ORAL QUESTION H-0993/07 for Question Time at the part-session in January 2008 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Danuté Budreikaité to the Council

Subject: Implementation of the Nabucco project

In an attempt to reduce its dependence on the monopolistic supply of gas from Russia, the European Union has launched the Nabucco project. The project plans to connect the Caspian region, the Middle East and Europe. A pipeline would run from Iran, via Turkey, to Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary. One branch would be routed towards Austria, and another, via Slovakia to Poland. Joining Poland up to the EU's gas networks would help solve the problem of connecting the EU gas 'island' of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland to the EU networks.

In the context of the Nabucco project, what is the Council's view of the agreement between the Italian company Eni and the Russian company Gazprom to set up a gas export company, South Stream, that would own a gas pipeline to southern Europe, with a branch to central Europe? When is it anticipated that the Nabucco will be implemented?

Tabled: 29.11.2007

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