

Background: DTEK

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DTEK is Ukraine's largest private energy and gas company who has continued to operate throughout the war to literally keep the lights and provide heat to the thousands of civilians and soldiers affected by the conflict. In addition, the company has restored power to more than 2,000,000 households who lost power during sieges and battles over cities.

When Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, DTEK worked together with the Ukrainian government to cut off its ties with the Russian and Belarusian energy grid to connect with the European Union – a move that has long been in progress but was accelerated due to the invasion. Ever since, DTEK and Ukrainian state-owned energy companies are confident that they can play a vital role in cutting off Russia's primary source of finance: oil and gas. This is doable if the European Union prioritized Ukrainian energy imports, instead of Russian supplies, as nearly 70% of the EU's imports come from Russia.

The company has been a strong advocate for Ukraine playing a vital role in a new European energy security system considering:

- Ukraine has the second largest gas deposits in Europe and was producing almost twenty billion cubic meters of gas a year before the war.
- The EU can make use of Ukraine's underground natural-gas storage facilities for its plans to form a gas reserve.
- Ukraine is already in position to export up to 1.5 gigawatts of electricity to the EU, and DTEK estimates this could increase to 3-4 gigawatts within a year if the grid remains stable.
- Around 55% of Ukraine's electricity is produced by nuclear power plants while the country generates around 12% from renewable sources. For the past few years, DTEK has had plans to build the largest wind farm in Europe which will resume after the war.

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