

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on Foreign Affairs*

**2008/2239(INI)**

20.1.2009

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on the Second Strategic Energy Review  
(2008/2239(INI))

Rapporteur: Giorgos Dimitrakopoulos

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Commission's Second Strategic Energy Review communication, and in particular its proposals on external energy policy, which are broadly in line with Parliament's resolution of 26 September 2007 entitled "Towards a common European foreign policy on energy"<sup>1</sup>; expresses disappointment about the lack of detailed proposals and underlines once more the need for further intensification of the EU efforts to develop a coherent and effective common European foreign policy on energy with a renewed focus on energy-producing countries;
2. Considers that the establishment of a European foreign policy on energy will enable the EU to speak with one voice and will further strengthen its international position on energy matters; calls on the Commission, therefore, to identify and propose concrete mechanisms for the deepening and refinement of cooperation between the Member States and the EU for the establishment of a common position and message; asks the Commission to speed up its work and to present concrete proposals as soon as possible;
3. Considers that Europe must act as a role model in respect of sustainability and energy efficiency and that the European Union must therefore take a leading role on the issues of renewable energies and energy efficiency worldwide and must export its knowledge and expertise in this field; underlines the need to utilise this potential, especially in the bilateral dialogue with emerging countries such as China and India;
4. Considers that relations and partnerships with key energy suppliers, transit countries and consumer countries are important and must be deepened; points out, however, that the deepening of those relations and partnerships should in no circumstances take place to the detriment of the EU's founding values with regard, in particular, to respect for human rights; underlines in this regard that the development of confidence and deeper and legally binding ties between the EU and producer and transit countries should go hand in hand with the promotion of, and respect for, democracy, human rights and the rule of law; calls for the development and adoption of policies and concrete measures to those ends;
5. Notes with satisfaction cases where there is already regulatory and market integration (e.g. Norway) and underlines the importance of policies under development for the construction of an integrated market in other parts of Europe (e.g. south-east Europe); believes that such market integration will be instrumental in bringing about a deepened dialogue, particularly with producer countries;
6. Underlines the important role of the enlargement process in developing the wide application of the Community *acquis* in the energy sector; in this respect, regards Turkey as an important partner for the EU's energy strategy and takes note of the agreements

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 219 E, 28.8.2008, p. 206.

which Turkey has concluded with neighbouring countries (e.g. with Greece and Italy on the ITGI natural gas pipeline, with Azerbaijan and with Turkmenistan) for the flow of energy supplies;

7. Calls for the development of a new generation of "energy interdependence" provisions in the EU's agreements with producer countries outside Europe, covering issues such as investment and investment protection, the development and physical protection of infrastructure, access to markets, dialogue on developments in market and policy matters, transit agreements and dispute settlement provisions;
8. Underlines the importance of current negotiations between the EU and Russia for the conclusion of a new agreement replacing the 1997 Partnership and Cooperation Agreement; is of the opinion that energy provisions must be a key part of this new agreement in order to achieve further improvements in various areas of the EU-Russia energy relationship; calls, therefore, for the development of legally binding energy interdependence provisions within this framework, with a view to increased industrial cooperation in the field of energy between EU and Russia;
9. Notes the importance of the EU-OPEC energy dialogue and encourages the Commission to intensify the energy dialogue with Norway; points out that cooperation with the countries of the Caspian region remains an important priority;
10. Calls for the further development of energy relations with partners such as the USA, Australia, Canada and Japan, and with fast-growing consumer countries such as China and India; stresses the importance of an enhanced energy dialogue with countries with potential in the field of alternative energy production;
11. Considers that the European Union should intensify the transatlantic dialogue and cooperation with the USA, as the largest consumer of energy, in respect of sustainability and energy efficiency;
12. Notes that, although the realisation of projects such as the Trans-Sahara gas pipeline, the South Stream pipeline, the ITGI natural gas pipeline already under construction and the Nabucco pipeline will contribute to the diversity of gas supplies to Europe in the long term, more must be done in the short to medium term to facilitate exports of mature Caspian gas reserves to Europe; calls for a joint European effort under the Czech Presidency of the European Union and the coming EU Presidencies to support producers in establishing the Southern Gas Corridor;
13. Stresses the importance of rapid approval and implementation of the "Climate action and renewable energy package", in order to tackle climate change by reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and to promote renewable energy sources;
14. Considers that ratification of the Lisbon Treaty will further strengthen all efforts to establish a common European energy policy.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	20.1.2009
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 44 -: 2 0: 1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Vittorio Agnoletto, Angelika Beer, Monika Beňová, Giorgos Dimitrakopoulos, Michael Gahler, Jas Gawronski, Alfred Gomolka, Klaus Hänsch, Richard Howitt, Ioannis Kasoulides, Maria Eleni Koppa, Helmut Kuhne, Johannes Lebech, Philippe Morillon, Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, Raimon Obiols i Germà, Vural Öger, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Justas Vincas Paleckis, Ioan Mircea Pașcu, Alojz Peterle, João de Deus Pinheiro, Samuli Pohjamo, Bernd Posselt, Libor Rouček, Christian Rovsing, Flaviu Călin Rus, Katrin Saks, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, György Schöpflin, Hannes Swoboda, István Szent-Iványi, Konrad Szymański, Charles Tannock, Inese Vaidere, Geoffrey Van Orden, Ari Vatanen, Andrzej Wielowieyski, Zbigniew Zaleski, Josef Zieleniec
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Alexandra Dobolyi, Árpád Duka-Zólyomi, Kinga Gál, Aurelio Juri, Aloyzas Sakalas, Inger Segelström