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RESOLUTION 450

on

ENERGY SECURITY: A STRATEGIC CHALLENGE FOR THE ALLIANCE*

The Assembly,

1. **Acknowledging** that energy security is a major concern for the North Atlantic Alliance as overreliance on any single supplier of energy for Europe leaves NATO members strategically vulnerable;
2. **Applauding** the European Commission's investigation into the opaque pricing of Russia's gas monopoly and efforts to increase connectivity in energy markets;
3. **Supporting** the efforts made by the European Commission to reform European energy markets by introducing liberalisation measures, building new linkages in energy infrastructure networks, and challenging Russia's monopolistic commodity-pricing practices;
4. **Recognising** the important contributions that new pipelines networks, like the Southern Gas Corridor from Azerbaijan to Southern Europe, and the planned EastMed gas pipeline from the South East Mediterranean sea to Europe, can make to collective energy security;
5. **Noting** that advancements in hydrofracking, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), and renewables offer partial alternatives to energy sourced through unstable regions of the world;
6. **Aware** that Russia's use of natural gas as a tool of political coercion, as it was used against Ukraine in 2006 and 2009, can trigger major supply interruptions for Europe;
7. **Alarmed** by the destabilising effects and undue influence that overreliance on Russian energy can have on Europe and the Alliance, especially when Russia actively engages in foreign election interference as well as other forms of political subterfuge while continuing to occupy Crimea and support Russian-led military forces in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions;
8. **Aware** that conventional threats to energy infrastructure from state and non-state actors remains a chief concern of NATO members;

* Presented by the Economics and Security Committee and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 19 November 2018 in Halifax, Canada

9. **Recognising** that even if energy security is mainly the concern of governments and international institutions like the European Union and the International Energy Agency, there is nonetheless an important role for NATO to play in ensuring energy security across the Alliance;
 10. **Welcoming** NATO's efforts both to factor energy security considerations into its strategic vision and to defend critical energy infrastructure from physical and cyberattacks;
 11. **Cognisant** that even if individual members have differing perspectives on how to best ensure energy security, the Alliance remains resolutely committed to promoting the secure, affordable, and uninterrupted flow of energy in Europe and North America;
 12. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
 - a. to promote transparency, diversification, and security within European energy markets and throughout the North Atlantic region;
 - b. to accordingly invest in renewable energy and other energy sectors that provide a partial alternative to Russian gas and oil;
 - c. to work to bring more oil and gas from the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean to European and world markets and to identify potentially profitable and secure infrastructure to make this possible;
 - d. to be prepared for cyberattacks aimed at energy infrastructure;
 - e. to counter corruption in the energy sector;
 - f. to demonstrate a commitment toward greater solidarity and security by building more interconnectors and LNG hubs, while working for an even higher level of electrical grid integration;
 - g. to ensure that Ukraine is not isolated in energy security terms despite Russian efforts both to build pipelines around that country and to raise the risk of investing in Ukraine's energy industry.
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