impossible accomplished," Czech Trade Minister Jozef Síkela told reporters.

"To agree today was not only our obligation," he said. "Most importantly it was our duty towards our citizens and businesses who were waiting for us to act."

The unprecedented measure is aimed at curbing energy prices as the bloc reels from a crisis exacerbated by Russia's decision to stop supplying the EU with fossil fuels to retaliate against sanctions over its war in Ukraine.

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