

## COUNTERING MALIGN KREMLIN INFLUENCE ENERGY SECURITY IN EUROPE AND EURASIA

USAID partners with European states to strengthen regional energy security by reducing reliance on Kremlin-controlled energy resources; increasing the resilience of critical infrastructure; and rooting out corruption by improving energy sector transparency.

Energy supply has long been used by malign actors as a weapon to manipulate vulnerable states. A **resurgent Kremlin effort to use energy supply dominance for political leverage**, combined with pervasive corruption and a lack of foreign investment, **is an increasing threat to the countries on Europe's border, and ultimately the stability of the continent.** USAID is leading the fight against Kremlin manipulation of energy supply and is helping U.S. allies build energy security and resilience.

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WITHOUT **ENERGY INDEPENDENCE**,  
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THEIR **ECONOMIC GROWTH AND  
DEVELOPMENT ASPIRATIONS.**”

BROCK BIERMAN  
*Assistant Administrator,  
USAID Bureau for Europe and Eurasia*

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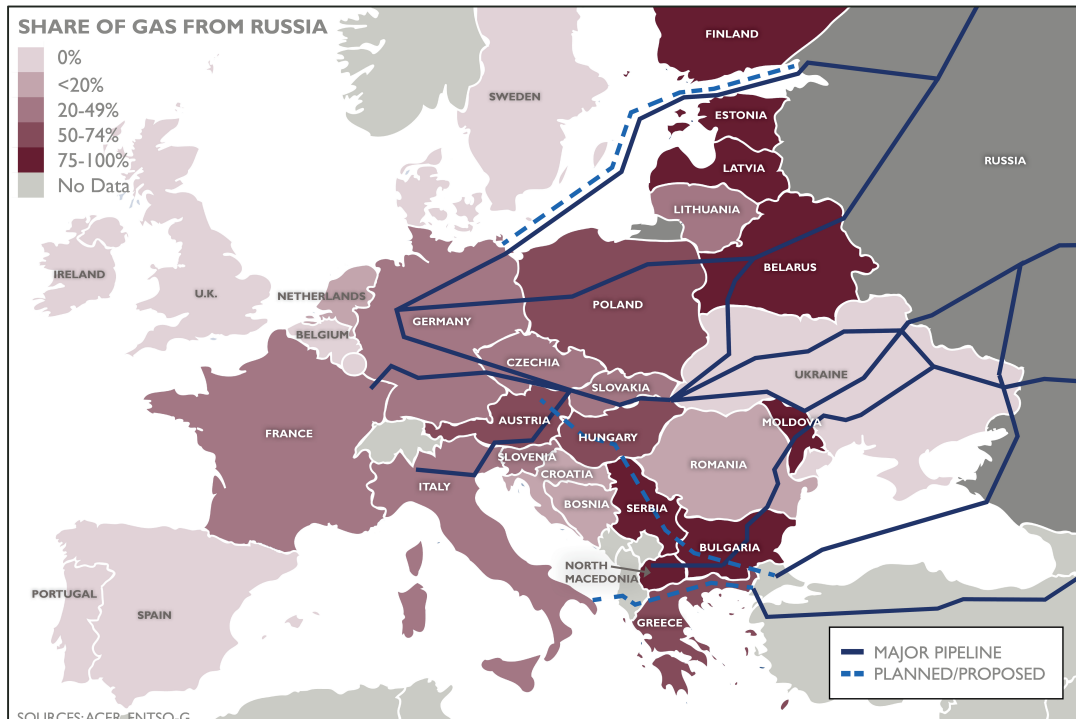
### REDUCING RELIANCE ON KREMLIN-CONTROLLED ENERGY

**USAID supports increased electricity trade between the Black Sea region and EU countries** by (1) identifying and supporting implementation of critical power generation and transmission infrastructure upgrades; and (2) supporting transfer and adoption of European network planning and operational practices. **These efforts are helping to disconnect Ukraine and Moldova from Russian power systems and establish reliable connections with Europe.**

**USAID supports gas companies and energy regulators with efforts to improve energy security and break free from Russia's monopolization of gas markets.** In partnership with the United States Energy Association (USEA) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), USAID promotes development of regional natural gas markets with capability to accept alternative supply from the United States and other non-malign actors.

**USAID supported the first-ever multi-national collaborative Southeast Europe diversity of gas supply study**, which modeled the Eastern European gas pipeline network to identify new natural gas supply options for the region. Joint natural gas system planning is a prerequisite to the creation of a regional natural gas market with potential for U.S. supplies.





Several European states rely on Russian gas supply. Reducing this dependence is a key goal of USAID's work in the region.

## STRENGTHENING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

USAID engages U.S. utility staff and industry experts to support Eastern European utilities to **develop tools to identify and prioritize the most pressing actions and investments necessary to protect critical infrastructure.**

**USAID is helping utilities incorporate cybersecurity best practices** in key areas, such as risk management; network configuration; access management; and incident response. To ensure cybersecurity is addressed at all organizational levels, USAID helps utilities establish corporate policies, procedures, and training programs to strengthen defense and response capabilities.

**USAID collaborated with Ukrenerg**o to develop the **Emergency Action Plan for Ukraine's electric transmission system**, which the system operator has used to maintain power grid stability during critical shortages, including the winter of 2014-2015.

## IMPROVING ENERGY SECTOR TRANSPARENCY

**USAID is supporting the creation of power exchanges in Southeast Europe** to require public documentation of competitive energy transactions, reducing electricity costs and limiting price manipulation for political gain.

**USAID is building the capability of energy regulators to monitor natural gas and electricity markets**, weakening the ability of malign actors to unduly profit from or shake confidence in energy markets.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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