

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Maciej Giertych

on the call for the Council and Commission to stop the construction of the north European gas pipeline due to the risk of an environmental disaster

Lapse date: 11.11.2006

Written declaration on the call for the Council and Commission to stop the construction of the north European gas pipeline due to the risk of an environmental disaster

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 12 May 2005 on the sixtieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe on 8 May 1945,
 - having regard to Decision No 1229/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2003 laying down a series of guidelines for trans-European energy networks,
 - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas hundreds of thousands of tonnes of viscous mustard gas, sarin, lewisite and other chemical munitions were dumped into the Baltic Sea at the end of the Second World War and are corroding away, ultimately proving disastrous for the environment,
- B. whereas the north European gas pipeline (NEGP) project bypasses Belarus, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and Poland and can be seen as an instrument of political pressure rather than as being economically driven, as is evidenced by the cutting off of gas supplies to Ukraine between 1 and 4 January 2006 and the fact that building the pipeline under the sea is more expensive than on land,
- C. whereas the Commission has yet to present a report on the NEGP's impact on the environment and public health, especially taking into account the chemical munitions from Nazi Germany dumped in the Baltic Sea after the Second World War,
- D. whereas the Commission is debating a proposal to directly subsidise the private German-Russian project (OAO Gazprom, BASF AG and E.ON AG) with EU taxpayer money,
1. Calls on the Commission to stop the construction of the NEGP in light of the environmental risks involved and to make NEGP investors fully responsible for any damage to the environment and harm to citizens living close to the Baltic Sea caused as a result of the project operations;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and Commission, and to the governments of the Member States, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America.