

**MEETING CONCLUSIONS**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Meeting Cabinet Simson with Gazprom</b>
<b>Date</b>	09-01-2020
<b>Participants</b>	Ext: ██████████ Gazprom Representative office in Belgium COM: Stefano Grassi, Head of Cabinet, Peeter Kadarik, deputy Head of Cabinet, Kitti Nyitrai, Member of Cabinet
	<b>Ares initial request : (2019)7875297 - 7875423</b>
	Disclosure authorization : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES - <input type="checkbox"/> NO - <input type="checkbox"/> Partial
<b>Issues raised &amp; follow-up</b>	<p>Gazprom (GP) asked for an introductory meeting, looking to establish constructive high-level contacts with the Commission.</p> <p>GP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handed over congratulations for the appointment of the Commissioner and invitations to upcoming event co-organised by the Russian Gas Society in April in Bergen.</li> <li>• Thanked the Commission for facilitating an agreement on gas transit between Russia and Ukraine, seeing it as a positive sign for the overall Russia-Ukraine relations.</li> <li>• Expressed satisfaction that the competition issues have been settled.</li> <li>• Regrets that the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue is frozen while seeing a need to discuss.</li> <li>• Regrets the annulment of the 2016 Commission decision on Opal by the General Court.</li> <li>• Highlighted that GP produces 500 bcm gas per year, with 200 going for exports. In this context, it explained its vision for 2050 advocating for a reasonable approach, technology neutrality allowing to substitute coal with gas to obtain quick emission reductions and interest in hydrogen produced from methane.</li> </ul> <p>The Commission representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appreciated that an agreement was reached to ensure safe gas supplies through Ukraine for the coming years.</li> <li>• Explained that the reactivation of the Dialogue depends on broader political factors, including implementation of the Minsk Agreement.</li> <li>• Referred to the new initiatives in the context of the European Green Deal, notably on mineral methane emissions.</li> </ul>