CONCLUSIONS

of the

Meeting of the Foreign Affairs Committees and Committees on Economic Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Czech Republic, the Hungarian National Assembly, the Sejm and the Senate of the Republic of Poland and the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Bratislava, 25 February 2015

Concerning the energy security in the EU and the V4 countries and completion of the interconnections in the sector of gas, oil and electricity the Representatives of the Foreign Affairs Committees and Committees on Economic Affairs of the National Parliaments of the Visegrad Group countries:

- stress that energy security can be reached effectively only through a well-balanced and diversified energy mix built upon an effective use of all indigenous energy sources and adequate gas, oil and electricity infrastructure;
- underline that the V4 energy policy should be based on liberalisation, energy efficiency, mutual solidarity and cooperation in order to increase energy security and competitiveness on energy market within the EU;
- diversification of sources and transport routes of gas, oil and electricity remains a priority for the V4 countries, especially because of fact that the energy prices in the V4 countries are among the highest within the European Union;
- welcome the intention of the V4 countries to jointly undertake efforts to elaborate regional preventive and emergency plans based on common risk assessment, in order to further enhance the cooperative approach towards the increased regional security of supply;
- ask the institutions of the European Union to pay increased attention to security of energy networks against external attacks from the digital environment and through this to support the increase of energy security in the European Union;

- concerning the sector of gas

- highlight that the level of security of supply in the V4 countries is higher compared to 2009 gas crisis, also due to the commonly realised measures including the reverse gas flows and new gas interconnections. However, additional measures, especially regarding timely implementation of the gas projects of common interest within the North-South Gas Corridor is needed to further increase energy security in the region;
- welcome that the realisation of the project of interconnection between the Slovak Republic and Hungary, which represents a significant part of the North-South Gas Corridor, is in the final stage;

• strongly support inclusion of the project of interconnection between the Slovak Republic and Poland, which is still in initial phase, in the second list of projects of common interest;

- concerning the sector of oil

- note that the project of reconstruction and reinforcement of capacity of the Adria pipeline is important project from the point of view of diversification of oil sector; it has been included among the projects of strategic importance on the European level;
- welcome that the Prime Ministers of the Slovak Republic and Hungary officially opened the faucet of reconstructed part of the Adria -Friendship 1 pipeline between Sahy and Szazhalombatta on 9 February 2015;
- note that the project of oil transport connection between Bratislava -Schwechat is a perspective project of diversification, which will allow transport of oil in the direction east-west/west-east; the project will increase energy security and is internationally recognised as a strategic corridor;

- concerning the sector of electricity

• the key cross-border projects are Slovak-Hungarian interconnections between Gabcikovo - Gonyu and Rimavska Sobota - Sajoivanka, which were included among the projects of common interest; they will contribute to the increased security of electricity supplies as well as increase of net transmission capacity of the north-south energy flows.

[Conclusions were adopted by acclamation]