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E-002074/2025

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
(25.7.2025)

The ITER Agreement does not provide for the possibility of terminating the participation or suspension of the rights of any ITER Member, including the participation in the ITER Council - the governing body of ITER. It only provides for the eventuality of a member withdrawing on its own accord. Russia has not assumed the chairmanship of the ITER Council for the past two years when it was due in accordance with the chair rotation principle.

Russia has fulfilled all its in-kind contributions under the ITER Agreement. Consequently, the dependency on Russia is now reduced in this regard. In addition, bilateral contacts and engagement with Russia are minimised. This also includes the procurement restrictions of components from Russia for European supplies to ITER¹ managed by Fusion for Energy - the European joint undertaking for ITER and the development of fusion energy².

The operation of ITER will not depend on Russian intellectual property rights (IP). The IP rules in the ITER Agreement guarantee that the project has all the intellectual resources it needs for successful development and operation.

The Commission plans to adopt an EU Fusion Strategy at the end of 2025, leveraging the EU's leading role in the ITER Project. The Strategy will aim to formulate a clear pathway towards an EU pilot Fusion Power Plant, build a competitive industrial ecosystem for fusion technologies in Europe, and expand funding opportunities, including through a funding mechanism for start-ups to enhance private sector's engagement.

The European Radioisotope Valley Initiative is not related to the ITER project.

¹ Under the responsibility of the European joint undertaking for ITER.

² https://european-union.europa.eu/institutions-law-budget/institutions-and-bodies/search-all-eu-institutions-and-bodies/fusion-energy-f4e_en.