

(English version)

Question for written answer E-001746/25
to the Commission
Dan-Ștefan Motreanu (PPE)
(30 April 2025)

Subject: Supporting the development of a strong and competitive European nuclear energy sector

Fourteen national business organisations from across Europe have recently formed an alliance to promote the development of nuclear energy, signing a joint declaration in Paris. The declaration calls on the European institutions and the Member States to accelerate the industrialisation of the nuclear sector, to strengthen skills development and to ensure a clear and supportive institutional framework, removing barriers and fully applying the principle of technological neutrality.

The alliance also calls for secure access to both public and private financing, stressing the importance of allowing nuclear energy and related low-carbon solutions to fully benefit from European funding mechanisms, including state aid, funding for Important Projects of Common European Interest, the European Investment Bank, the Innovation Fund and the European Hydrogen Bank.

Given the strategic importance of nuclear energy for Europe's decarbonisation, energy sovereignty and industrial competitiveness, what measures does the Commission intend to propose to facilitate the full integration of nuclear energy into EU funding programmes and to create a favourable framework for the development of a strong, secure and competitive European nuclear industry?

Submitted: 30.4.2025

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(27 June 2025)

To deliver the clean energy transition, all zero- and low-carbon energy solutions are needed. When part of the energy mix, nuclear has a role to play in building a resilient and clean energy system.

Necessary investments will enable the EU to keep its industrial leadership in this sector and upholding the highest standards on safety and management of radioactive waste.

The Commission presented the Clean Industrial Deal (CID) ⁽¹⁾ and the action plan for Affordable Energy ⁽²⁾ to improve competitiveness and reduce energy costs for EU industries in the transition. On 13 June 2025, the Commission adopted the new Nuclear Illustrative Programme (PINC).

It assesses costs and investment needs covering the full life cycle of nuclear installations, upskilling, diversification, and the development of competitive supply chains.

The PINC also assesses financing models for a faster development and safe deployment of new nuclear technologies, such as Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), Advanced Modular Reactors and microreactors in Europe.

Under the reformed internal energy market legislation, nuclear projects have equal access to financing schemes including Contracts for Difference and Power Purchase Agreements ⁽³⁾.

The Commission works with the European Investment Bank on initiatives announced in the CID, supported by InvestEU, and is preparing a Clean Energy Investment Strategy.

The Commission has also announced the design phase of a new potential Important Project of Common European Interest candidate on innovative nuclear technologies.

Based on the first deliverables of the European Industrial Alliance on SMRs, the Commission will table a strategic plan on de-risking SMR projects, strengthening the EU supply chain, and attracting private investment.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en.

⁽²⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/strategy/affordable-energy_en.

⁽³⁾ Including combining Contracts for Difference and Power Purchase Agreements.