

Turkey seeks to defend crucial energy lines

Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan are increasing military cooperation in a bid to defend strategic energy supply lines surrounded by nearly 12,000 Russian troops based in three Moscow-influenced territories



Russian military personnel ● **Army bases**

ABKHAZIA 3,800

SOUTH OSSETIA 3,000

ARMENIA 5,000



Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline (TANAP): Will link to existing **South Caucasus pipeline** to bring Caspian gas into European market for first time and reduce dependence on Russian gas. Both are part of EU-backed **Southern Gas Corridor**

Launch: Mar 2015. **Completion:** 2019
Cost: \$10bn. **Length:** 1,850km
Capacity: 16bn cubic metres a year

Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway: Will connect region from Caspian Sea to eastern Turkey

Launch: Jul 2008
Completion: Late 2015
Length: 826km
Capacity: Will transport 1 million passengers and 6.5m tonnes of freight a year initially, expanding to 3m passengers and 15m tonnes of freight annually by 2030