

**Today, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Mining and Energy Zorana Mihajlovic talked with representatives of a consortium of companies working on the construction of the Serbia-Bulgaria gas interconnection on the dynamics of work and finding solutions to procurement problems caused by the war in Ukraine and the crisis in Ukraine. market, the ministry said.**

“The project of building the Nis-Dimitrovgrad gas interconnector is strategically important for Serbia and the country’s energy security and represents the basis for future diversification of suppliers, which gives both Serbia and the region greater security in the gas sector,” Mihajlovic said after the meeting.

She stated that the war in Ukraine affects world markets, the availability of raw materials and supplies.

“The ministry is here to help overcome the problem, bearing in mind that all works should be completed next year. Considering that the project is also financed by EU funds, Bulgaria also participates in it, gas interconnection is also of regional importance,” she said.

The statement said that representatives of the consortium of companies performing the works told the minister that due to the lack of steel on the market, there is a possibility of delays, given the fact that due to the war in Ukraine there is no company that can offer and deliver the necessary material.

The Ministry announced that at the meeting, which was attended by the representatives of the Ministry of Finance and PE “Srbijagas”, it was agreed to speed up all procedures and consider alternative solutions, but without changing the contract, RTV reports.