

Serbian Minister of Mining and Energy Zorana Mihajlovic said that North Macedonia and Albania have accepted Serbia's initiative to form a joint working group for cooperation in the energy crisis and on strategic projects, within the Open Balkan initiative.

Minister Mihajlovic said that the region's energy security in crisis situations necessitates solidarity, connection, and collaborative engagement on strategic projects. The entire region is under great pressure to ensure that everything is in place for the winter. However, it is important that, in addition to solving current supply problems, the involved parties also discuss strategic projects and potential joint investments, which will make the entire region more energy stable and secure.

She added that Serbia's proposal was to form a joint working group of three countries that will deal with solving energy problems this winter, as well as possible collaboration on significant strategic projects.

The Open Balkan initiative is an economic and political zone of three Balkan states: Albania, North Macedonia, and Serbia. It aims to provide greater trade opportunities, as well as to encourage EU integration of member countries.