



BUREAU OF THE EU-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE JOINT STATEMENT

by

Members of the Bureau of the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee:

Witold Jan WASZCZYKOWSKI (ECR, Poland), Co-Chair Vadym HALAICHUK, ("Servant of the People") Co-Chair, First Deputy Chair of the Committee on Ukraine's Integration into the European Union Viola VON CRAMON-TAUBADEL (Greens/EFA, Germany), Vice Chair Traian BASESCU (EPP, Romania), Vice Chair Ivanna KLYMPUSH-TSINTSADZE ("European Solidarity"), Vice Chair, Chair of the Committee on Ukraine's Integration into the European Union, and

Andrius KUBILIUS, (EPP, Lithuania), Co-President, Euronest Parliamentary Assembly

Brussels/Kyiv, 15 June 2021

"We, Members of the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee, are deeply concerned about the resumed construction works on the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline and oppose Russia using the project as a blackmail tool to monopolise gas supplies and transit to Europe.

We consider Nord Stream 2 as a geopolitical, not a commercial project geared towards expanding Russia's geostrategic influence on Europe by dominating the energy market. The completion of the pipeline will strengthen the role of Russian gas in the European energy mix, endanger national security for the EU and the United States, and threaten the already precarious security and sovereignty of Ukraine.

The likely repercussion of the completion and operation of Nord Stream 2 is to undermine the development of a single, liberalized, and open European market, by consolidating sources of supply in the Nord Stream system and deterring investment in alternatives. The pipeline would destabilise the European Union, and degrade Ukraine, which could be eliminated as the main Russia-EU gas transit route.

The project might distort competition, expose the EU to a severe fragmentation of its internal energy market, and sabotage the credibility of the EU energy policy that aims to diversify the routes and suppliers as a joint and coordinated response to the energy security challenges facing the EU Member States and the bloc. This would undermine Europe's cohesion and transatlantic relations, and run counter to the aim of a coordinated EU energy policy.

The completion of Nord Stream 2 will also have dire consequences in the field of regional security, as Moscow will surely use it as an excuse for more military presence in the Baltic Sea area.

We call upon the EU leadership to review cooperation with Russia in various foreign policy platforms in order to immediately and unconditionally stop the construction of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline. Given the seriousness of the situation, we urge the EU leadership to take urgent action and promptly deliver the EU's support."

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