

Overview of the bilateral cooperation between EU-UKRAINE

Co-operation in the energy sector was given a new impetus with the signature of a [Memorandum of Understanding on Energy](#) by Commission President Barroso, UK Prime Minister Blair representing the EU Presidency and Ukraine President Yushchenko on the margins of the EU-Ukraine Summit held on 1st December 2005.

This Memorandum of Understanding defined four roadmaps for bilateral co-operation, to which a fifth was added later. These cover:

- **The safety of operating Ukrainian Nuclear power plants**, for which a [safety evaluation](#) has been carried out by European Commission, Ukrainian and IAEA experts covered the areas of design safety, operational safety, radioactive waste management and decommissioning, and regulatory issues. The safety evaluation has found full compliance with most of the IAEA's Safety Standards requirements. In addition, TAIEX events have been held during 2010 on the [operational safety of nuclear power plants](#) and on the [EC approach and experience in licensing new nuclear power plants](#).
- **The integration of electricity and gas markets**, which has led to Ukraine signing a [Protocol](#) on accession to the Energy Community Treaty. [Ukraine ratified in December 2010](#), and, [joined the Energy Community as a full fledged member in February 2011](#).
- **The security of energy supplies and the transit of hydrocarbons**. In March 2009, the EU and Ukraine jointly hosted an [international investment conference on the modernisation of the Ukrainian Gas Transit System](#) at which a [joint declaration](#) was signed by the European Commission, the Ukrainian Government, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank. Important progress on the agreed reforms has been made, although further reforms related to the corporatisation and financial transparency of NJSC "Naftogas of Ukraine" remain a priority. [A technical study and an environmental and social impact assessment on the Ukrainian Gas Transit System](#) was launched on 18th February 2011 funded under the [EU's Neighbourhood Investment Facility](#).
- **The coal sector**, where co-operation is currently taking place in the framework of the ["Coal Sector Policy Support Programme"](#) financed by the EU to support the institutional strengthening in the Ukrainian coal sector, the development of a Master Plan for the

sector, the development of tools, measures and policies to mitigate the social impact of the restructuring, the improvement of the occupational safety in coal mine, completing a comprehensive overview of contaminated sites and proposing adequate responses. A [TAIEX event](#) on this subject was also held in Kyiv on 5 November 2010.

- **Energy efficiency and renewable energies**, where in particular a number of TAIEX events have been held. These include a [workshop](#) in February 2010 related to supporting energy efficiency in buildings and a [seminar](#) on energy efficiency.