

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002030/26
to the Commission**

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(18 May 2026)

Subject: Recent legislative changes in Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the Southern Gas Interconnection between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia

On 15 April 2026, the House of Peoples of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) adopted amendments to the Law on the Southern Gas Interconnection between BiH and Croatia, directly appointing AAFS, a recently formed Trump-linked company with no experience and opaque ownership, as the investor. This took place with no tender, contrary to national rules and through a fast-track procedure without public debate.

With gas comprising less than 3% of BiH's energy supply (mostly being used for heating in Sarajevo), building major new infrastructure would undermine decarbonisation and increase the country's dependence on imported liquefied natural gas from the United States. The pipeline would have a capacity six times the country's annual consumption, either resulting in increased gas lock-in or, more likely, stranded assets. Solutions for Sarajevo's district heating such as heat pumps and/or geothermal energy would likely be quicker than building a pipeline that may not be ready for a decade.

We therefore ask:

1. What is the Commission's stance on the new law and has it communicated this to the BiH authorities?
2. What could the Commission do to assist BiH in developing renewable solutions for Sarajevo's district heating?

Submitted: 18.5.2026

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(19 August 2026)

With regards to the Law on the Southern Gas Interconnection, the Commission has urged the country to complete the transposition of the EU and Energy Community gas *acquis* and respect its key requirements in any related legislative initiative.

The EU encourages Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement its draft National Energy and Climate Plan that includes its targets for renewable energy in gross final energy consumption and supports the adoption of energy solutions which prioritise renewable sources, including for district heating, through cooperation via the Energy Community.

This also includes the transposition and implementation of EU legislation on energy via the Energy Community Treaty, to which Bosnia and Herzegovina is a Contracting Party.

The EU is the largest financial provider for Bosnia and Herzegovina's energy transition. As underlined by the President of the Commission on 5 June 2026, the Growth Plan supports this, with the December 2025 approval of Bosnia and Herzegovina's Reform Agenda unlocking up to EUR 976.6 million under the Reform and Growth Facility.

This adds to EUR 1.1 billion provided via the Western Balkans Investment Framework since 2009, EUR 824 million in European Innovation Partnership grants, and a EUR 46 million European Bank for Reconstruction and Development loan in June 2026 for grid modernisation.

With regards to infrastructure funding, fossil fuel projects are no longer eligible to EU funding from the Western Balkans Reform and Growth Facility and Investment Framework, nor can they be identified as priority projects under the Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) Regulation ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32022R0869>.