

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on Industry, Research and Energy*

**2008/2104(INI)**

12.2.2009

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on Relations between the EU and Russia  
(2008/2104(INI))

Draftswoman: Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

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## SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Underlines the need for enhanced cooperation and good neighbourly relations in the context of a strategic relationship between the EU and Russia, built on stability, cooperation and good commercial practice, including transparency, to be expressed in the new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement that is currently being negotiated - particularly with regard to energy, research and innovation, environment and quality of life issues;
2. Stresses the importance of democracy, civil, human and ethnic minority rights and freedom of speech for the future of Russia; asks the European Commission to ensure that these are in the core of any future agreement with the Russian Federation;
3. Calls on the Commission and Member States to ensure that all European Union undertakings which have commercial relations with undertakings in the Russian Federation or operate on its territory promote European principles and values;
4. Emphasises that Russia is a large dynamic market for EU goods and services - there are many investment opportunities all the way along the energy value chain in the Russian Energy sector; emphasises therefore that it is very important to continue the enhanced dialogue with Russia on energy in the context of the established Energy Dialogue, in the light of increased interdependence, as Russia provides 25% of the EU's oil and gas supplies and the EU accounts for over 50% of Russia's oil and gas exports;
5. Stresses that cooperation on energy should be based on the principles in the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) - in particular global energy security, balance of interests of consuming and producing countries, reciprocity on access to investments, markets and infrastructure- as well as non-discrimination, transparency and good governance; calls on the Commission to make Russian ratification of the ECT one of its key aims in negotiations on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement; encourages the Commission to continue working towards Russia's accession to the WTO; beyond this, underlines the need to work towards an international legal framework of rules which would place obligations on both gas producers and suppliers to ensure reliable, predictable supplies;
6. Calls on Russia and the Ukraine to work together to urgently find a fair, long term solution to the recent disputes that have had serious and substantial negative impacts on gas supplies to the EU; stresses the need for the Council and the Commission to continue mediating between the two parties, in order to reach a speedy resolution; believes that access to energy is a human right and that energy supplies should not be used as a political weapon;
7. In this context, underlines the need to secure access to diversified sources of energy supply and to enhance energy security and efficiency; stresses the importance of EU competition rules as a base for investments and trade; underlines the necessity to use the

private sector to secure and maintain the energy supply; calls on the Commission and the Council to emphasise in negotiations with Russia the importance of the planned Nabucco gas pipeline for the EU, and the EU's opposition to activities that might jeopardise it; considers that, in the current situation, it is vital for the EU to accelerate progress towards putting all new pipeline projects, such as Nabucco, South Stream and TGI in place; stresses the need for the EU to strongly factor energy security considerations into its approach to the aftermath of the 2008 Russia-Georgia conflict;

8. Notes that Russia has already passed a federal law on renewable energy sources; calls on the Russian Federation to provide support for the development of its renewable energy industry, in a sustainable and environmentally-friendly way, and to make use of the environmentally sustainable resources that are available;
9. Notes that exploitation of energy reserves and related infrastructure will have a major impact on local environments and inhabitants; calls on the Commission to ask Russia to continue to ensure that exploitation is accompanied by environmental impact assessments and evaluations of the impact on the population living in the areas concerned, and to guarantee the right of those individuals to maintain their traditional relationship with the land; encourages the Commission to pursue energy cooperation with a view to securing fair and accessible energy for the peoples of both sides; calls on the Russian Federation to guarantee compliance with high environmental standards for all the oil and gas projects which are in progress or planned on its territory;
10. Calls on the Commission to co-operate with Russia to improve the management of its nuclear waste and nuclear safety; encourages the Commission to also pursue close cooperation with Russia regarding nuclear security standards;
11. Underlines that in the course of negotiations between the EU and Russia special attention has to be paid to the ecological impacts of the Nord Stream gas pipeline;
12. Calls on the Commission and Member States, in view of the impact of climate change and the immense costs of failure to act, to step up dialogue with the authorities of the Russian Federation in preparation for the 2009 Copenhagen Conference with a view to negotiating and concluding a post-Kyoto agreement;
13. Calls on Russia to play an active role in future international negotiations and to facilitate a swift agreement by 2009 at the latest, to ensure continuity of the global carbon market;
14. Welcomes the participation of the Russian Federation in the European Union framework programmes; considers that this is opening the way for the efficient use and development of major Russian human and financial resources in the fields of research, development and innovation, which is to the advantage of both Europe and Russia; urges the Commission to find ways to encourage young researchers and young entrepreneurs from the Russian Federation to take part in European research programmes and the Erasmus programme for young entrepreneurs.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	12.2.2009
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 41 -: 0 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Šarūnas Birutis, Jan Březina, Jerzy Buzek, Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, Giles Chichester, Dragoş Florin David, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Den Dover, Lena Ek, Nicole Fontaine, Adam Gierek, Norbert Glante, András Gyürk, Fiona Hall, David Hammerstein, Rebecca Harms, Ján Hudacký, Romana Jordan Cizelj, Pia Elda Locatelli, Eluned Morgan, Antonio Mussa, Angelika Niebler, Anni Podimata, Miloslav Ransdorf, Vladimír Remek, Herbert Reul, Teresa Riera Madurell, Paul Rübig, Andres Tarand, Britta Thomsen, Patrizia Toia, Catherine Trautmann, Nikolaos Vakalis, Alejo Vidal-Quadras, Dominique Vlasto
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Alexander Alvaro, Juan Fraile Cantón, Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines, Eija-Riitta Korhola, John Purvis, Vladimir Urutchev