

## Press Release

# Debate in the European Parliament

- > **For Nord Stream 2 transparent dialogue and the exchange of views with stakeholders is an indispensable part of the project.**
- > **For this reason the consortium is always ready to participate in any relevant setting, especially to communicate the project's long-term contribution to supply security.**

**[Brussels, Belgium – 8-Apr-16]** On 6 April 2016 Nord Stream 2 accepted the invitation of four Members of the European Parliament to a public debate in Brussels on “Nord Stream 2 – The Energy Union at the crossroads”. The event consisted of two panels: the first discussion focused on the political aspects in the context of the EU's Energy Union plans (“Nord Stream 2 – A critical challenge for the Energy Union”), while the second one was meant to deal with the environmental and economic aspects of Nord Stream 2 (“Nord Stream 2 – Impact on European economy and environment”).

The event was organised by Jerzy Buzek MEP (EPP, PL), former Polish Prime Minister and Chair of the European Parliament's Industry, Energy and Research (ITRE) Committee, Flavio Zanonato MEP (S&D, IT), Petras Auštrevičius MEP (ALDE, LT), and Rebecca Harms MEP (Greens/EFA, DE). European Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič provided the keynote speech.

Ulrich Lissek, Head of Communications of Nord Stream 2, presented the project's economic rationale and Nord Stream's stellar environmental track record in the first debate. This panel also included contributions from Naftogaz CEO Andriy Kobolyev and Deputy Ukrainian Energy Minister Igor Didenko, as well as Didier Seeuws, responsible for energy matters in the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU.

The second panel consisted of Alan Riley, Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, Manon Dufuor from the environmental association E3G, and Peter Kaderjak from the Hungarian Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research. Here Nord Stream 2 actively participated in the Q&A.

The event was well-attended, by many Members of the European Parliament, national energy experts, academics and journalists, showing the great importance EU officials and stakeholders attach to the project.

Lissek highlighted the business rationale for Nord Stream 2, explained the EU's need for additional gas imports and Nord Stream's best-in-class stakeholder engagement and environmental footprint. He also called for a fact-based exchange of views on the merits of the project instead of politicised debate.

Following the event, Nord Stream 2 agreed to continue the dialogue with several interested audience members and guests. First reports about the event can be found here:

- <https://neurope.eu/article/nord-stream-wants-unclog-eu-russia-energy-pipe-dream/>
- <http://www.naturalgaseurope.com/nord-stream-2-driving-a-wedge-through-the-eu-28975>

### Photo



Panel discussion in Brussels with Ulrich Lissek (Nord Stream2 AG), Petras Austrevicius (Vice-Chair, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe), Didier Seeuws (Council of the European Union), Andriy Kobolyev (Naftogaz of Ukraine) and Ihor Didenko (Ukrainian Government) (from left to right).

### About Nord Stream 2

Nord Stream 2 is a planned pipeline through the Baltic Sea, which will transport natural gas over 1,200 km from the world's largest gas reserves in Russia via the most efficient route to consumers in Europe. Nord Stream 2 will largely follow the route and design of the successful Nord Stream pipeline. With Europe's domestic gas production projected to halve in the next 20 years, Nord Stream 2's twin pipeline system will help Europe to meet its future gas import needs, with the capacity to transport 55 billion cubic metres of gas per year, enough to supply 26 million European households. This secure supply of natural gas with its low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will also contribute to Europe's objective to have a more climate-friendly energy mix with gas substituting for coal in power generation and providing back-up for intermittent renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power.

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