The European Commission – United States (US) Joint Statement on European Energy Security of 25 March 2022 is publicly available. It emphasises both sides’ commitment to reducing Europe’s dependency on Russian fossil fuels through the deployment of clean energy and supply of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the US and other sources.

Market forces determine the LNG flows in the EU: private companies trade natural gas, based on the EU gas market rules, matching supply with demand, while considering the need to refill EU gas storages and available gas infrastructure. The EU Energy Platform will facilitate the purchase of natural gas, LNG and hydrogen by pooling demand, coordinating outreach to suppliers and optimising infrastructure use. Consultations under the Joint Statement are ongoing with the US on this basis.

The Commission acknowledges that some natural gas is produced in the US through high-volume hydraulic fracturing. It adopted in 2014 a Recommendation on minimum principles for the exploration and production of hydrocarbons using such techniques.

Any fossil fuel production generates greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), including methane. Specific data in indirect GHG emissions is not yet available. However, there are ongoing efforts to develop a sound methodology for tracking methane emissions along the supply chain while the EU and the US launched the Global Methane Pledge to reduce them. In the Joint Statement, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to reducing the GHG intensity of new LNG infrastructure and associated pipelines needed in the interim.

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1 [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_22_2041](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_22_2041). The Statement is exhaustive, i.e. it is not accompanied by any additional document.


3 e.g. the IEA Global Methane Tracker [https://www.iea.org/reports/global-methane-tracker-2022](https://www.iea.org/reports/global-methane-tracker-2022)

4 Russia has not yet joined.