Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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The need to reduce Europe's dependence on Russian gas as a threat to the planet's environment and Europe's future

Written declaration No. 727

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

We, the undersigned, declare the following:

Methane is the second greenhouse gas on the planet after carbon dioxide, which affects the processes of climate change. The Russian Federation produces about 20% of the world's methane emissions – the world's largest emitter. Methane emissions from Russian gas pipelines increased by 40% in 2020.

At the same time, Europe continues to be dependent on environmentally harmful Russian gas. The launch of the Nord Stream-2 gas pipeline increases Europe's dependence on Russian gas and supports the damage to the planet's environment.

Russian gas is the most polluted in the world, both literally and metaphorically. It is devastating for the ecology of the planet and for the future of Europe. Based on the above, we encourage:

– to refuse to launch the Nord Stream-2 gas pipeline;

– to call on the Russian authorities to step up measures to reduce methane emissions;

– to strengthen monitoring of compliance with environmental standards in the extraction and transportation of Russian gas;

– to draw up and implement a strategy to reduce Europe's energy dependence on Russian gas.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

GONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC/DA
ARENT Iwona, Poland, EC/DA
BILOZIR Larysa, Ukraine, NR
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HOWELL John, United Kingdom, EC/DA
KAMELCHUK Yuriy, Ukraine, EPP/CD
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MEZENTSEVA Mariia, Ukraine, EPP/CD
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YASKO Yelyzaveta, Ukraine, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 23

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group