RESOLUTION

OF THE SEJM OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

of 15 June 2021

on calling on the Governments of the European Union and NATO, in particular the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, to take urgent action to stop the construction of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline

The Sejm of the Republic of Poland, acting out of solidarity with our Central European neighbours threatened by Russian expansionism, in particular Ukraine, calls on the European Union and its Member States, including in particular the Federal Republic of Germany as our ally in NATO and partner in the European Union, to withdraw all support for the implementation of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project and to take steps to stop its construction immediately and effectively. We call for this in the name of respect for the values on which the European Union is founded, in the name of solidarity with Ukraine, and out of concern for stability and security in Europe, as well as to strengthen the Union's resilience to Russian pressure. We also call on the United States of America, as our ally in NATO, to maintain and expand sanctions against entities involved in the construction of the pipeline. Further political and economic pressure from the United States may contribute to abandoning this harmful project and to strengthening cooperation between member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation on issues crucial to their security.

For 30 years, the European Union and NATO have been making multiple efforts to foster relations with Russia. All of them have been used by Russia to prepare the ground for its imperial expansion, and the principles of international law guiding them have been brutally trampled in acts of armed aggression against Georgia in 2008 and against Ukraine since 2014, the repercussions of which, in the form of the illegal occupation of parts of these countries' territories, as well as the illegal secession of Transdniestria from Moldova, are still ongoing.

The export of hydrocarbons is a source of funding for Russian armaments and, as such, is an important instrument of Russia's aggressive policy, not only towards its neighbours, but also towards other member states of the European Union. The aim of Nord Stream 2 is only to change supply routes, not to diversify them. The existing natural gas transmission capacities from the east are sufficient to ensure the necessary supply of this resource to Europe. The investment also violates the antitrust rules of the third energy package by combining ownership of gas fields and distribution networks, which is contrary to the EU law.

This spring, the Russian Federation exerted an intense military pressure on Ukraine, threatening that a major armed conflict will break out at the borders of Poland and the European Union. By enabling Russia to transit gas to its main recipients, including the Federal Republic of Germany, bypassing the territory of Ukraine, Nord Stream 2 will open the way for Russia to launch a large-scale armed attack on Ukraine without the risk of bearing the costs of interruption of gas transit as a result of acts of war.

Numerous assassinations of political opponents and acts of terrorism committed by state services of the Russian Federation in the territory of EU Member States are known, including explosions at ammunition warehouses in Vrbětice in the Czech Republic and at six locations in Bulgaria. The life of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, unlawfully imprisoned in a penal colony, is also in danger. Russia is also lending its support to the repressive regime of Alexander Lukashenko usurping the right to rule in Belarus against the will of the majority of its citizens as expressed in the elections of 9 August 2020.

We believe that consent to the continuation of the Nord Stream 2 project under the circumstances described above is consent to the pursuit by the Russian Federation of a policy based on the violation of international standards, human rights, violation of the integrity of neighbouring states, and the exertion of pressure on the EU and NATO countries.

MARSHAL OF THE SEJM

/ - / Elżbieta Witek