

The Energy Community (EC) has launched a preliminary procedure against Serbia due to some provisions of the country's gas supply agreement with Russia.

The statement from Energy Community Secretariat said that it has sent an Opening letter to Serbia regarding the country's 2012 agreement between Serbia and Russia on natural gas supply. The Secretariat expressed concerns over article 4 of the agreement, which stipulates that supplied natural gas is intended for use only in the Serbian market, which infringes the competition acquis under the Energy Community Treaty. According to the agreement, Serbia is supplied with a maximum of five billion cubic meters of natural gas annually between 2012 and 2021.

The statement further said that by sending the Opening letter, the Secretariat has launched a preliminary procedure, which will allow Serbia to react to the allegation of non-compliance with Energy Community regulations within two months, and will also enable the Secretariat to establish the full background of the case.