

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000944/26
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(6 March 2026)**

Subject: Statements by the German Federal Court of Justice on the Nord Stream attack

In its decision of 10 December 2025, the German Federal Court of Justice claimed that the suspect, Serhii K, and his accomplices were most probably acting on behalf of a foreign state ⁽¹⁾. It is apparent from the decision that the court is referring to Ukraine ⁽²⁾. In 2022, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen claimed that sabotage could be a possible cause of the Nord Stream leaks. The President of the Commission also said: ‘Any deliberate disruption of active European energy infrastructure is unacceptable and will lead to the strongest possible response.’ ⁽³⁾

1. Is the Commission aware of the statement by the Federal Court of Justice and what is its opinion?
2. What further steps is the Commission planning to take to adequately respond to the sabotage?

Submitted: 6.3.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(5 June 2026)**

The Commission is aware of this statement. According to the Treaties, investigations into the Nord Stream pipelines incident fall solely under the responsibility of the Member State concerned.

At the same time, the Commission supports the protection of critical infrastructure in the EU, including submarine cables and energy pipelines, as set out in the ProtectEU Internal Security Strategy ⁽⁴⁾.

The EU has reinforced its legislative framework with the directive on the resilience of critical entities ⁽⁵⁾ and the directive on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union ⁽⁶⁾.

As a follow-up to the Council Recommendation on strengthening critical infrastructure resilience ⁽⁴⁾, Member States adopted in 2024 the EU critical infrastructure blueprint ⁽⁵⁾ to enhance cooperation at EU level in responding to disruptions with significant cross-border impact.

The Commission also adopted in 2025 an EU Action Plan on Cable Security ⁽⁶⁾ to mitigate future threats to critical maritime infrastructure, which includes measures to strengthen the repair capacities and promote technologies to detect and deter hybrid threats and enhance surveillance and protection of maritime infrastructure.

The EU maritime security strategy ⁽⁷⁾ includes further actions to improve surveillance, protection and resilience of infrastructure, including energy pipelines from conventional, hybrid and cyberattacks.

Finally, in December 2025, the Commission launched a EUR 15 million call for proposals ⁽⁸⁾ to support the implementation of the directive on the resilience of critical entities as well as two calls of EUR 20 million for increasing the repair capacity of cables in the Baltic Sea and EUR 20 million for the deployment of smart sensing cables.

¹ https://www.bundesgerichtshof.de/SharedDocs/Entscheidungen/DE/Strafsenate/3_StS/2025/StB__60-25.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=5

² <https://www.spiegel.de/panorama/nord-stream-bundesgerichtshof-schreibt-gaspipeline-sprengungen-der-ukraine-zu-a-a89c208d-9e00-4a63-be4d-2bf12aacdcf2>.

³ https://rp-online.de/politik/eu/nord-stream-1-und-2-sabotage-von-der-leyen-droht-taetern_aid-77500639.

⁽⁴⁾ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy; COM(2025) 148 final.

⁽⁵⁾ Directive (EU) 2022/2557 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on the resilience of critical entities and repealing Council Directive 2008/114/EC; ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2557/oj>.

⁽⁶⁾ Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (NIS 2 Directive); ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2555/oj>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32023H0120%2801%29>.

⁽⁶⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C_202404371.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025JC0009>.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52023JC0008>.

⁽⁸⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-provide-eur-15-million-support-critical-entities-resilience-2025-12-10_en.