

**Question for written answer E-010894/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
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Subject: EU-Turkey energy cooperation

The Ukraine crisis has highlighted the European Union's dependence on Russian gas and the need to strengthen its energy security.

On December 1, Russia cancelled the South Stream pipeline project to supply gas to southern Europe, bypassing Ukraine, and instead named Turkey as its preferred partner for an alternative pipeline.

Turkey stands out as a crucial partner for EU's energy security and energy diversification. However, the blockage of the energy chapter by Cyprus remains the main obstacle to an enhanced EU-Turkish energy cooperation.

Given the importance of energy transport plans via Turkey for the EU's energy security, the opening of the energy chapter in membership negotiations with Turkey would be a major breakthrough in EU-Turkey relations.

What is the EU doing in order to speed up the opening of the energy chapter with Turkey?

Recent gas discoveries in the eastern Mediterranean have further exacerbated the division of Cyprus and triggered a new crisis between the parties instead of acting as a catalyst for peace between the two communities. The eventual sharing of natural resources within the framework of a resumption of the peace process could benefit the two communities in Cyprus as well as the EU.

How does the EU intend to redress this situation?