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High fuel price kills more people in Europe than fighting in Ukraine



Sources: By Wereld Morgen

Translated from Dutch for Rebellion by Sven Magnus

It is annoying that the economic sanctions resulting from the invasion of Ukraine affect Europe more than Russia. But now a recent study by The Economist magazine has shown that due to high fuel prices, the number of additional deaths in Europe in the coming

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winter could be higher than the number of soldiers killed so far in combat in Ukraine. A sobering fact.

Before of the war Russia supplied about 40% of the total gas consumption of the European Union. In response to the Ukraine and Poland closed some pipelines carrying gas from Russia to Europe. Western.

Russia disconnected countries like Finland, Bulgaria and Poland that were unwilling to pay for their gas in rubles. In addition, the works necessary to maintain the important Nord Stream gas pipeline at full capacity were also compromised.

The sharp reduction in gas supply, which so far has not It can be compensated in full by imports from elsewhere, has skyrocketed the prices of gas and indirectly those of electricity in Europe.

While So much so, due to a very mild autumn and large gas reserves that Europe has accumulated, market prices have fallen since its maximum in the summer. However, the average price of gas today is almost two and a half times higher than in the period 2000-2019. In the case of electricity, almost double.

And Now winter is just around the corner. It's a phenomenon. It is well known that in the winter period more people die from of the cold than in the summer. In both Europe and the United States, Average is 20% more.

In In the past, energy prices had little or no impact in that excess mortality because price fluctuations They were very small. But now that the Cost increases are remarkably large We can expect a much greater impact.

The Economist developed a model statistical to calculate that impact. In addition to the prices of the Energy, there are three other factors that cause additional deaths: The most important is the severity of winter, in addition to the severity of the flu season (which is determined in part by cold) and, finally, the compensations that governments give to families to cope with rising prices.

The High fuel prices can aggravate the effect of low temperatures over the number of deaths, deterring people put the heating, so they expose themselves that way more to the cold. To a large extent, the same is true of the support of the governments to households to cope with the energy crisis.

According to The study of *The Economist* the "The hard conclusion" is that the impact "will be very strong" and the death toll "could be greater than the number of soldiers killed so far in combat in Ukraine."

Yes energy prices remain at current levels, at A typical winter about 147,000 more people could lose their lives. life in Europe compared to the maintenance of life in Europe "Normal" prices. If it is a mild winter (making the Calculations according to the temperature of the warmest winter of the Last 20 years for each country) the figure is reduced to 79,000. With a harsh winter (calculating according to the coldest winter since the year 2000 until now) the excess of additional mortality could be rise to 185,000.

Herself He believes that between 25,000 and 30,000 soldiers from both sides have been killed. in the war, in addition to some 6,500 Ukrainian civilians. In total it is a figure lower even than the number resulting from the best time prediction of *The model Economist*.

The Revista notes that the effect can vary greatly from country to country. In countries that have set maximum prices or a turnover Maximum there will hardly be additional mortality or even the Mortality decreases. This includes France, Great Britain, Spain and Austria. In countries where government support is low (for now), like Italy, Estonia and Finland, an amount is forecast of deaths much higher.

Without doubts sanctions against Putin will weaken the Russian economy long term, but so far it is not at all the case. Revenue Expected by Russian energy exports will be a third higher than last year. The main ones punished are the countries European. that they punish themselves by imposing such sanctions. Recent data show that the rate of Russian activity (indicator of current activity) is higher than in other large countries European.

How Consequence of high energy prices many companies they might have to close their doors, or move to other regions where energy costs are lower. In addition, to combat

inflation which, in turn, is the result Especially from high energy prices, it is almost certain that We headed to a real recession in Europe.

In addition of economic self-flagellation, the toll that Europe will pay in Human lives will be especially high. It's time to reflect profoundly about the sense or meaninglessness of sanctions Economic.

Source: <https://www.dewereldmorgen.be/artikel/2022/11/25/hoge-brandstofprijzen-doden-meer-europeanen-dan-gevechten-in-oekraine/>

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