



August 13, 2019

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, PC, MP
Minister of Foreign Affairs
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0G2

Dear Minister Freeland:

Re: Visit of Heiko Maas, Germany's Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs to Canada; Nord Stream II Pipeline

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) asks that you to voice Canada's opposition to the construction of the Nord Stream II Pipeline during the visit of Germany's Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Heiko Maas, to Canada on August 13-15, 2019.

If completed, the Nord Stream II Pipeline, connecting Russia and Germany, will seriously destabilize the European continent's energy security and make the European Union significantly more reliant on Russian gas. The completion of the pipeline will also undermine Ukraine's security, allowing Russia to bypass Ukrainian pipelines to deliver natural gas to the EU and removing one of the last impediments to a full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

The United States, Canada's closest and most important ally, vigorously opposes the construction of Nord Stream II. On July 31, the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 20-2, referred S. 1441, *Protecting Europe's Energy Security Act of 2019*, to the full Senate. A companion bill has also passed the House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee. When adopted, the legislation will impose sanctions on companies whose vessels lay pipes for the Nord Stream II and TurkStream pipelines.

US Senator Jim Risch, Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, stated, "These pipelines could result in further destabilization of Ukraine and enrichment of the Putin regime, and they put at risk the security of NATO member states. This bill is a specific, targeted, and timely way to counter Russian malign influence, and I am pleased that it garnered such broad support in our committee."

The UCC calls on the Government of Canada to join our American allies' opposition to the construction of the Nord Stream II Pipeline and to adopt mirror legislation to the US Congressional bills that will impose sanctions on companies constructing the pipeline.

Yours truly,

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS

Alexandra Chyczij
National President