



Statement by President von der Leyen on the investigation into the damaged gas pipeline and data cable between Finland and Estonia

Brussels, 10 October 2023

I spoke with the Finnish Prime Minister Petteri Orpo and he informed me of the investigation on the gas pipeline and a data cable that were damaged this weekend. The ongoing investigation is based on the assumption of a possible deliberate act. I also discussed with Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas about her assessment of the situation.

I strongly condemn any act of deliberate destruction of critical infrastructure. Our pipelines and underwater cables connect citizens and companies across Europe and to the rest of the world. They are lifelines of financial markets and global trade. This is the second time in just over a year that this kind of critical infrastructure is damaged.

We stand in full solidarity with Finland and Estonia.

I assured the Finnish and Estonian Prime Ministers that the European Commission will continue to cooperate with Member States and NATO to strengthen resilience against threats to our critical infrastructure.

Only by working together can we counter those seeking to undermine our security, and ensure that our critical infrastructure remains robust and reliable in the face of evolving threats.

STATEMENT/23/4888

Press contacts:

[Eric MAMER](#) (+32 2 299 40 73)

General public inquiries: [Europe Direct](#) by phone [00 800 67 89 10 11](#) or by [email](#)