



End of Southstream: How the EU states have to deprive themselves



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Dear Ladies and Gentlemen.

The construction project of a new mega gas-pipeline from Russia to Europe, called “Southstream”, has failed. This recent announcement of President Putin in Ankara caused international uproar, as reason he mentioned is the destructive position of the EU. Initially the major pipeline was supposed to bypass the crisis-stricken country of Ukraine and lead through Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary and Austria to central Europe. For all these countries the realization of the project “Southstream” was of great interest: Most of all Bulgaria, the poorest EU-country and Serbia as a EU candidate country, expected thousands of jobs and high transit fees from that pipeline. The rest of Europe would have benefitted from a low-priced and stable gas supply from Russia. But now, years of preparation and construction work have literally fallen into the Black Sea. Why? Already half a year ago, under the pressure of the USA and EU, Bulgaria had to freeze the construction of the Southstream project and thus put Russia under pressure. Although this action was completely against their own interests Bulgaria as a EU-member was urged to join the economic war of the West against Russia. However, now the shot backfired, as the affected countries didn’t expect, that Putin would basically stop the construction of the whole project. His announcement, that the pipelines that have already been built by Russia will be passed on to Turkey, which would make Turkey the great winner, caused big disappointment in Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary and Austria. The Serbian premier Aleksandar Vucic expressed his anger in front of the media: “We pay the price for the conflict of the powerful!”

Dear viewer, it seems that the EU-members once again are forced by their powerful to exercise self-mortification. Bulgaria alone would have earned 500 Mio. Dollars a year for the gas transit through their own country. But this has come to nothing, however. Instead of low-priced Russian gas, all of Europe must probably fall back on expensive US fracking-gas with its complicated maritime route in the future. According to experts, the EU does not really have any considerable alternatives. Interesting, isn’t it? It is becoming clearer every time that the EU with its economic warfare against Russia is not defending their own interests, but those of their US-friends. But are friendships, which are only based on one-sided disadvantage still real friendships?

With this in mind we wish you an inspired discussion for tonight.

from ss.

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