

Energy Security

The U.S. needs to remain engaged to protect energy security for its European allies.

As recently as October 30th, 2019, Denmark granted Gazprom permission to build Nord Stream 2 through Danish waters. Action from Congress is crucial.

While support for export of U.S. energy supplies to the Baltic countries is welcome, particularly in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), we also need to actively push back against efforts to build the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

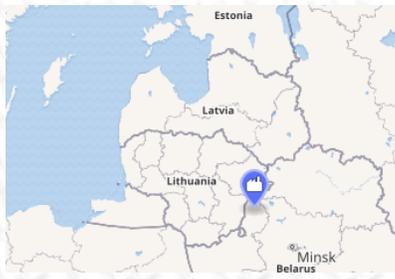
Nord Stream 2 is a pipeline being built that runs alongside the current Nord Stream pipeline and is expected to double the amount of gas flowing through the Baltics.

Nord Stream 2 is a security threat to the Baltics, and particularly Ukraine. Efforts such as a bipartisan March 15 letter of 39 Senators should be taken into serious consideration and we would welcome a similar letter from the House.

The Nord Stream 2 project will entrench Russian dominance of the European gas market, and it destroys the concept of diversifying supplies. This increases European dependence on Russian gas for the long term, significantly strengthening Russia's political hand in Europe. (Financial Times: Nord Stream 2: A Test of German Power). This makes U.S. allies in Central and Eastern Europe significantly more vulnerable to Russian political control and military might, potentially for decades.

The pipeline will also provide new funding for Putin's regime, which will spend the proceeds on propaganda, repression, new wars, and annexations. It would also lead to potential loss for Ukraine of some \$2 billion per year of Russian gas transit fees, undermining its war-torn economy and investment by the U.S. and EU in reforms there.

Here at home, American liquefied natural gas producers will lose a significant potential business opportunity.



Also, we need to encourage international oversight over the running of the Astravets Nuclear Power Plant in Belarus. It is scheduled to start running in 2020, yet Lithuania's government concluded that the plant violates international regulations on nuclear safety and the environment. Since the plant is not located in the European Union, western oversight of the plant is more difficult, even though the plant is less than 25 miles from Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania.

What to ask of members of Congress:

Senate

Please co-sponsor **S. 1441**, which passed the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

S. 1441 is Sen. Cruz's bill that would impose sanctions on individuals that provide significant underwriting services or insurance or reinsurance for a vessel that helps construct the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

House

Please co-sponsor **H.R. 3206**.

H.R. 3206 is Rep. Kinzinger's bill that would provide sanctions on each foreign person that sells, leases, or provides pipe-laying vessels for the construction of any Russian-origin energy export pipeline that makes landfall in Germany or Turkey.



Baltivist