

Foreign Ministers of transit countries appeal to EU to show "visible signs" of support for Nabucco

News Release

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"Nabucco, in all its iterations, answers best to the policy priorities that the Commission outlines..."

The Foreign Ministers of Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania have sent a letter to the President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso, Vice President of the European Commission Baroness Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for Energy Günther Oettinger. The letter hails Nabucco as an "embodiment of the European principles", and states that the realization of Nabucco would contribute greatly to the achievement of the Commission's policy priorities in terms of diversification and security of supply. The Ministers also reiterate that Nabucco has the "tested political support" of their countries, and emphasise the importance of the selection of Nabucco as the European route for natural gas.

The letter expresses its authors' support for double diversification: of sources and transport routes of energy. Double diversification, as the letter points out, is a key component of a safe, secure and integrated European energy market.

The letter goes on to highlight NABUCCO as an ideal answer to Europe's energy needs.

"From its very inception, the Nabucco project has been an embodiment of the European principles and priorities in achieving energy security. It connects a new source of hydrocarbon resources to national markets that need them most, through new and safe transit routes.

It also brings together the commercial strength of an international company with the tested political support of our countries. Nabucco, in all its iterations, answers best to the policy priorities that the Commission outlines, ensuring a real diversification in gas supplies for the whole of the European Union."

The letter urges the Commission to acknowledge and take stock of the views expressed therein, in the wider interest of the European Union.