## **JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING ENERGY SECURITY**

We are jointly committed to address the energy crisis and the climate crisis. Tackling both crises is key to the future of Europe. The energy crisis has been exacerbated by the unprovoked and unjustifiable Russian war of aggression against Ukraine which we strongly condemn. In light of severe consequences of the war on the EU energy market, we express our strong commitment for ensuring the energy security of the EU and our two countries. To strengthen our energy security, we need to overcome our dependency on Russian fossil fuels as soon as possible. We also need to accelerate the energy transition significantly, including the expansion of renewable energy and associated infrastructure, the strengthening of energy efficiency and the reduction of our energy consumption, in order to strengthen energy security and to reach our climate goals.

We are deeply concerned about gas supplies to the EU being used as a political weapon with deliberate intention to divide EU Member States and cause economic chaos. We stand united to provide operational cooperation and coordination in case of complete disruption of gas supplies which may occur in upcoming weeks.

We are well aware that solidarity will be a key principle to follow in the case of a shortage of gas supplies, therefore we are going to finalize the agreement on solidarity measures to safeguard the security of gas supply between our countries prior to the start of the upcoming winter season.

We reiterate that the diversification of gas supplies to eliminate dependency on Russian energy imports must be ensured in a coordinated manner. For this means the EU Energy Platform can be an appropriate voluntary tool.

Our energy partnership will be reinforced by LNG deliveries to the region. For the sake of cost efficiency, we call for the utilisation of existing infrastructure and if necessary for the construction of new transit routes to be hydrogen ready.

We underscore that enhanced cooperation in the electricity sector will also be indispensable. We agree with the need for closer cooperation in ensuring the security of electricity supply and in preventing and managing electricity crises. The envisaged scope for such cooperation was expressed in the Memorandum of Understanding on Risk Preparedness in the Electricity Sector, signed on 27 June 2022 in Luxembourg.

Furthermore, together we will endeavour to fulfil Article 15 of Regulation (EU) 2019/941 on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector and in a joint effort, we plan to develop appropriate coordinated measures for the prevention and management in an event of a crisis and to secure the necessary technical, legal, and financial arrangements for the implementation of such measures.

We share a common understanding that we shall continue to support principles of market integration, to strengthen grid and system resilience and to promote competitive, reliable and affordable energy markets based on transparent common rules.

Αt	the	same	time,	we	remain	strongly	committed	to	reaching	our	national,	European	and
int	ernat	tional	climate	goa	als. Ther	efore, we	e are going	to e	ensure tha	t ou	r measure	s to guara	ntee
security of supply are in line with our climate goals and will not create fossil fuel lock-ins.													

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