

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003232/26
to the Commission
Kostas Papadakis (NI)
(8 August 2026)**

Subject: The ‘nuclear doctrine’ being formed in the EU at great danger to the people

81 years after the crime of atomic bombs being dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the USA, the people are closer than ever to the possibility of a new nuclear catastrophe. This is evidenced by the intensive preparation of all imperialist powers in an environment of escalating antagonism between them and the fronts in Ukraine/the Middle East heading towards merger, as threats of the use of nuclear weapons are intensifying amid the collapse of the New Start agreement between the USA and Russia.

The EU is advancing the process of launching armaments and the goal of so-called ‘strategic autonomy’.

At the last NATO summit, it was decided to ‘adjust’ nuclear policy, with the deployment of nuclear warheads in European countries. At the same time, EU plans to form a ‘European nuclear pillar’, increase the nuclear arsenal, create a nuclear infrastructure in Member States and for joint exercises and enhanced nuclear planning are progressing, beyond the already-installed American nuclear plants in a number of Member States (Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, etc.).

What is the Commission's position on the fact that, 81 years after the crime of nuclear bombs being dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the risk to the people is increasing with the escalation of the imperialist war and the ever stronger possibility of the use of nuclear weapons being more visible than ever, based on the nuclear doctrine being shaped by the EU as well as the involvement of Member States both in individual nuclear plans between states and within the framework of NATO?

Submitted: 8.8.2026

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(2 October 2026)**

Since the adoption of its Strategy against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in 2003, the EU has been actively promoting and supporting relevant international non-proliferation and disarmament instruments regarding such weapons — be they nuclear, chemical or biological.

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons ⁽¹⁾(NPT), in force since 1970, is the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament according to its Article 6, and an important element in developing nuclear energy applications for peaceful purposes.

The EU strongly supports the balanced and full implementation of all provisions of the NPT, including its Article 6 whereby states parties undertake ‘to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament’.

The EU shares the ultimate goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons, and actively promotes initiatives consistent with this goal, such as the immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and the promotion of universal adherence to and the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

There is an ongoing debate among NATO allies and some Member States about the European dimension of nuclear deterrence, around proposals for new arrangements on a bilateral basis.

The EU does not have a nuclear deterrence policy. Under Common Foreign Security Policy/Common Security and Defence Policy, the development of such a policy would require unanimity among Member States.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents/treaties/npt>.