



SAEIMA OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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**Kristian Vigenin**

Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs and  
Oversight of the European funds,  
National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria

Dear Mr Vigenin,

I would like to thank you for your kind invitation to participate at the Plenary Meeting of the LIX COSAC taking place in Sofia on 17 – 19 June. Unfortunately I will not be able to participate at the meeting personally, but I am glad to inform you that my colleagues from the European Affairs Committee of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia will join you for the meeting.

However, on behalf of the Chairpersons of the Committees on European Affairs of the National Parliaments of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland who recently gathered in Latvia discussing *inter alia* the agenda of the upcoming COSAC Plenary Meeting, I would like to suggest an amendment for the COSAC Contribution for your and Troika's consideration.

As agreed at the aforementioned meeting by Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, the long-term and foreseeable gas supply is one of the cornerstones of the Energy Union. Under current regulation, legal certainty is missing for the issue of legal framework applicable for the gas transmission pipelines coming from the third countries. Common rules for all the pipelines operating in the territory of the EU is a step towards significant improvements of the EU internal Gas market. It is important that both types of interconnections whether they are internally based or coming from third countries are regulated under the same rules. Therefore, the adoption of the amendments of Gas directive will allow strengthening the security of the energy supply in the EU. In order to achieve the objective of the proposal an active action is necessary – we suggest calling upon all the institutions involved in the examination of the proposal to demonstrate proactivity and reach tangible results.

Although the mentioned issue is not in a focus of the upcoming COSAC Plenary meeting, we kindly suggest the following paragraph to be considered and included in the COSAC Contribution text:

*“COSAC acknowledges the work of the EU institutions in dealing with the legislative priorities for 2018-2019. However, delivering on objective of an ambitious Energy Union*

*requires achieving a substantial progress on common rules for all the gas pipelines, not only between the EU Member States but also between the EU and the third countries (regardless whether they run on a seabed or through land). Thus, timely Gas Directive amendments would be a significant step towards an improved EU internal Gas market.*

*COSAC therefore calls upon all the EU institutions, especially the Council, involved in the modernization and revision of the Gas Directive to demonstrate proactivity in order to reach tangible results. Bringing all gas import infrastructure under the Third Energy Package would guarantee a regulatory scrutiny preventing anti-competitive behaviours, preserving consumers' rights and increasing security of supply."*

I do hope that you will be able to take on board our suggestion as it is of great importance for all the Europeans. I wish you successful and fruitful debates during the COSAC Plenary meeting!

Yours sincerely,



**Lolita Čigāne**  
Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee of the  
Saeima of the Republic of Latvia