(ii) the company must hold its administrative seat, its principal establishment or its head office within a Member State of the European Union, or a third country, which has undertaken commitments to maintain a regulatory framework similar to the common requirements specified in Directive 98/30/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 June 1998 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas, provided that the activity of this establishment or head office represents an effective and continuous link with the economy of the country concerned (CPC 7131).

In **BE**: In general the supply of natural gas to customers (customers being both distribution companies and consumers whose overall combined consumption of gas arising from all points of supply attains a minimum level of one million cubic metres per year) established in Belgium is subject to an individual authorisation provided by the minister, except where the supplier is a distribution company using its own distribution network. Such an authorisation may only be granted to a natural or juridical person established in a Member State of the European Union.

In **CY**: For the cross-border supply of storage and warehousing services of fuels transported through pipelines, and the retail sales of fuel oil and bottled gas other than by mail order (CPC 613, CPC 62271, CPC 63297, CPC 7131, CPC 742).

With respect to Investment liberalisation – Market access and Cross-border trade in services – Market access:

In **HU**: The supply of pipeline transport services requires establishment. Services may be provided through a Contract of Concession granted by the state or the local authority. The supply of this service is regulated by the Hungarian Concession Law (CPC 7131).

With respect to Cross-border trade in services – Market access:

In **LT**: For pipeline transportation of fuels and services auxiliary to pipeline transport of goods other than fuel.

Existing measures:
BE: Arrêté Royal du 14 mai 2002 relatif à l'autorisation de transport de produits gazeux et autres par canalisations; and
Loi du 12 avril 1965 relative au transport de produits gazeux et autres par canalisations (article 8.2).

BG: Energy Act.