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**NORWAY'S ARCTIC OIL AND GAS PITCH TO EUROPE IS BUILT ON EXAGGERATION, NOT ENERGY SECURITY**

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EU Observer (2 July 2026)

Wester van GAAL

Norways prime minister Jonas Gahr Støre has been vigorously touring the continent, telling everybody who wants to listen that Norways Arctic oil and gas are crucial for Europes energy security.

We increased our gas exports to the EU when the war in Ukraine broke out, and all of that increase came from the Arctic, he told the Financial Times earlier this month, in the context of another energy crisis, this time caused by the US-Israeli war with Iran.

That same week, he met the commissioner for international partnerships, Josef Síkela, and the EUs special adviser for the Arctic, Jyrki Katainen, to offer them the Norwegian perspective on the region, said people familiar with his agenda.

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