

Polish-Russian Gas Talks to Resume in October

By The Moscow Times

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Poland and Russia will resume talks in October aimed at securing continuous gas supplies to Poland after they failed to reach an agreement Friday, the Polish Economy Ministry said.

The ministry said a final agreement, approved by the European Commission, could be reached during the next round of talks.

"Sides came much closer to an agreement. Preliminary conclusions of the meeting were approved by the European Commission," the ministry said. "Further, final, talks will take place in early October."

Poland — which imports from Russia about two-thirds of the 14 billion cubic meters of natural gas it uses annually — has been struggling to reach a deal with Moscow on future supplies.

Last year, Poland signed a short-term deal for supplies through Oct. 20, giving Warsaw and Moscow time to iron out details on a long-term pact for gas until 2037, but so far the countries have been unable to reach a final agreement.

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