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The Druzhba pipeline that carries Russian oil through Ukraine to Hungary and Slovakia has been repaired and can resume operations, the Ukrainian President has announced recently, ending a months-long standoff between Kyiv and Budapest.

Druzhba Pipeline

The Druzhba Pipeline, also known as the Friendship Pipeline, is one of the biggest crude oil pipeline networks in the world.

It was built in the 1960s to supply oil from the USSR to countries in Europe.

Today, it is the largest principal artery for the transportation of Russian (and Kazakh) oil across Europe.

The total length of the pipeline system, including all its branches, is around 5500 km.

The official beginning of the Druzhba network is in Almet'yevsk in the Russian Federation, where pipelines carrying crude oil from Siberia, the Urals, and the Caspian Sea meet.

Druzhba runs to Mozyr in Belarus, where it splits into a northern and a southern branch.

The northern branch continues via Belarus and Poland to Germany.

The southern branch runs through Ukraine, splitting in Uzhgorod, into Druzhba 1, continuing to Slovakia (where it splits again and goes to the Czech Republic in one branch and Hungary in another), and Druzhba 2, continuing to Hungary.

The current capacity of Druzhba is 1.2–1.4 million barrels a day, with the possibility to increase up to 2 million barrels a day.

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