

Grybauskaitė: Interests of Lithuanian people are of the utmost importance in talks with Gazprom

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President Dalia Grybauskaitė met with Prime Minister Algirdas Butkevičius. During the meeting, the Prime Minister informed the President about written proposals from the Russian gas company Gazprom concerning gas prices for Lithuania, the Press Service of the President has informed.

According to the President, Gazprom's written proposals are inconsistent with what is declared verbally and offer nothing new. They are indefinite, one-sided and not in the interests of Lithuania and its people, she noted.

"It is important for us to talk to all suppliers; we really don't ignore the opportunities offered by any of them," Grybauskaitė said.

"However, given the current position of Lithuania – our lawsuit against Gazprom in the arbitration tribunal and the ongoing construction of the liquefied natural gas terminal in Klaipėda – we cannot accept conditions that are disadvantageous to Lithuania. Lithuania is ready to negotiate, but we will agree only with those conditions that are in the interests of our state and our people," the President explained.



Prime Minister Algirdas Butkevičius and President Dalia Grybauskaitė | Photo courtesy of © 2014 Office of the President of the Republic of Lithuania, Photo by R. Dačkus

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Lithuania has filed with the Stockholm Arbitration Tribunal an over 4 billion litas lawsuit against gas monopolist Gazprom concerning unfair gas pricing since 2004.

Also, the European Commission at Lithuania's initiative has launched an antitrust probe against Gazprom within Europe, pending decision soon.

The Commission's conclusion should even more strengthen Lithuania's negotiating position.



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