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Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
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The US is currently our second largest gas supplier providing 26% (76 billion cubic meters (bcm)) of total EU gas imports in 2025 (after Norway with 31%). Liquefaction capacity in the US is expected to significantly increase between 2026 - 2030, which is important given that the current conflict in the Middle East negatively impacted the volumes available from e.g. Qatar. Since the beginning of March, three major planned projects in the US have reached final investment decision, potentially expanding US liquefied natural gas (LNG) export capacity to ca. 170 bcm by 2030¹.

Major EU-based gas importers have signed long-term contracts with US producers, also for these future capacities. It is important to note that most contracts signed with US producers are 'free-on-board', meaning that from the moment the LNG is loaded on the vessel, the buyer decides where the gas is transported to. Therefore, the contracted LNG can reach the EU market as well as other markets such as in Asia. EU-based companies are also involved in LNG projects globally also contributing to our diversification efforts.

A key lesson learned from the weaponisation of gas supplies by Russia is that the EU cannot rely on one dominant supplier. By increasing the share of LNG in its overall gas imports, the EU increases its source and supply diversification compared to pipeline gas imports. In parallel, the EU is reducing its reliance on fossil fuel imports by accelerating the transition to homegrown clean energy sources.

¹ See: IEA Gas Market Report, Q3-2026 (<https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/72079a0a-ec1e-48a1-b8e9-3042160b9378/GasMarketReport%2CQ3-2026.pdf>) and Global LNG Capacity Tracker – Data Tools – IEA (<https://www.iea.org/data-and-statistics/data-tools/global-lng-capacity-tracker>).