

**Flash report.**

On 30 June 2017, Mr Bernd Biervert (BB), Deputy Head of Cabinet of VP Šefčovič met with [REDACTED] Nord Stream 2 in Moscow on the occasion of an international energy conference.

They exchanged views on Nord Stream 2 and its ongoing progress.

**Key issues raised:**

- [REDACTED] presented the state of play of preparations for Nord Stream 2, notably the permitting process in the countries concerned.
- BB underlined the COM position in line with VP Šefčovič's statement given to the European Parliament in April 2016 on the topic. BB stressed the COM concerns with respect to energy security, market development, legal uncertainties and stranded assets. He raised also the risk of circumventing the important Ukrainian transportation route.
- BB stressed that from the COM perspective the projects runs against the key objectives of the Energy Union Strategy to diversify suppliers and routes. Furthermore, it divides Member States and would do significant harm to the UKR economy if implemented.