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EU state blasts Ukraine over key pipeline attack

Hungary has criticized Kiev for targeting the vital distribution station of the Druzhba oil pipeline in Russia



Hungary's Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto © Getty Images / NurPhoto / Contributor

Hungary has lashed out at Ukraine over a drone strike on Russia's Druzhba oil pipeline system, a key supply route to EU countries, warning that the attack endangered its energy security.

Druzhba is one of the world's longest networks, transporting crude some 4,000km from Russia and Kazakhstan to refineries in the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia.

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In a post on X on Wednesday, Hungary's Foreign Minister Peter Szijarto wrote that *"overnight, Ukraine launched a drone strike on a key distribution station of the Druzhba oil pipeline in Russia's Bryansk Region."*

According to media reports, multiple Ukrainian drones struck Russia's Bryansk Region on Tuesday night, sparking fires at several sites. One target was the Unecha station, a major hub in the Druzhba oil pipeline linking Russia and the EU.

The Ukrainian General Staff confirmed the attack on the pumping station in a Facebook post. Russia has so far not commented on the alleged incident.

Szijarto called the attack *"outrageous,"* saying the pipeline is vital to Hungary's energy security given that the country relies on oil shipments through the system.

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He also noted that Hungary is Ukraine's *"number one electricity supplier"* and that without it Ukraine's energy security would be *"highly unstable."* He urged Kiev to stop endangering Hungary's energy supplies and to halt strikes on routes *"in a war we Hungarians have nothing to do with."*

Ukraine has repeatedly targeted Russian energy infrastructure throughout the conflict, including the Druzhba system. In March, the Ukrainian General Staff confirmed having

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targeted the oil pipeline.

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In January, Ukrainian forces attempted to attack a compressor station of the TurkStream pipeline, which supplies natural gas to Turkish customers and several European countries, including Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Greece.

Russian officials have repeatedly condemned Ukrainian attacks on civilian energy infrastructure, labeling them acts of terrorism.

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