

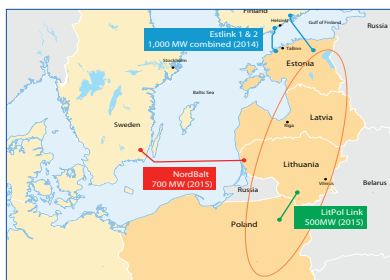


European Commission

Juncker Commission ends energy isolation and increases solidarity and energy security

Since the beginning of the mandate this Juncker Commission has been committed to work towards implementing strategic energy infrastructure projects and address the various aspects required to end the energy isolation of the Baltic Sea region by reinforcing its integration into the European Union energy market. The synchronisation of the three Baltic States' electricity grid with the continental European network is of key importance for the achievement of the Energy Union. This is reaffirmed by the signature of the Political Roadmap, expressing true European solidarity on energy among EU Member States.

SYNCHRONISATION



◀ In March 2018 President Juncker and the Heads of State or Government of the Baltic States and of Poland commit to synchronise the Baltic States' electricity grid with the continental European System by 2025.

BALTICCONNECTOR



The Balticconnector pipeline will consist of three sections: 22 km Finnish onshore, 80 km offshore and 50 km Estonian onshore. It enables the transport of 7.2 million cubic metres of gas per day with flows running in both directions.

◀ Balticconnector between Estonia and Finland - Ending energy isolation of the Eastern Baltic Sea region.

GIPL



Gas Interconnector between Poland and Lithuania

The total construction costs of the project are **€ 558 million**. In 2014, GIPL obtained co-financing under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) in the form of:

- a grant for **studies** – around **€ 10 million**
- a grant for **works** – around **€ 295 million**.

Agreement on the financial structure of the project, paving the way for its construction and operation by December 2019.

◀ Signing ceremony of a grant agreement to support the project of the Gas Interconnector between Poland and Lithuania in September 2015.

ENDING ISOLATION AND BRINGING NEW ECONOMIC DYNAMISM TO THE REGION:

February 2015 – Commission presents Energy Union Strategy emphasising enhanced regional cooperation within a common EU framework. Continued work within the **High-Level Group for Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan (BEMIP)** to end the energy isolation of the Baltic Sea Region and to integrate it fully into the EU energy market.

June 2015 – Commission and the Baltic Sea Region sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to modernise and strengthen the **Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan**. MoU includes cooperation with a view making the Baltic States form part of the continental European synchronous area.

October 2015 – President Juncker welcomed the signing of the grant agreement on the **GIPL, the first pipeline connecting Poland and Lithuania**. The gas interconnector will end the long lasting isolation of the Baltic Sea region and bring the energy needed for a new economic dynamism to the region.

November 2015 – Commission adopts second list or **Project of Common Interests** eligible for funding under the Connecting Europe Facility. With EU support, Baltic States region is connected with European partners through recently established electricity lines with Poland (**LitPol Link**), Sweden (**NordBalt**) and Finland (**EstLink**).

October 2016 – Signing of investment in the **Balticconnector**. A first gas interconnector between Finland and Estonia will end the long lasting gas isolation of Finland and help boost security of supply and bring an economic lift to the region.

November 2017 – Commission adopts third list or **Project of Common Interest** eligible for funding under the Connecting Europe Facility – includes project in the Baltic region

November 2017 – Commission presents **Communication on strengthening Europe's energy networks** – well interconnected and integrated trans-European grids are indispensable for making the energy transition a success. A key political priority remains the synchronisation of the three Baltic States' electricity grid with the continental European network.

December 2017 – Vice-President for Energy Union Maroš Šefčovič and Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete convene a **Ministerial meeting with Baltics and Poland** in Brussels to forge ahead the synchronisation of the Baltic States' electricity grid

March 2018 – President Juncker invites Heads of State or Government of the Baltic States and of Poland to reaffirm their strong commitment to **synchronising the Baltic States' electricity grid with the continental European System by 2025**.

June 2018 – Signature of the **Political Roadmap on the synchronisation of the Baltic States' electricity networks with the Continental European Network via Poland**