

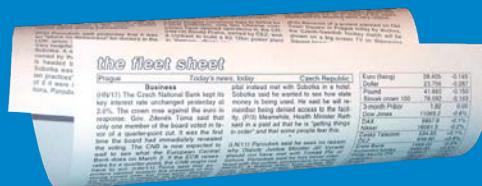
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Will Ukraine dictate EU energy policy?



EU leaders said at their [summit on Fri.](#) that member states have greatly reduced their dependency on Russia for energy and have diversified their sources. "We will ensure access to affordable energy, increase our energy sovereignty and reduce external dependencies in other key areas where the EU needs to build a sufficient level of capacity to guarantee its economic and social welfare," they said. Ukraine is pushing for quicker action, and the [Int'l Working Group on Russian Sanctions](#) called in Sept., with [Volodymyr Zelensky's support](#), for an [EU embargo on Russian LNG](#) and for a requirement that all Russian pipeline gas to Europe flow via Ukraine. The Working Group also wants the EU Commission be given exclusive right to be the sole European buyer of Russian gas and to take on all existing Russian gas-supply contracts. When EU leaders, including Pres. Petr Pavel, say they will support Ukraine for as long as it takes and [by all means possible](#), they need to be more specific in terms of Russian gas.

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