



**RUSSIAN GAS SOCIETY**



THE EUROPEAN UNION OF THE NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY

**Joint Statement  
by the Russian Gas Society and  
the European Union of the Natural Gas Industry**

**May 19, 2009**

**Berlin**

Parties emphasise that the International Conference “Energy Dialogue Russia - European Union: Gas Aspects” has become a prominent forum for the discussion of global energy cooperation; an important means of consolidating views of industry professionals and the global public to make energy supply more secure; and a significant public voice commanding respect from politicians and government officials.

The discussion which took place at the 4th Conference of May 19, 2009 was particularly important, given the global economic slump; lower consumption of energy resources and lower energy prices, including those of natural gas; and the escalating struggle for access to energy resources and control of supply routes, including new transit routes.

Parties share the firm conviction that natural gas is the fuel of the 21<sup>st</sup> century since there is unlikely to be, in the foreseeable future, a comparable source of energy in terms of its energy efficiency, environmental friendliness, economic efficiency, and safety of use in both industrial and household environments.

Parties stress that the forecasted significant growth in gas consumption in Europe can be sustained by Yuzhno Russkoye field, which is already in commercial operation, as well as by development of new gas fields – the Bovanenkovskoye, Stockman, Yamal fields – the output of which will be delivered through the transit projects under development – Nord Stream and South Stream - which will be among the largest global projects of the 21st century. Still, implementation of the said transit projects does not diminish the importance of transit via the Ukrainian and Belorussian gas transport systems, as well as via other major projects. Parties recommend that common sense, economic efficiency, and protection of natural resources should be taken into account when new gas transport projects are implemented.

Parties acknowledge that the gas transit crisis of January 2009 confirmed the need for improvements to existing contractual mechanisms and energy regulations, enhancing security of energy supply throughout the chain: supplier – transiter – consumer, as well as effective protection of investments in the gas industry. Parties stress that basic requirements for them should be long-term contracts; transparency and predictability of resources, sale and supply; and protection of investments.

Parties consider it possible to research the need for establishing a public institution, the Eurasian Energy Forum, as a professional discussion forum for development of proposals on the implementation of energy mechanisms and public trial runs thereof.

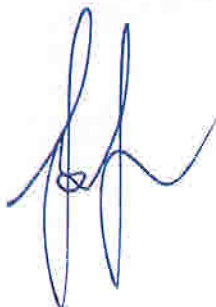
Parties express confidence that the scheduled Khabarovsk summit between Russia and the European Union will provide a powerful impetus for drafting a new partnership and cooperation treaty to address challenges in the energy industry.

Parties believe that citizens should be actively involved in discussion of the essential issues of power supply security; and that objective perception of the gas industry as a crucial economic element of progress and better quality of life should be reinforced to the public.

Parties undertake to notify leaders of the Russian Federation and the European Union of the Conference's outcome.

Parties believe that preparatory activities for the anniversary 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference “Energy Dialogue Russia - European Union: Gas Aspects” scheduled for May 2010 should be launched immediately, and that leaders of Russia and the EU should be invited to participate in the Conference.

**President**  
**Nonprofit Partnership Russian Gas**  
**Society**



**Yazev V.**

**President**  
**The European Union of the Natural**  
**Gas Industry**



**Dispenza D.**