

Interconnector Agreement

Official reference	Convention between the government of Belgium and the government of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Northern Ireland on the transport of gas by a pipeline between Belgium and the United Kingdom, Brussels, 10 December 1997	
Relevant dates	Document	10/12/1997
	Entry into force	21/08/2002
	Ratification by Belgium	26/06/2000
	Ratification by Flanders	1/03/2002
Policy level	International (bilateral)	
Type of instrument	Agreement	
Geographical reach	Continental shelf of Belgium and the United Kingdom	
International contact point	Interconnector Commission	
Competent authority in Belgium	Federal authorities; FPS Economy, SMEs, Self-employed and Energy	
Federal ratification	Law of 26 June 2000 on the approval of the Convention between the government of Belgium and the government of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Northern Ireland on the transport of gas by pipeline between Belgium and the United Kingdom, BS 12 September 2002.	
Flemish ratification	Decreet van 1 maart 2002 houdende instemming met de Overeenkomst tussen de Regering van het Koninkrijk België en de Regering van het Verenigd Koninkrijk van Groot-Brittannië en Noord-Ierland inzake het vervoer van aardgas door middel van een pijpleiding tussen het Koninkrijk België en het Verenigd Koninkrijk van Groot-Brittannië en Noord-Ierland, ondertekend in Brussel op 10 december 1997	

// abstract:

This agreement regulates the realisation of a pipeline for gas transport between Belgium and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The part of the pipeline that is situated on the continental shelf of the countries is covered by the legislation of the country in question. Each government needs to provide the necessary approvals or authorisations concerning the installation and the exploitation of the pipeline, according to the countries' laws. Within this scope, consultation with the other government is always required. Both Parties need to accept the operator of the pipeline. The agreement also stipulates the regulation that has to be respected by the two countries, concerning the safety of the construction and concerning the exploitation of the pipeline as well as its inspections. Furthermore, the agreement designates regulations for the physical protection of the pipeline, the access and the use as well as the tax scheme regarding the exploitation of the pipeline. The regulation on the subject of supply security and emergency measures is discussed and it is specified that the abandoning of the pipeline happens with respect to the legislation of the respective country. An Interconnector Commission was established for the execution of this convention and for adopting measures in case of disputes.