

16032026
Brussels,

Dear President Zelenskyy,

Dear Volodymyr,

We would like to reaffirm our continued firm and unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders as well as our commitment to continue to provide Ukraine with comprehensive political, financial, economic, humanitarian, military and diplomatic support.

Following our conversations in the past few days, we wanted to let you know that Hungary has explicitly informed us that they are currently not in a position to agree with the proposed revision of the Multi-Annual Financial Framework that underpins the 90 billion Ukraine Support Loan nor to adopt the 20th package of economic sanctions against Russia. You will recall that unanimity is required for both proposals.

In this context, we would reiterate the offer, made during our visit and in our phone calls, that the EU would swiftly provide all the necessary technical support in order to be able to subsequently conduct the repair work on the Druzhba pipeline. This could be paid for by European funds.

We are fully aware that amid Russia's ongoing aggression and its relentless attacks on Ukraine's critical infrastructure, the Russian Federation may inflict further damage on the pipeline. However, in the current context of high volatility of energy markets, the resumption of the transit of the oil through the territory of Ukraine becomes of greater importance to preserve market stability. This is also in line with Ukraine's existing contractual obligations as well as with the derogation provided for Hungary and Slovakia from the general EU ban on the import of Russian oil.

As you know, steps are currently being taken by the EU at the legislative level to ensure the phase-out of all remaining oil imports from the Russian Federation by the end of 2027, in line with the RepowerEU Action Plan.

We hope that the EU assistance can pave the way for overcoming the current blockage and ensure for the rapid repair of the pipeline. This would allow to move forward in a timely manner with the EU Ukraine Support Loan funding for your own macro-economic stability and for the purchase of defence equipment, as well as the final adoption of the 20th package of sanctions.

Yours sincerely,

For the European Council



António COSTA

For the European Commission



Ursula VON DER LEYEN

H.E. Mr Volodymyr Zelenskyy
President of Ukraine