



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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MESSAGE FROM MEP FRANC BOGOVIČ



In recent years, Europe has weathered a storm of unprecedented challenges, from the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, defence, security and geopolitical tensions, high inflation, gas and critical raw materials shortage, to climate-related disasters.

Amidst these trials and while combating climate change on the one hand and meeting the higher and higher energy needs of citizens and industry on the other, the EU has been compelled to adapt its strategy and reassess its priorities, placing energy independence and industrial competitiveness at the forefront of its agenda.

Especially the energy crisis gripping Europe underscored the urgent need for clean, reliable, and affordable energy to fight against energy poverty and power the decarbonisation of European industries, with competitive electricity costs. The EU finally understood that achieving these goals demands a comprehensive strategy that embraces the full spectrum of clean – low carbon – energy sources, including nuclear power – which is increasingly seen as a beacon of hope also in the fight against climate change.

As a CO₂-free technology, nuclear energy is able to play a pivotal role in Europe's energy transition, while enhancing Europe's energy security and autonomy, which is not only of strategic importance, but nothing less than urgent. Recognition of the critical role of nuclear power in Europe's energy landscape is rapidly growing, especially with initiatives like "European Industrial Alliance on Small Modular Reactors" launched by the European Commission and the "European Nuclear Alliance" fostering cooperation among EU countries to advance nuclear energy goals. Political acceptance of nuclear energy is on the rise also globally, as was made clear with the commitment of 22 nations at COP28 to triple global nuclear generation capacity by 2050. Not to mention the fact that, following the International

Atomic Energy Agency's Atoms4NetZero initiative, leaders from all around the world in March 2024 gathered at the first ever Global Nuclear Summit in Brussels to highlight the role of nuclear energy in reducing the use of fossil fuels, enhancing energy security and boosting economic development.

All aspects mentioned further underscored the momentum behind this nuclear resurgence starting especially during 2023. The major shift regarding acceptance of nuclear energy, was seen also in the European Parliament, by placing nuclear fission and fusion technologies, including the nuclear fuel cycle, in the list of net-zero technologies under the Net Zero Industry Act and especially with the historical support of my Own Initiative (INI) Report on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), reaching a 2/3 majority of votes in the plenary session of the European Parliament in December 2023. Nuclear, which was until now a very sensitive and unpopular topic in the political circle, is suddenly placed very high on the political agenda.

The awareness is therefore here. Nuclear energy offers more than just clean electricity - it provides a stable foundation for a sustainable energy future. Unlike wind and solar, which are subject to fluctuations in weather patterns, nuclear power offers consistent baseload electricity, ensuring grid stability and reliability, which is essential as we transition away from fossil fuels and integrate more intermittent renewables into our energy mix.

The potential and strategic importance of nuclear power, and its vital role in decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors, is undeniable. Nuclear in the form of all old and new technologies (fission, fusion and SMRs of second, third and fourth generation) should be underpinned by a commitment to maintaining a robust and fair EU internal market, ensuring regulatory stability, and setting ambitious, science-based climate targets.

As we look to the future, one technology stands out as particularly promising: Small Modular Reactors, which offer scalability, enhanced safety features, and potential cost-effectiveness, making them an attractive option for countries seeking to diversify their energy portfolios, without building large nuclear power plants. In the EU, research and development efforts are underway to deploy SMRs and other advanced nuclear technologies, paving the way for a new era of clean energy innovation.

The development and deployment of SMRs will naturally require a comprehensive strategy that takes into account the specific needs and circumstances of different regions and sectors. This will include continued research and development to ensure the safety, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness of these technologies. It will be also crucial to promote public awareness and understanding of the benefits and challenges of nuclear power and SMRs, ensuring transparent and inclusive decision-making processes. The EU's efforts in education, training, research, and innovation will be therefore key to managing radioactive waste and spent fuel and developing the technologies of tomorrow.

There are naturally still some challenges, and not everyone in the EU is on the side of nuclear, however it should be absolutely for the Member States to decide whether they want to use it in their energy mix or not. The EU's role is to increase support and encourage scientific research and to monitor safety and security. To succeed in this strategy, European institutions will have to be action-oriented and translate objectives into concrete achievements.

The next EU Commission will therefore need to be able to balance this debate and adopt an evidence-based, proactive approach on nuclear energy, with a stronger regulatory framework for the future and with EU-wide policies supporting new nuclear power plants, with a stronger supply chain, and also, with adaptation of existing policies and frameworks, to ensure a more comprehensive approach to nuclear.

Europe must show that it can adapt and deploy a climate, energy, and industrial strategy that will ensure the repowering of its economy in its efforts towards carbon neutrality. I believe nuclear energy is a major part of the solution and the time has come to start thinking about creating a real Nuclear Airbus at EU level.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Christopher Eckerberg, nucleareurope President

Winds of change: let's speak with one voice

Much has changed for our industry over the last few years, with a positive shift of public – and political – opinion in favour of nuclear. Indeed, a growing number of Brussels-based stakeholders have become more open towards nuclear, and this is reflected in the positive outcomes of several key policy files.

This opens new doors for us as an industry and we need to be prepared. The achievements of the last few years are in no small part thanks to the strong working relationship between nucleareurope and the membership. We have demonstrated what we can achieve by working together and acting as one voice at EU level.

This year there will be many changes in Brussels. First of all, we have the European Parliament elections coming up in June. With a fact-based and active dialogue, we plan to welcome new MEPs to Brussels and, combined with the good relationships we already have with returning MEPs, we hope that the current pro-nuclear majority in Parliament will remain and even grow.

Following on from this, in the Autumn Member States will be putting forward their Commissioners. We hope that these Commissioners will take on board the renewed interest in nuclear – or at the very least ensure that they focus on technology neutral policy which is goal oriented such as:

- Reducing CO2 emissions
- Ensuring security of energy supplies
- Supporting the competitiveness of Europe's industry.

As I mentioned earlier, many of our successes stem from combining our position in Brussels with our members' voices in the European capitals. And these wins bring clear benefits for our sector as a whole. Take a look at the taxonomy: had nuclear been excluded, this could have had a significant impact on our access to private finance, which is key to many of our businesses. We know that this file is not perfect, but at least we are in there and we can now work towards improving the criteria which we need to meet.

The Industrial Alliance for SMRs is another example of a great achievement which is thanks to the work conducted by nucleareurope. The creation of this Alliance is just a first step in the process – under the leadership of nucleareurope we can now work on building this initiative and ensuring that it has the strong buy-in of the new European Commission.

Now is therefore the time when we need to strengthen our collaboration as members of nucleareurope. Indeed, nucleareurope aims to be the key bridge builder between our industry, policymakers and other Brussels stakeholders. There is still a lot we need to achieve – and the next couple of years provide us with a real opportunity to transform the way nuclear is treated at EU level. To do this, we need to come together as an industry under the umbrella of nucleareurope to ensure that we speak with one voice – as past achievements have shown, this is our greatest strength.

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR GENERAL

Nuclear back on the EU agenda



Yves Desbazeille, nucleareurope Director General

Thanks to the work of nucleareurope, together with its members, we achieved several positive outcomes for nuclear in 2022. All of these efforts laid the groundwork for 2023 - and from here on in the Member States took the lead: 2023 kick-off with the establishment of a Nuclear Alliance of Member States spearhead by the former French Minister for the Energy Transition Agnès Pannier-Runacher. In addition to doing its utmost to ensure a technology-neutral approach to relevant EU political files negotiated at EU level, the alliance also set the ambitious target of having 150GW of installed nuclear capacity in the EU by 2050.

The setting of this target shows the renewed committed of a majority of Member States in favour of nuclear, given its role in ensuring energy sovereignty, security of supply and achieving the EU's decarbonisation objectives. In terms of what such a target will encompass, around a quarter will be covered by the long-term operation of the existing nuclear fleet, nearly 40% will come from new, large reactor projects, just over 33% from Small modular Reactors (SMRs) and the rest covered by Advanced Modular Reactors (AMRs).

We have a lot of work to be done if we are to meet this target. It is going to need all of us working together: industry, EU institutions, national governments, finance institutions etc.

From industry's side, we will need to deliver on these projects in a timely manner. These means ramping up the supply chain by sending clear signals in terms of the components and services which we are going to need. We also have to make sure that we have enough people to work on the construction and operation of these projects. This means being clear about the number people and the types of skills needed. And we have to render our industry much more attractive to young people.

At the same time, policymakers need to send a clear, long-term signal that there is a future for nuclear in Europe. This is essential not just to encourage people to consider a career in nuclear, but also to provide a certain level of certainty to investors. It will also help encourage the supply chain.

So, what are our expectations going forward? It is really great to see that the European Commission has now formally launched the Industrial Alliance for SMRs. And EU policies are gradually taking on a more technology neutral approach. We hope that this will continue in the future. At the same time, we believe it is crucial that as part of the EU legislative review processes the hurdles put in front of nuclear are taken down. For example, EU funds. At the moment most of these exclude funding for nuclear without any justification (take for example Invest EU and the Just Transition Fund). These run the risk of putting European nuclear on an unequal footing with nuclear technologies from other regions. Therefore, the EU should ensure that the European nuclear sector can compete within a level playing field.

THE VOICE OF THE EUROPEAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

Who we are

nucleareurope is the Brussels-based trade association for the nuclear industry in Europe. It acts as the voice of the European nuclear industry in policy discussions with EU institutions and other key stakeholders.

The nuclear industry can only interact with international institutions and its representatives if the bridge between us and them is kept permanently open and continuously serves as a two-way channel for ideas, opinions and open debate. Continuous representation is crucial to nucleareurope maintaining its status as a constructive and proactive dialogue partner for EU policymakers.

What we do

nucleareurope provides information and expertise on the role of nuclear energy. We engage proactively at EU level on key nuclear matters by producing position papers, statements, newsfeeds, infographics, responses to public consultations and analyses of EU proposals and public opinion. We organise regular networking events such as dinner debates, workshops, one-to-one meetings, press briefings and visits to nuclear facilities.

Some of the key topics we deal with include security of energy supply, sustainability, competitiveness, economics of nuclear, nuclear safety, nuclear liability, radioactive waste management, nuclear transport, environment, enabling factors for new nuclear projects, R&D, energy mix, non-proliferation, public opinion, EURATOM Treaty and emergency preparedness.



Our members

The membership of nucleareurope is made up of 15 national nuclear associations active across Europe and the companies that they represent, and six corporate members. More than 3,000 companies are represented, from Europe's (and the world's) largest nuclear utilities and nuclear fuel cycle companies to undertakings engaged in the transport of nuclear materials and the management of radioactive waste:

- Nuclear utilities
- Engineering companies
- Plant decommissioning companies
- Lawyers, consulting, insurance and service companies
- Uranium mining, milling and enrichment companies
- Nuclear fuel fabricators
- Spent nuclear fuel reprocessing companies
- Nuclear transporters
- Reactor and component vendors
- Waste management companies

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- Belgian Nuclear Forum
 - Bulgarian Atomic Forum
 - Finnish Energy Industries
 - French Atomic Industrial Forum
 - Hungarian Nuclear Forum
 - Italian Nuclear Association
 - Nucleair Nederland
 - Nuclear Industry Association UK
 - Romanian Atomic Forum
 - Slovak Nuclear Forum
 - Slovenian Nuclear Forum
 - Spanish Nuclear Industry Forum
 - Swedish Atomic Forum
 - Swiss Nuclear Forum
 - Ukrainian Nuclear Forum Association

CEZ (Czech Republic), Fermi Energia (Estonia), KGHM (Poland), NAAREA (France), Newcleo (Italy)
Nuvia (France), OSGE (Poland), PEJ (Poland), Rolls-Royce SMR (UK), Urenco (Global)

The Executive Board

The Executive Officers are appointed by the General Assembly for a period of two years:

- Ignacio Araluce, FINE, Spain
- Hans-Ulrich Bigler, Swiss Nuclear Forum, Switzerland
- Csaba Kiss, Hungarian Nuclear Forum, Hungary
- Corina Truica, Romatom, Romania
- Denis Dumont, BNF, Belgium
- Christopher Eckerberg, SAFO, Sweden
- Jaana Isotalo, ET, Finland
- Jean-Michel Quilichini, Gifem, France (Past President)

Meet the team



Guilherme Cardoso
Nuclear Technology Advisor



Ursula Cartula Rodriguez
Legal Advisor



Danielle de Crombrughe-L.
Support Team Manager



Graziella De Riddere
IT Manager



Yves Desbazeille
Director General



Nathalie Foriers
Assistant



Muriel Glibert
ENISS Manager



Andrei Goicea
Policy Director



Jessica Johnson
Communication & Advocacy
Director



Berta Picamal
DG Office, Legal & Intl
Relations Director



William Ranval
ENISS Director



Aude Van Hille
Reception Assistant

POLICY FOCUS

European Green Deal Industrial Plan

In February 2023, the European Commission published its 'Green Deal Industrial Plan communication' which aims to support the deployment of European clean technology manufacturing capacity. The Communication covers four pillars, namely a predictable and simplified regulatory framework, faster access to funding, enhanced skills and open trade for resilient supply chains. The primary focus for nucleareurope is the Net-Zero Industry Act which was published the following month, as well as the review of the Electricity Market Design.

Electricity Market Design reform

nucleareurope has been closely monitoring measures taken at EU level in order to tackle the energy crisis. In this respect, the Commission presented its proposal to reform EU's internal electricity market design in March 2023, with the goal of ensuring security of energy supplies and achieving climate neutrality. In order to ensure our voice was heard during the debate, nucleareurope issued a position paper which called for maintaining

a technology neutral approach and implementing measures which provide long-term visibility and predictability for both existing and new energy infrastructure projects. In the agreement reached in December 2023 between the Council and the European Parliament nuclear, along other low-carbon technologies, can use long-term arrangements in the case State Aid is requested.

Net-Zero Industry Act

The proposal put forward by the Commission in March included a list of net-zero technologies in general and a shorter list of so-called 'Strategic Technologies'. In this respect, nuclear was partially included: Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and Generation IV (GEN IV) were listed under the general list, but no nuclear technologies were considered as 'Strategic'. Therefore, during the decision-making process nucleareurope insisted on the importance of the nuclear sector as a whole to Europe, highlighting its contribution to the decarbonisation objectives, its highly skilled European manufacturing capacity,

and the strength of its value chain. As a result, the association stressed the need to treat nuclear in the same way as other net-zero technologies such as renewables.

Towards the end of 2023 the European Parliament supported nucleareurope's position and included nuclear as a whole as a net-zero industry alongside renewables. The Council also added nuclear as a whole, although it included two separate lists: 'Net-Zero Technologies' and 'Strategic Net-Zero Technologies'.

Sustainability

Sustainable Finance Taxonomy

In accordance with the Complementary Delegated Act adopted last year, companies covered by the scope of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive (NFRD) were required to report on their 2022 nuclear activities as part of the 2023 reporting period which began on 1 January 2023. In this respect, nucleareurope has been working with companies to provide assistance in the interpretation of the Technical Screening Criteria (TSC), their application to EU-based nuclear projects and to identify any problematic areas.

EU funds

nucleareurope responded to a European Commission mid-term evaluation consultation of the European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund and Just Transition Fund for 2021-2027. In its response, the association emphasised the importance of making funds available to the entire nuclear cycle. In this respect, we welcomed the opportunity to respond to this public consultation, which came at a time when the EU was looking to set up a Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP, proposal launched at the same time as the Net-Zero industry Act referenced above) through which it would use existing funds to help support certain technologies. The three funds covered by the consultation are expected to fall

nucleareurope also continued to respond to relevant public consultations. As part of its response to the European Commission consultation on the 'Taxonomy Environmental Delegated Act' and the 'Amendment to Taxonomy Climate DA', nucleareurope called for the inclusion of radioactive waste and the decontamination or remediation of nuclear plants under the relevant taxonomy activities. In relation to the Stakeholder Review Mechanism, launched in 2023, nucleareurope also called for the nuclear fuel cycle to be included as an enabling activity under the taxonomy.

under the umbrella of STEP, in addition to several others.

nucleareurope called for these three funds to be amended in order to render nuclear power plants eligible. Indeed, for the time being, all three funds exclude *'the decommissioning or the construction of nuclear power stations'*. In terms of justification, we stressed the importance of aligning EU funds with the outcomes of the EU's Sustainable Finance taxonomy and the discussions regarding the Net Zero Industry Act. In addition, we noted that the European Commission itself has emphasized the benefits which Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) could bring and thus called for SMRs to also be eligible for EU funds (see more on SMRs in section below).

Fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-Gas) Regulation

This regulation will have an impact on the industry regarding the permissible use of SF₆ (used in switchgears, with no viable alternatives yet for high voltage) and Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC). nucleareurope worked together with other stakeholders in order to highlight these potential impacts. As a result, the

agreement reached in the Council and Parliament includes exemptions for the nuclear industry in the event safety concerns are raised. Furthermore, the servicing of equipment containing F-Gas is allowed, as long as this does not lead to an increase in the total amount of gas.

POLICY FOCUS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

The European Commission requested that ECHA (European Chemicals Agency) put forward a proposal to restrict the use of PFAS with the goal of banning their use in the EU. Given the significant impact which such a ban could have on the nuclear sector, nucleareurope worked closely with its members to identify the industry's uses of PFAS in order to

respond to the ECHA public consultation and seek certain derogations. Furthermore, nucleareurope joined the Fluoro Products and PFAS for Europe (FPP4EU) collaboration platform. ECHA is currently evaluating the feedback received and preparing a report to be sent to the Commission.

Small Modular Reactors

After the launch of the European SMR Pre-Partnership in 2021, activities ramped up in 2023 culminating with the European Commission confirming plans for the creation of an EU SMR Industrial Alliance in the Autumn.

During the course of 2023, nucleareurope remained in the driving seat of the Pre-Partnership as chair of the Steering Committee and continued to work closely with the other organisations involved including the Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP), the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) and the European Commission. Furthermore, the five workstreams established under the Pre-Partnership concluded the work on SMR-specific challenges as follows:

- WS 1: Market integration and deployment
- WS 2: Licensing
- WS 3: SMR Initiative Financing Framework
- WS 4: Supply Chain adaptation,
- WS 5: Innovation, Research & Development

The reports produced by these workstreams were opened up for public consultation just after the summer in order to enable feedback from a broader range of stakeholders. This was followed by a Stakeholders' Forum in October 2023 which gathered together senior European Commission officials, representatives from the Council, Members of the European Parliament, as well as civil society and industry.

In addition, workstream 3 organised an event in Paris in November together with White & Case, entitled "Financing SMR development in Europe". This event focused on SMR financing aspects, including challenges relating to risk allocation, lender requirements, and diverse financing conditions and noted the importance of political will and innovative financing approaches.

In November 2023, the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF) took place in Bratislava during which the European Commission announced the planned creation of a European Industrial Alliance on SMRs. This Alliance (formally launched in February 2024) will focus on accelerating the deployment of these technologies and ensuring a strong EU supply chain, including a skilled workforce.

European nuclear energy ecosystem study

In 2022, the European Commission hired Deloitte to produce a study on the European nuclear energy ecosystem. As a stakeholder, nucleareurope has remained actively engaged in the process by providing input on key topics such as:

- The policy and regulatory framework needed to enable new build projects.
- The impact which finance can have on final production costs.
- The importance of highly skilled workers in building and operating nuclear power plants.
- The economic contribution of nuclear power in terms of GDP, employment, and exports.
- The solutions which research into potential new technologies can bring.
- Waste management and decommissioning aspects.
- Decommissioning as an important part of nuclear power plant life cycle.

In terms of the process, Deloitte organized a stakeholder's workshop in January 2023 which centered around questions covering financing, the Sustainable Finance Taxonomy, European manufacturing capacity, skills and factors which have the potential to hinder or support the development of nuclear energy. This was followed by a second workshop in September 2023.

nucleareurope shared with the consultant the vision of having 150GW of installed nuclear capacity in the EU by 2050, in line with declaration made by the newly established Nuclear Alliance in May 2023, a scenario which is much higher than the one originally foreseen by Deloitte of 100GW. During the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF, November 2023), Deloitte presented its conclusions which included not just its original scenario of 100GW (with 2 forecasts relating to the implementation of new build projects) but also a second scenario of 150GW of installed capacity by 2050. The final study is expected to be published in 2024.

Investors dialogue on energy

The Investors Dialogue on Energy (ID-E) is an initiative launched by the European Commission in the context of the European Green Deal and Fit for 55 Package. It brings together experts from the energy industry and financial sector and is composed of five Working Groups (WG) as follows:

- WG 1: Energy production
- WG 2: Transmission and distribution
- WG 3: Energy storage
- WG 4: Heating and cooling
- WG 5: Services and prosumers

nucleareurope is a member of WG 1.

In 2023, nucleareurope participated in several ID-E meetings, including the plenary meeting in January 2023 and five WG 1 meetings (February, April, June, September and November). In addition, the ID-E organized several webinars, focusing on:

- The impact which the Commission's proposal to reform the Electricity Market Design would have on investments in the energy sector.
- The update of the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs).
- The EU's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)

POLICY FOCUS

Hydrogen

In 2023, nucleareurope worked on developing technical, regulatory and economic expertise relating to the production of hydrogen from nuclear. In terms of outreach, it focused on raising public awareness and engaging with both regulators and stakeholders involved in the hydrogen supply chain, including manufacturers and potential downstream users. In line with this outreach, two webinars were organized. The first (March 2023) focused on policy perspectives and the second (September 2023) on technology aspects.

nucleareurope also participated in several external groups dedicated to hydrogen as follows:

- European Clean Hydrogen Alliance (ECH2A): nucleareurope is member of ECH2A and participates in one of the 6 roundtables dedicated to hydrogen production.
- IEA Hydrogen from Nuclear Energy Task (HyNE): nucleareurope is a member of the International Energy Agency's task studying the production of hydrogen from nuclear power and attended the kick-off meeting in April 2023.

Workforce & skills

nucleareurope continued to liaise with its members and relevant EU Projects to identify the human resource needs of the nuclear industry up to 2035. In addition, actions to be undertaken as a follow-up to the report of the French presidency of the Council on skills were also discussed.

Aarhus

In 2021, The compliance committee declared the European Union in breach of the Aarhus convention regarding access to justice linked to state aid decisions, in particular for the approval of State Aid for a nuclear power plant project (ACC/C/2015/128). In this respect, the European Commission launched a public consultation entitled "The Aarhus Convention and State Aid measures: analysis and assessment of options" which proposed three possible legislative evolutions to remedy the Aarhus Compliance Committee findings:

- Option 1: Amendment of the Aarhus Regulation to include State Aid in the scope of its internal review process.
- Option 2: Amendment of the State Aid Best Practice Code to provide for an internal review process similar to the one under the Aarhus Regulation.
- Option 3: Amendment of the Council State Aid Procedural Regulation to provide for an internal review process similar to the one under the Aarhus Regulation.

In its response, nucleareurope supported the third option as it leaves more time for operators and the EU to broaden the legal possibilities while carefully assessing the consequences of such an evolution. nucleareurope also emphasized the need to maintain legal certainty for Member States and projects. In May 2023, the Commission announced that it would keep all three options open and potentially also consider a combination, noting that *"any adjustment of the existing framework should be designed so as to both preserve the efficiency of State aid control and complement in the most efficient manner the possibilities for review at national level, while simultaneously taking into account the EU's obligations under the Aarhus Convention"*.

EU FUNDED PROJECTS

ENEN2plus (Building European Nuclear Competence through continuous Advanced and Structured Education and Training Actions):

Launched in June 2022, this four-year project focuses on nuclear Education and Training. It aims to attract more people to nuclear through E&T, cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary. For example, it will organise career-related events and competitions and enable a strong mobility programme. nucleareurope is involved in this project in several areas:

- Task lead in the Work Package dedicated to identifying future human resource needs and potential skill gaps (WP1 Task 1.1).
- Supporting and promoting relevant events and competitions.
- Identify a sustainable way of financing the continuation of the mobility programme.

In 2023, as the lead of Task 1.1 (see above), nucleareurope distributed a survey to its members to identify the industry's human resource and skill needs until 2035 in order to complement the modelling approach that the report focuses on. The report was finalised at the end of 2023. In addition, nucleareurope assisted ENEN in responding to a public consultation related to Learning Opportunities Abroad. A part of this response, the sector highlighted the need for a permanent mobility fund to be made available to students in the nuclear field.

NPHyCo (Nuclear Powered Hydrogen Cogeneration):

Launched in October 2022, this two- and half-year project focuses on the potential for developing large scale, low-carbon, hydrogen production facilities linked to nuclear power plants. It will start by assessing the feasibility of producing hydrogen near an existing nuclear power plant as well as the added value of such project. Furthermore, it will look at potential locations where a pilot project could be implemented. nucleareurope is involved in this project in several areas:

- Leader of the Work Package dedicated to communication and dissemination activities. We will be working with the project partners (and the nucleareurope Communications & Advocacy Committee) on this. So far, several communication tools have been produced, including a logo and a dedicated website.
- Contributor to the task on "Establishing a frame of reference for the project", defining the EU hydrogen market.

RIMA (Robotics for Inspection and Maintenance):

nucleareurope was actively involved as a partner in the RIMA project, funded under the Horizon 2020 programme, focused on driving innovation in robotics for inspection and maintenance (I&M). The main objective of the project was to reinforce the leadership of Europe in I&M robotics by fostering efficient cooperation in Europe. nucleareurope's role was to bridge the gap between SMEs, within the robotics community, and potential end users within the nuclear industry (licensees, I&M service providers, operators). From nucleareurope's perspective, the project gave an opportunity to highlight selected "spin out/in" areas of innovation in the nuclear industry as well as to provide nucleareurope's members with a platform to cooperate with SMEs in order to work together on the challenges the industry faces. Robotics can help operational nuclear power plants, aid I&M, increase efficiency, reduce time consumption, facilitate achieving selected tasks and thus improve productivity and safety operations. Among other activities under the initiative, nucleareurope is following and acting as a reviewer for 3 projects under RIMA:

- Demzone: a robotic system that collects samples of dust by drilling walls of nuclear installations and measures the radioactive contamination in them. The development phase of the project finished in November 2022 and the prototype will be tested shortly in CEA installations.
- Spiider: Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle for inspection of high radiation zones.
- Romy: robotic mapping system to create 3D digital twins of installations.

As the project reached its end, the RIMA Network Alliance was launched in June 2023, to maintain the network and serve as a platform for communication and experience sharing.

SNETPForward (Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform):

The aim of SNETP-FORWARD is to help the association in consolidating its structure, strengthening its position in the Set-plan and among the European ETIPs, enhancing its ability to interact with the European and international associations and organisation and last, but not least, to be engaged in the innovation world by boosting the innovation capacities of its members. The kick-off meeting took place in June in France, in conjunction with SNETP Annual Forum. nucleareurope is involved in the work packages dealing with "Strengthening interactions with European & international stakeholders" and the one on specific studies that will support nuclear research developments at EU level.

TANDEM (Small Modular Reactor for a European safe and Decarbonized Energy Mix):

Launched in September 2022, this three-year project focuses on the integration of Small Modular Reactors within hybrid energy systems to provide not only electricity, but also heat and hydrogen. nucleareurope is involved in this project in several areas:

- Leader of the Work Package dedicated to communication and dissemination activities. We will be working with the project partners (and the nucleareurope Communications & Advocacy Committee) on this. So far, several communication tools have been produced, including a logo and a dedicated website.
- Leader of the task on "Analysis of the future European energy scenarios" and the deliverable on "Analysis of the key features of the future EU energy market and associated regional/national landscapes". The outcomes of this task will include proposed scenarios for energy markets, highlighting SMR developments.
- Leader of the task on "Context and targets of hybrid system techno-economic optimization" that will refine the context and targets for hybrid system techno-analysis
- Involvement in the Work Package dedicated to skills and education of relevance to SMRs.

In 2023, TANDEM finalised several deliverables ([click here](#) for more information):

More information about the EU projects in which nucleareurope is involved can be found [here](#).

EUROPEAN NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS SAFETY STANDARDS (ENISS)

ENISS represents the nuclear utilities and operating companies from 14 European countries with nuclear plants. ENISS provides the nuclear installations and license holders with the platform that they need to exchange information on new national and European regulatory activities, to express their views and provide expert input on all aspects related to the harmonization of safety standards. ENISS is the common channel through which the European nuclear industry interacts with the Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association (WENRA), the European Institutions and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Although ENISS is hosted by nucleareurope, it enjoys full autonomy as regards its strategy and priorities, which are discussed, approved and reviewed by its own supervisory bodies.

Western European Nuclear Regulators Association (WENRA)

WENRA intends to publish in 2024-2025 a new revision of the Safety Reference Levels (SRLs). The WENRA Reactor Harmonisation Working Group (RHWG) has completed its review of the existing SRLs, aimed at identifying gaps and areas requiring revision. In parallel, WENRA has also been working on creating a general/generic set of SRLs applicable to different types of nuclear installations.

ENISS had been invited to provide comments, suggestions for improvement and feedback based on the experience gained in implementing the WENRA SRLs. ENISS conducted a systematic review of all ENISS comments made on the 2014 and 2020 SRL revisions, accounting for the ENISS position papers and other internal resources. Comments and suggestions for change were put forward and submitted to WENRA RHWG.

The reports on SRLs for waste storage and decommissioning have been revised to include

updates on the benchmarking of the national regulatory frameworks. ENISS supplied the WENRA Working Group on Waste & Decommissioning (WGWD) with some suggestions which WENRA may wish to consider in its future revision of the SRLs.

At its November plenary meeting, WENRA elected Mark Foy, UK Chief Executive and Chief Nuclear Inspector, as the new WENRA Chair, succeeding Olivier Gupta, the Director General of the French nuclear regulatory authority. A new WENRA strategy and Terms of Reference were approved. WENRA also decided to revise the current safety objectives for new reactors, to consider the specific features of SMRs. In the context of the discussions on the EU taxonomy and the "accident-tolerant fuels" concept, WENRA adopted a paper on the challenges of developing and licensing new fuels.

EUROPEAN NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS SAFETY STANDARDS (ENISS)

European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG)

At its last meeting which took place on 20 November 2023, ENSREG appointed Juan Carlos Lentijo, president of the Spanish Nuclear Safety Council, to chair the group from January 2024. He succeeds Marta Žiaková, the head of the Slovak regulatory body, who has been serving as Chairperson since March 2019.

The first phase of the second Topical Peer Review (TPR

2) covering fire protection at nuclear installations (which involves national self-assessments) has now been completed. Participating countries from 18 EU Member States and 4 outside the EU prepared National Assessment Reports (NAR) according to the structure defined in the Technical Specification (TS). The next stage of TPR 2 will involve ENSREG's public consultation and expert peer reviews of the national reports.

European SMR Pre-partnership

The summary reports prepared under the different workstreams (WS) of the pre-partnership were published in July 2023 for a stakeholders' consultation. As a member of WS 2 ENISS was involved in the drafting of the group report on licensing. WS 2, led by the regulators through ENSREG, fulfilled its main objective of identifying the elements for establishing a European pre-licensing process based on commonly accepted safety assessments from different ENSREG members interested in the licensing of the same SMR design.

WS 2 also supported the EC-funded benchmark on regulatory practices. The project aimed to investigate how safety regulators would approach their assessments in key areas of SMR design. The WS 2 members, as well as a Stakeholders' Group composed of EU regulators, SMR designers, future SMR operators and international entities such as the NEA, IAEA, ENISS and EUR, proposed a number of key issues which were discussed and prioritized in a workshop held on 6 and 7 July 2023.

European Commission

The European Commission awarded a contract to NINE (Nuclear and INdustrial Engineering S.R.L.) and Platom Oy, to analyse in more detail the EU Member State implementation approaches in a selected number of interested areas of the Nuclear Safety Directive (NSD). This study follows the publication of the 2nd Commission Progress Report on the progress made by the EU Member States with the implementation of the amended Nuclear Safety Directive.

independence of the regulatory body, application of the nuclear safety objective and safety culture.

A Steering Group has been set up to provide input, suggestions, as well as comments on the work carried out by the contractors. It is made of 5 experts representing several stakeholders: regulators, industry, TSO and NGOs. ENISS has been invited to represent the nuclear licence holders in the EU.

The expected output of the study is the development of guidelines and suggestions for further improvement of NSD implementation under the following 3 topics:

The study is expected to be finalized by the end of 2024.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

ENISS provided comments throughout the year to the IAEA Draft Safety Requirements and Safety Guides, addressing the most important issues, namely nuclear power plant design and operation, management systems, safety assessment, waste management,

decommissioning and radiation protection. ENISS furthermore provided the IAEA with assistance in the technical/consultancy groups and participated, as an observer, in the Agency's Safety Standards Committees (SSCs).

International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)

The ICRP has started the process of preparing a review of the ICRP system of radiation protection. The intended aim is to approve, by 2029, a new set of fundamental recommendations on radiological protection. Liaison organisations, including ENISS, have the opportunity to express their views on several occasions.

ENISS participated in the meeting of Senior Representatives of Organisations in Formal Relations with ICRP (SLO) which took place in Bristol, United Kingdom, on 26 September 2023. The meeting

mainly focused on the outlook and progress made so far in the review and revision of the System of RP. ENISS submitted a statement prior to the meeting outlining the topics which ENISS believe should be addressed and considered as part of the ICRP's review. It was followed by a workshop hosted by WNA which addressed the topics of optimization based on the all-hazards approach and effective communication of the system of radiological protection.

Position papers

ENISS issued in March 2023 a statement regarding the importance of nuclear safety to support nuclear energy as a solution to the energy crisis and climate change in response to the statement of WENRA published in November 2022.

The position paper 'European Nuclear Power Plant Licensees' expectations regarding the licensing of SMRs' which includes, among other things, recommendations and messages raised during the 2022 ENSREG conference on nuclear safety, was also published on the ENISS website in March 2023.

In 2023, ENISS had further opportunities to present to the IAEA its views set forth in the position paper on the 'Transition between Operation and Decommissioning' which was published on the ENISS website in June 2022.

ENISS' high-level statement, published on the ENISS website in March 2023, calling to link emergency arrangements proportionately to risk evaluated using an agreed consistent approach was also presented in several conferences with stakeholder participation.

The ENISS Expert Group on Radiation Protection has focused its attention on the following topics: RP optimisation, simplification and the Linear Non-Threshold (LNT) hypothesis. The Expert Group finalised position papers on 'Avoid Unnecessary Complexity in Radiation Protection' and 'Implementation of Reasonable Optimisation' which were published on the ENISS website and presented to several ENISS Stakeholders in 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

nucleareurope continued to use a broad range of communication tools, including one-to-one meetings, webinars, press releases, position papers, and social media, reiterating the point that nuclear is a low-carbon, dispatchable source of electricity which ensures security of energy supply and provides a significant number of jobs and strong economic contribution. At the same time, the energy crisis, which has been gradually escalating over the past two years, combined with the situation in Ukraine, has led to a change in conversation about nuclear in Europe. Given this, nuclear communications experts have been assessing key priorities for Europe's citizens to ensure that our messaging is in line with the ongoing conversations.

Below is a summary of some of the key communications actions undertaken over the past year.

Events

On 6 June 2023, nucleareurope organised a [webinar](#) with TerraWater to present their energy scenario for carbon neutrality in France in 2050 and beyond. This study assesses, in particular, the ever-growing role of low-carbon electricity and the various sources used to produce such electricity. In addition to the climate and environmental footprint, it tackles issues such as increasing energy sovereignty and reducing dependence on imports as well as ensuring a socially fair system which everyone can have access to, relying solely on mature and proven technologies.

On 20 & 21 June 2023, nucleareurope organised its [annual conference](#) in Lyon, France. The high-level opening dinner brought together a number of high-level speakers including:

- Agnès Pannier-Runacher – Minister for the Energy Transition, France
- Luc Rémont – Chairman & CEO, EDF
- Elena Popescu – Director General for Energy Policy and Green Deal, Ministry of Energy, Romania
- François-Xavier Bellamy – Member of the European Parliament

The conference itself focused on nuclear both as a strategic European industry and as an enabler for the larger low-carbon European industrial base.



nucleareurope event 2023

Furthermore, nucleareurope organised two webinars linked to hydrogen produced from nuclear power (see Hydrogen section under Policy above).

Ukraine crisis

nucleareurope continued to share relevant and up-to-date information regarding the crisis in Ukraine and its impact on nuclear facilities in the country. Its communication outreach focused on:

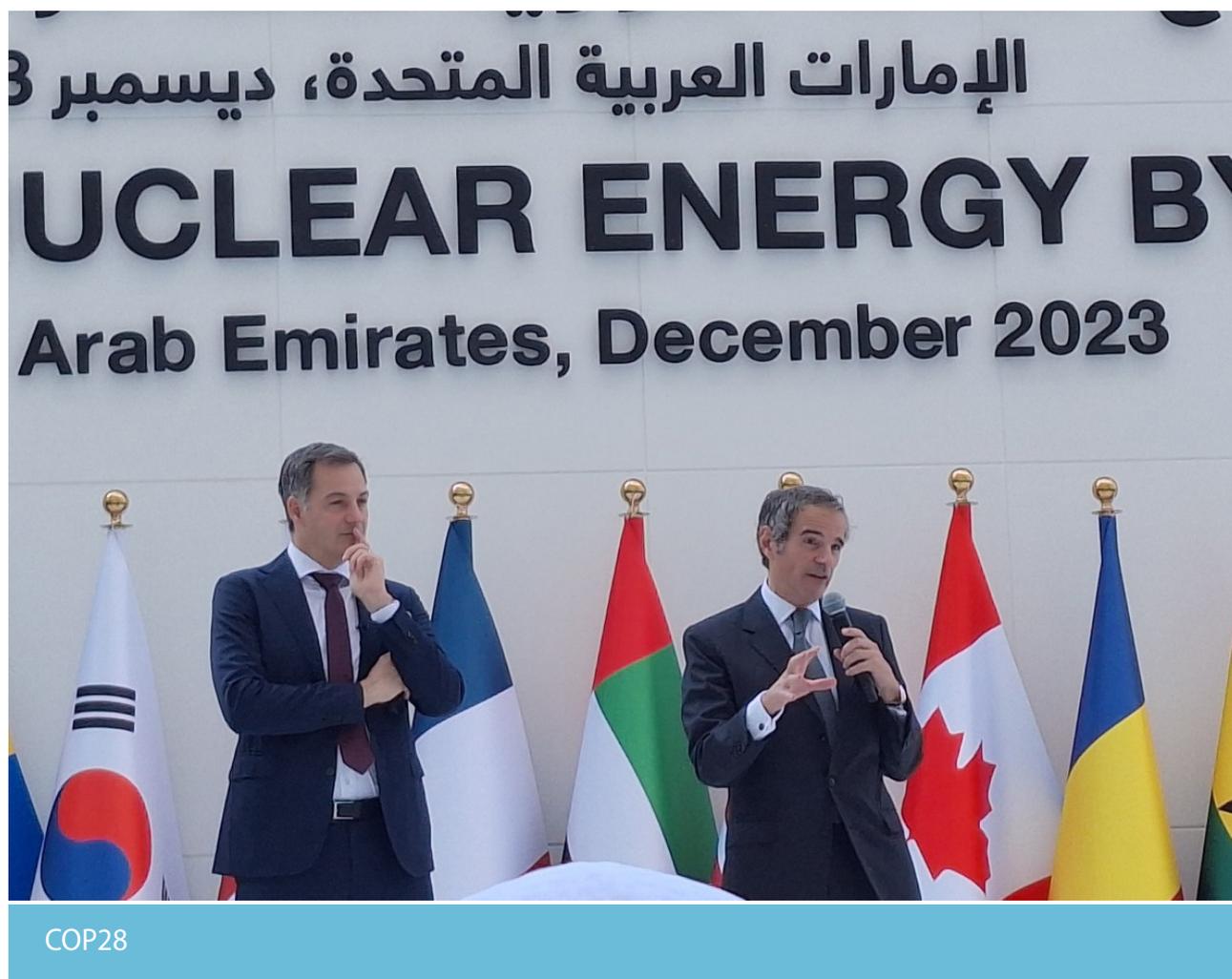
- Internal communications
 - o Within nucleareurope
 - o nucleareurope Members
- External communications
 - o Broader nuclear industry
 - o Broader public – (see here)
 - o European institutions and international partners

We continue to monitor developments and communicate whenever necessary.

COP28

nucleareurope worked closely with its sister organisations in order to increase visibility of the nuclear sector at COP28, which was held at the end of the year in Dubai, UAE. This year saw a marked increase in the presence of nuclear, with 4 nuclear pavilions: IAEA Atoms4Climate, Net Zero Nuclear industry pavilion (one in blue and one in green zone) and Nuclear for Climate. In addition to several nuclear-related events

being organised at national pavilions such as France and Finland, a group of Member States, as well as industry, made clear statements at COP regarding the importance of nuclear in the fight against climate change. In this respect, more than 20 countries from around the world launched a Declaration to triple nuclear energy. Check out our dedicated [webpage](#) for more details.



COP28

Outreach to the European Parliament

nucleareurope continued to reach out to Members of the European Parliament on key files of importance to the sector. Contacts were primarily maintained with the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) and covered, in particular, the Own Initiative Report on Small Modular Reactors the Net-Zero Industry Act, the reform of the electricity Market Design and the F-Gas Regulation.

nucleareurope also participated in several European Energy Forum debates in order to intervene during the discussions regarding the contribution of nuclear to, for example, achieving the 2050 decarbonisation targets and ensuring security of energy supplies.

nucleareurope in the news

Below is an overview of some of the traditional tools which nucleareurope continued to make use of in order to support the association’s advocacy goals.

France to host pro-nuclear meet to push for EU recognition of climate benefits

By **Kate Abnett** and **America Hernandez**
 May 15, 2023 10:50 PM GMT+2 · Updated 10 months ago



Tours de refroidissement près de la centrale nucléaire de Golfech, en bordure de la Garonne, entre Agen et Toulouse, en France. /Photo prise le 29 août 2019/REUTERS/Regis Duvignau /Purchase Licensing/Getty

Cop28 / Nuclear Industry Calls For Massive Increase In Capacity And Access To Financing

By **David Dalton**
 5 December 2023

Net zero pledge follows similar declaration signed by 22 countries



Europe / Bloc Takes Critical Step Towards Alliance On Small Modular Reactor Deployment

By **Kamen Kraev**
 30 November 2023

Consultation hears calls for 'non-discriminatory approach' in line with free market rules



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Nucleonics Week

Nuclear energy in EU taxonomy a mixed bag so far: NuclearEurope head

- Financial institutions now looking again at nuclear power funding
- Estonian MP criticizes European attitudes to nuclear energy

The inclusion of nuclear power in the European Union’s taxonomy of sustainable energy sources has so far been something of a “glass half full situation,” Yves Desbazeille, the director general of the NuclearEurope trade association, said in an interview June 21.

Desbazeille was speaking on the sidelines of NuclearEurope’s annual conference in Lyon, France.

He said that “nuclear energy is in the taxonomy and this was not easy to achieve,” so this should be viewed as a positive.

However, “on the downside, nuclear power is included only as a transitional technology along with natural gas and so is subject to sunset clauses. For example, in terms of LTE [life time extension] projects, these have to have received authorization by 2040. For new build, the deadline is set at 2045 for the

nucleareurope views

nucleareurope
Supporting a sustainable future

Press Release
12 December 2023

MEPs show overwhelming support for nuclear, Small Modular Reactors

Strasbourg, 12 December 2023: Today, the European Parliament has adopted an Own Initiative Report on Small Modular Reactors, confirming the importance of these technologies to Europe's future energy system.

Led by Rapporteur MEP Franc Bogovič (EPP, Slovenia), this report makes clear that nuclear as a whole, and SMRs in particular, can bring many benefits in terms of helping to decarbonise Europe's energy mix, ensure security of supply and support hard-to-abate sectors such as industry.

"Thanks to the leadership of MEP Bogovič, SMRs have gained the attention they deserve from the European Parliament" states Yves Desbazeille, Director General of nucleareurope. "The recommendations put forward in this report are very much in line with the conclusions of the European SMR Pre-Partnership and reiterate the need for a European Industry Alliance on SMRs".

Nucleareurope will now focus on the upcoming EU proposals for a 2040 Climate Target. In this respect, we call on the European Commission to take into account this strong message from the European Parliament – as well as the Nuclear Alliance – and include nuclear as a net-zero technology which will help meet the targets for the decades to come.

About us:

nucleareurope is the Brussels based trade association for the nuclear energy industry in Europe. The membership of nucleareurope is made up of 15 national nuclear associations and through these associations, nucleareurope represents nearly 3,000 European companies working in the industry and supporting around 1,100,000 jobs.

More information:

- Jessica Johnson, Communications and Advocacy Director: jessica.johnson@nucleareurope.eu
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Supporting a sustainable future

Press Release
11 December 2023

Nuclear recognised as a strategic net-zero industry by Council

Brussels, 11 December 2023: Last week, the Council voted in favour of listing nuclear as a strategic net-zero industry. It now has the mandate it needs to enter trilogue with the European Parliament, which in turn also supports nuclear as a net-zero technology.

Under the agreement reached in Council, not only is nuclear as a whole considered a net-zero technology, "nuclear fission energy technologies, including nuclear fuel cycle technologies" have also been identified as strategic.

"We are of course delighted with the Council's decision on nuclear under the Net Zero Industry Act" states Yves Desbazeille, Director General of nucleareurope. "We hope that this decision will now be maintained in the final compromise between the different EU institutions during their negotiations early next year".

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SNETP
Small Modular Reactors European Network

Press Release
7 November 2023

European Commission announces creation of Small Modular Reactor Alliance

Bratislava, 7 November 2023: This week, during a series of events currently organised in Bratislava, Slovakia, the European Commission has formally announced the creation of an Industrial Alliance dedicated to Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). This EU SMR Industrial Alliance will focus on accelerating the deployment of these technologies and ensuring a strong EU supply chain, including a skilled workforce.

As highlighted by Commissioner Kadri Simson during the European SMR Partnership event held yesterday in Bratislava, Slovakia, "The stakes in the global competition are high, and it is important that we maintain European technological and industrial leadership in nuclear", adding that she stands "ready to initiate within the Commission the necessary steps to establish the EU Industrial Alliance for SMRs early next year". This message was reiterated today during the opening session of the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF).

"SMRs are expected to bring many benefits to the EU as a whole in terms of helping to decarbonise hard-to-abate sectors, as well as creating jobs and generating economic growth in the EU", states Yves Desbazeille, Director General of nucleareurope. "The groundwork has been laid by its predecessor, the European SMR pre-Partnership and we are delighted that the European Commission is now giving its full backing to this key technology of the future".

SNETP President Bernard Salha welcomes the Commission's recognition of the efforts deployed by the nuclear community during the pre-Partnership to provide in-depth expertise on this issue. In this respect, he insists on the need for significant support to be provided in order to create the necessary conditions to accelerate the development of SMRs in the EU in a safe, efficient and secure manner.

This Alliance is expected to focus on four key areas which can be summarised as follows:

- Incentivising the market: addressing the needs of energy-intensive industries and the solutions which SMRs can bring.
- Financing of SMRs: looking at cost-sharing options as well as financial support for individual projects.

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cna **IAEF** **NEI** **NA** **nucleareurope** **WORLD NUCLEAR ASSOCIATION**

Nuclear industry reaction and recommendation to the G7 Climate, Energy and Environment Minister's Meeting in Sapporo (April 15-16, 2023)

As governments strive to decarbonise economies and mitigate the impacts of a global warming, nuclear energy must serve as a cornerstone of the just transition to a clean and sustainable energy future.

To support decarbonization at the scale required, the international community must work to extend the operating period of existing nuclear generation resources, develop the policies to enable new nuclear deployment and accelerate the development of a new portfolio of reactor technologies.

Nuclear energy is uniquely positioned to provide energy systems with:

- Always-on, clean, affordable electricity to meet the world's energy needs while achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- Low-carbon electricity with a high energy density from a compact footprint, thereby reducing habitat and biodiversity loss.
- High-quality long-term jobs that drive economic growth.
- Energy security against geopolitical, economic and social challenges.

Taken together, these characteristics enable nuclear energy to be the foundation of a clean energy future that meets climate goals, improves public health and quality of life, and contributes to energy security and economic prosperity.

nucleareurope
Supporting a sustainable future

NUCLEAREUROPE'S POSITION ON THE REFORM OF THE EU'S ELECTRICITY MARKET DESIGN

NUCLEAR

IS A LOW-CARBON ENERGY SOURCE

CO2

ENSURES SECURITY OF SUPPLY

RECYCLE

IS ENVIRONMENTALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY SUSTAINABLE

EU NUCLEAR INDUSTRY IN NUMBERS

25%

ACCOUNTS FOR OF ELECTRICITY

ALMOST 50%

OF LOW-CARBON ELECTRICITY

SUPPORTS AROUND 1Mn

JOB

100bn

PER YEAR

TURNOVER OF

February 2023

Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU Minister Ebba Busch
European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen
Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans
Commissioner for Internal Market Thierry Breton
Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson
Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth Mariya Gabriel

Brussels, 13 March 2023

Subject: Open letter calling for the inclusion of nuclear as a strategic technology under the Net-Zero Industry Act

The signatories of this letter welcome the recently launched Green Deal Industrial Plan initiative which aims to support the EU's decarbonisation efforts, ensure security of supply, strengthen European resilience and tackle affordability.

The Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA) is an important part of this plan as it will set the scene for industrial players in the years to come and determine the degree of EU strategic autonomy in terms of key technologies needed for the energy transition.

Not only does nuclear account for the greatest share of the EU's electricity mix (currently around 25% of all electricity produced and 50% of low carbon electricity), the European nuclear sector is composed of a highly skilled manufacturing capacity based in the EU. The nuclear value chain is currently well-established in different EU Member States. With an annual turnover of around €100 billion, the sector has a significant impact (both direct and indirect) on the EU's GDP (around €500 billion according to a 2019 report by Deloitte).

Nuclear technologies are key to significantly decarbonizing industrial sectors (e.g. mining, steel manufacturing, chemicals, aviation...) as they provide large volumes of low-carbon electricity, and potentially also heat, steam and hydrogen in future. The EU masters all technologies in the fuel cycle. In addition to existing large reactors, Small and Advanced Modular Reactors (SMR and AMR) technologies are developing rapidly, and all are expected to make a significant contribution to the European strategic objectives.

In addition, the value brought by nuclear extends beyond energy. For example, the European nuclear sector is an important player in the medical field providing essential diagnosis and treatment technologies. Ensuring sovereignty over all these applications also means scaling up European production of the nuclear fuel supply.

* Nuclear energy - Powering the economy Full Study

Social media



INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE & ALLIANCES

nucleareurope is represented at meetings of a number of key nuclear-related organisations and alliances, including the European Nuclear Safety Regulators' Group (ENSREG), Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP), European Nuclear Society (ENS), European Human Resources Observatory for Nuclear (EHRO-N), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA). Nucleareurope is also active in coordinating initiatives and collaborating with the global industry represented by our sister organisations (WNA, NEI, CNA, JAIF and the NIA).

Below is a snapshot of just some of the activities nucleareurope was involved in in 2023.

G7 Energy Ministers meeting – Sapporo, Japan

In April 2023, nucleareurope joined the World Nuclear Association (WNA), the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), the Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA), the UK Nuclear Industry Association (NIAUK) and the Japan Atomic Industry Forum (JAIF) in the organisation of an event back-to-back with the G7 Energy Ministers meeting in Sapporo (Japan). The event gathered the Ministers and Government representatives of France, the US, Canada, the UK and Japan. On this occasion, the global nuclear industry adopted and signed a declaration to the attention of governments which called, for example, for:

- The need for the continued operation of the existing reactors worldwide.
- The deployment of new nuclear power plants.
- The development of a financial environment that would promote investment in nuclear power.
- Support for innovative nuclear technology development.
- Promotion of public understanding of nuclear energy.

The Sapporo event allowed nucleareurope to strengthen its interactions with the Nuclear Alliance of the EU Member States through contacts with the French representatives and the Minister, resulting in an invitation to participate in the meeting of the Alliance of May 2023 in Paris where the need for a nuclear installed capacity of 150 GW by 2050 was announced.

Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP)

The Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform was established in 2007 to coordinate nuclear fission research actions and to advise the European Commission on priorities for EU funding. It underlines the importance of the research dimension of the nuclear sector, the need to maintain high levels of safety, the importance of retaining competences and know-how and the increasingly competitive nature of this global industry.

nucleareurope provides continued secretariat support to SNETP, including dissemination activities and support to the European Affairs and Industry committees. Furthermore, we collaborate with SNETP on the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan, and actively participate in the Implementation Working Group (IWG) 10 on nuclear safety. Regarding the SET Plan and its planned revamping nucleareurope responded to the call for evidence in November 2023.



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