



Ukraine regularly shares with the United States the information on companies involved in the construction of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline.

Ambassador of Ukraine to the United States Oksana Markarova said this in Washington, an Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"The embassy is actively involved in this process. We are constantly working with our colleagues here [in Washington], we are sharing information with them - lists of those companies that, unfortunately, are still involved in the construction of Nord Stream 2," the ambassador said.

According to her, the American side has a rather active position that "this is not just a bad deal - but an agreement that carries a risk to the security of Europe and Ukraine".

Markarova stressed that the position of official Kyiv on this issue is firm: "Nord Stream 2 should not be completed, and we are grateful to our partners for such constant and active attention to this process".

As Ukrinform reported, during his recent visit to the United Kingdom and participation in the G7 ministerial meeting, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that the Nord Stream 2 project is in contradiction to EU energy security principles and harmful to European countries.

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TOP NEWS

Nord Stream 2 poses serious threat not only to Ukraine, but also to EU – Razumkov



ECONOMY 16:55, 12 May 2021

The Ukrainian official believes this is a political rather than an economic project for Russia.

An advertisement for Nord Stream 2. It features a red shield with a white 'X' inside. Below the shield, the text reads "TURN OFF ALL A" and "Faster Web Browsing with N". At the bottom left of the ad, there is a small logo with the letters "Y", "2", and "9" stacked vertically.

TOTAL Adblock

Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's Parliament, Dmytro Razumkov says Russia's Nord Stream 2 project poses a serious threat not only to Ukraine, but also to the European Union.

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Zelensky hopes for U.S. support in handling Nord Stream 2

He made the comment during a joint briefing with Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen, as reported by an UNIAN correspondent on May 12.

"We consider Nord Stream 2 represents a rather serious threat not only for the EU and Ukraine, but also for the stabilization of the situation in the region, as we remember very well how the Russian Federation uses it," he said.

Unfortunately, this is a political rather an economic project for Russia, which it can use to put "pressure on European states as well," he stressed.

The parties discussed, among other things, security-related issues, including economic, environmental and energy security.

At the same time, the Ukrainian official added "here we are looking in the same direction and jointly understand all the challenges our states are facing."

Razumkov thanked the Lithuanian counterpart for supporting Ukraine and for the common position on various international platforms.

Nord Stream 2: Background

- The Nord Stream 2 project envisages the construction and operation of two gas pipeline branches with a total throughput capacity of 55 billion cubic meters of natural gas per year from the coast of Russia through the Baltic Sea to Germany. It should connect Russia's Ust-Lug and Germany's Greifswald. This new pipeline bypassing Ukraine is to be built next to the existing Nord Stream 1 pipeline.
- The construction of the pipeline was expected to be completed before the end of 2019.
- The pipeline will be 1,220 km long. The project is being implemented by Russia's Gazprom in collaboration with European companies ENGE, OMV, Royal Dutch Shell, Uniper, and Wintershall.

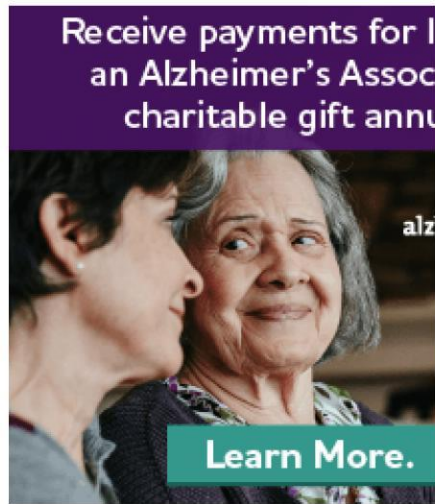
a gas transit country, while its potential revenue losses are estimated at US\$3 billion annually. The project is also highly criticized by the U.S., Poland, and the Baltic States.

- The Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline has already been completed by more than 90%.
- The United States has imposed a series of sanctions against Nord Stream 2 and has repeatedly called on European allies and private companies to stop the related works.
- On January 7, 2021, a fund was established in Germany to support the completion of the Nord Stream 2 project.
- Eighteen companies have already refused to participate in the project or are planning to do so because of the sanctions.
- On February 6, 2021, Nord Stream 2 AG announced it would continue to lay the pipes under the project.
- On March 14, 2021, Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal Frans Timmermans said that Europe did not need the Nord Stream 2 pipeline. Despite this, Germany continues to insist on the completion of the project.
- On March 19, 2021, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken called on the companies involved in the construction of Nord Stream 2 to immediately halt laying pipes, threatening new sanctions.
- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky called Russia's Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline a trap for all countries across Europe.
- On April 20, 2021, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Ukraine should remain a transit country for Russian gas to Europe, despite Germany's decision to complete the construction of the Russian Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline.

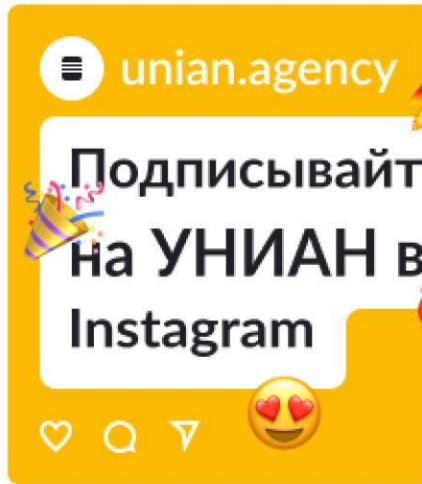
Translation: [Olena Kotova](#)

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News of Ukraine

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Ukraine Caucus Calls on State Department to Fully Sanction Nord Stream 2, Take Action to Strengthen Energy Security in Central and Eastern Europe



May 13, 2021 | Press Release

Washington, D.C. — Today, the Congressional Ukraine Caucus Co-Chairs Representatives Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), Andy Harris (R-MD), Mike Quigley (D-IL), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), sent the following letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken expressing deep concern with the state of energy security in Ukraine and Central and Eastern Europe. In the letter, the Members called on the Department of State to increase efforts to bolster energy resilience by fully sanctioning Nord Stream 2 as mandated by PEESCA as amended and consistent with Congressional intent, increase diplomatic action to counter the purging of Naftogaz leadership, and strengthen efforts to fulfill the U.S. pledge to invest \$300 million of U.S. financing into the Three Seas Fund.

“We strongly urge the Department to increase efforts to bolster energy resilience by sanctioning Nord Stream 2 as mandated by PEESCA as amended and consistent with Congressional intent, increase diplomatic action to counter the purging of Naftogaz leadership, and strengthen efforts to fulfill the U.S. pledge to invest \$300 million of U.S. financing into the Three Seas Fund,” **the Members wrote.**

“Tragically, Russian dictator Vladimir Putin seeks to sow discord in the Transatlantic alliance through hybrid warfare operations. This includes weaponizing energy to weaken democratic institutions and solidarity through the export of strategic corruption,” **the Members continued.** “As you well know, Russian authorities now seek to complete Nord Stream 2 as a political and economic weapon to cut off critical gas transit through Ukraine and to increase its leverage over Europe. That is why the European Parliament along with several European countries have joined the United States in calling for the project to be stopped. On May 17, the next report to Congress that is required to list all entities sanctionable under the PEESCA as amended is due. We strongly urge you to include in this report all entities openly engaged in sanctionable pipe-laying activities, including Nord Stream AG and all vessels and project-linked insurance and certification companies supporting the Fortuna and Akademik Cherskiy pipe-laying vessels, pursuant to the legislation and clear bipartisan Congressional intent.”

The Members go on, “We are deeply concerned with the Ukrainian government’s purging of the Naftogaz supervisory board and CEO, which puts Ukraine’s energy and national security at risk. This deeply misguided move opens up Ukraine’s energy sector to increased corruption from and vulnerability to malign actors including Ukraine’s rapacious oligarch class and Russian corrosive capital... we ask that the Department increase efforts to help Ukraine become more energy secure by restoring the integrity of Naftogaz and corporate governance in the energy sector and beyond. This starts with a legitimate process to assemble a new Naftogaz Supervisory Board in consultation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, European Commission, United States, and other credible international stakeholders.”

“We are thankful for your robust statement of support for the Three Seas Initiative, but remain concerned that the U.S. Development Finance Corporation has yet to take meaningful action to operationalize the commitment of \$300 million of U.S. financing into the Three Seas Fund,” **the Members concluded.** “For this reason, we urge the Administration to recommit efforts to fulfill the DFC pledge to invest in the Fund. This should be an important element to increase the resilience our allies and partners against increasing malign influence from Russia and China.”

The full letter can be found here

(/sites/kaptur.house.gov/files/documents/2021.5.11_LETTER_Uke%20CEE%20Energy%20Security.pdf).

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