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Answer given by Mr Serafin
on behalf of the European Commission
(9.9.2025)

The 2021-2027 multi-annual financial framework (MFF) budget for the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) programmes is 17% lower, in current prices, compared to the previous MFF. Over 2021-2025, it has been reinforced with EUR 10 million from the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor programme¹ in 2023. There were few minor transfers (about EUR 1 million a year) from the Euratom programme to Horizon Europe. There were thus no significant changes.

The Commission acknowledges that Member States might have different views on the role of nuclear energy. However, a sound scientific and technical basis for the safe operation of reactors and management of radioactive waste is crucial for those Member States that include nuclear energy as part of their energy mix, and for those that need reassurance that nuclear power plants in neighbouring countries respect the highest safety standards. In addition, the Euratom programme supports research and innovation in other related fields, including health and medicine. Therefore, the European public at large benefits from Euratom-funded research.

Article 7 of the Euratom Treaty² provides that Community research and training programmes have to be adopted by unanimity in the Council. This ensures that any research activity foreseen is in the interest of and approved by all Member States. Moreover, during implementation, in the preparation of work programmes, the Commission is assisted by a programme committee of Member States to achieve the largest possible agreement. The procedure used requires approval from said committee before the Commission can adopt the work programmes.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/iter_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:11957A007>.