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Turkey to Deliver Turkmen Gas

By The Moscow Times

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ASHGABAT —Turkey is ready to deliver Turkmenistan's natural gas to consumers in Europe, Turkish President Abdullah Gul said Thursday, supporting the Central Asian nation's plans to build alternative pipelines and ease dependence on exports to Russia.

As Turkmenistan plans to start production at the Galkynysh natural gas deposit, the world's second largest, by June 30, its current export outlets are limited by former imperial master Russia, China and neighboring Iran.

"We have discussed issues and signed an agreement on bringing Turkmen energy supplies to Europe via Turkey," Gul said through an interpreter after talks with Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdymukhammedov in the Turkmen capital Ashgabat.

On Thursday, the two presidents oversaw the signing of a framework agreement on cooperation in Turkmen gas deliveries to Turkey. It was inked by Turkmen Deputy Prime Minister Baymurad Hojamukhamedov and Turkish Energy Minister Taner Yildiz.

(Reuters)

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