

## Zelensky hits out at Greek shipowners for continuing to ship Russian oil

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Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelensky has shone a spotlight on Greek shipowners who he says are continuing to move Russian oil to willing buyers.

Speaking from Kyiv via video link to the 26th Annual Economist Government Roundtable held in Athens earlier this week, Zelensky said that "we see Greek companies providing almost all the largest tanker fleet for the transportation of Russian oil."

He told the conference that he was "sure that this does not meet the interests of Europe, Greece or Ukraine. This is just one example of the need for even greater unity, so that Russia is forced to seek peaceful solutions."

Evangelos Marinakis, chairman of Capital Maritime & Trading, one of Greece's largest shipowners, who was speaking at the same conference, argued that it would take a long time for Europe to be able to stop needing Russian energy. He noted data which showed that Russia remained as the European Union's top source of crude during H1 2022.

Greek owners have been determined to fight their corner on the rights and wrongs of continuing to move Russian commodities. Marinakis told delegates at Capital Link's event in Posidonia that sanctions damaged Europe more than they did Russia. At the TradeWinds Shipowners Forum the following day, Splash reported him labelling the sanctions as "bullshit".