



Association
of European
Businesses

Post Release

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Moscow

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met members of the Association of European Businesses (AEB) on October 14th in Moscow at the Conference Hall of the Radisson Royal Hotel.

Mr. Philippe Pegorier, AEB Chairman of the Board, opened the meeting and made a welcome speech. During the briefing Mr. Lavrov expressed his opinion on Russian—EU partnership and repeated the idea that Russia still considers Europe as a partner and not a rival.

He also commented on the situation in Ukraine and the impact that European sanctions were having on business in and outside Russia.

The briefing by Mr. Lavrov was followed by a Q&A session moderated by AEB CEO Frank Schauff. AEB member company representatives managed to receive answers to their most pressing and important questions directly from the source.

Participants in the discussion included:

1. Jacques de Boissésou - General Director, Total E&P Russie
2. Vygaudas Ušackas - Head of the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation
3. Christopher Van Riet - Managing Director, Radius Group
4. Michael Akim – Vice-President, ABB – Russia
5. Wilhelmina Shavshina - Legal and Business Development Director, Head of Foreign Trade Regulation practice DLA Piper
6. Albert Grigoryan - Head of Representation Office GDF SUEZ
7. Ernesto Ferlenghi – Head of Confindustria Russia, The Association of Italian Companies in Russia
8. Andrey Erofeev – Lawyer, FLSmidth Rus

In regards to the AEB, Mr. Lavrov commented that, "In the current situation of a noticeable decrease in intensity of contacts and interaction with the European Union, the Association of European Businesses remains and will remain one of the mechanisms continuing to work effectively, promoting mutual understanding between Russia and the EU countries. It creates an important foundation for future relations."

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