

EN
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Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
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For over 50 years, nuclear power has played an important role in those Member States that have chosen to rely on it. Currently, nuclear reactors operate across 12 of the 27 Member States and generate almost a quarter of the EU's total electricity. The Commission has long acknowledged the role of nuclear energy as a low-carbon energy source, while recognising that the decision on its use remains within the discretion of each Member State, in line with their rights to determine their energy mix enshrined in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

The Commission Communication on the 2040 climate target¹ emphasises the need for further electrification with a fully decarbonised power system by 2040, using all available low-carbon technologies. Projections show that decarbonised sources will generate over 90% of electricity in the EU in 2040. The bulk is projected to come from renewable energy with an important contribution from nuclear energy. In line with his mission letter, the Commissioner for Energy and Housing is committed to support the acceleration of the development of Small Modular Reactors in Europe, and to continue ensuring nuclear safety and safeguards, including diversified supplies, safe waste management and new technologies.

As regards the Renewable Energy Directive, the priority is a timely and thorough implementation of the existing legal framework for 2030. The Commission has worked closely with all stakeholders to prepare the legal framework for energy for 2030 and will continue to do so with all stakeholders on board and in close cooperation with all Member States.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52024DC0063>