

RESOLUTION

ON THE DANGERS CONNECTED WITH CONSTRUCTION OF THE GAS PIPELINE IN THE BALTIC SEA

The Baltic Assembly,
seeking to achieve that

- the Baltic Sea preserves its uniqueness;
- the economic activity in the territorial waters and economic zone of coastal states of the Baltic Sea complies with the provisions of international law and laws and interests of the coastal states; and
- environmental risk assessment of the Baltic Sea proceeds from the status of the Baltic Sea as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA);

being of the opinion that

- the realisation of large-scale energy infrastructure projects in the Baltic Sea region should proceed from the interest of guaranteeing energy supply security and safety of all states in the region, and that it is necessary to urgently make an integrated analysis of the energy situation of the EU member states in the Baltic Sea region which could serve as a basis for receiving the European Union's subsidies;
- during the construction and in further exploitation of the gas pipeline along the Baltic Sea floor, any kind of dangers, especially those arising from the chemical weapons dumped in the Baltic Sea after World War II should be eliminated;
- the construction of gas pipeline must not damage the ecosystems of the Baltic Sea or disturb the flora and fauna of the Baltic Sea as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area;

draws attention to the fact that simultaneously with solving the issues of seabed utilisation for economic or other activities, the reduction of harmful effects and risks caused by chemical weapons dumped into the Baltic Sea must be dealt with in international cooperation, and

calls on the parliaments of the Baltic Sea states, the Baltic Council of Ministers and international organisations to focus their attention on the present situation and undertake measures to ensure that the assessment of all environmental impacts of the construction of the planned gas pipeline along the Baltic Sea floor is carried out in accordance with the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991), the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (Helsinki, 1992), as well as the valid legal acts of the European Union.