

DECLARATION

“Nuclear Energy - Part of a Low-Carbon Energy Future”

We, the undersigned believe that the EU needs to maintain a diversified and flexible energy mix in order to meet the combined challenges of security of energy supply, CO₂ reduction and delivery of electricity at competitive prices. We are convinced that nuclear energy can help to address all these challenges.

In this regard we recall the European Parliament believes that EU energy needs must be produced from carbon-free sources or technologies which cut greenhouse gas emissions; recognise that nuclear energy is an important part of the energy mix in a number of Member States; and note the role that it currently plays in some Member States in maintaining security of electricity supply, as part of the energy mix, and in preventing CO₂ emissions.

At present, low-CO₂ emitting sources: nuclear and renewable energies, (including hydropower), produce 45% of the EU's electricity representing 17% of total energy consumption. Nuclear energy accounts for more than three quarters of this low-carbon electricity, and nearly one third of total electricity generated.

Nuclear energy prevents nearly 720 million tonnes of CO₂eq emissions a year in the EU, equivalent to nearly all the CO₂eq emitted by Europe's entire car fleet. To put things in to perspective, the overall Kyoto GHG emission reduction target in the EU (-8% on 1990 levels) is approximately 446 million tonnes CO₂eq.

We therefore support the optimal use of existing nuclear capacity and the building of new nuclear power plants to help meet significant future electricity demand. However, we strongly believe that there is no single solution to this global problem. All low-carbon power generation technologies will need to contribute. No single source should be ruled out or prioritised for ideological or political reasons.

Therefore, we call upon the EU's leaders to:

- > recognise that nuclear energy is an important part of the EU low-carbon energy mix and will play an increasing role in limiting CO₂ emissions;
- > promote a dispassionate debate on nuclear energy and ensure that nuclear energy is placed on an equal footing with other methods of carbon abatement;
- > orchestrate a transition to a low-carbon economy;
- > recognise the need to move towards a low-carbon portfolio of generating technologies by the middle of the century;
- > encourage more investment in low-carbon power generation technologies, including nuclear energy, renewables, carbon capture and sequestration and energy efficiency;
- > recognise the potential of hydrogen produced from nuclear energy as a future transport fuel; and
- > promote nuclear energy as part of the solution in the next phase of the Kyoto Protocol (post-2012).

Among the first Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) to sign are:

Gabriele ALBERTINI EPP-ED, Italy	Pilar AYUSO EPP-ED, Spain	Mariela Velichkova BAEVA ALDE, Bulgaria	Šarūnas BIRUTIS ALDE, Lithuania	Jan BŘEZINA EPP-ED, Czech Republic	Philippe BUSQUIN PSE, Belgium	Jerzy BUZEK EPP-ED, Poland	Michael CASHMAN PSE, United Kingdom
Daniel CASPARY EPP-ED, Germany	Pilar del CASTILLO VERA EPP-ED, Spain	Vasile DÎNCU PSE, Romania	Den DOVER EPP-ED, United Kingdom	Petr DUCHOŇ EPP-ED, Czech Republic	Szabolcs FAZAKAS PSE, Hungary	Fernando FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN EPP-ED, Spain	Věra FLASAROVÁ GUE/NGL, Czech Republic
Gerardo GALEOTE EPP-ED, Spain	Salvador GARRIGA POLLEDO EPP-ED, Spain	Adam GIEREK PSE, Poland	Cristina GUTIÉRREZ-CORTINES EPP-ED, Spain	Roger HELMER NI, United Kingdom	Edit HERCZOG PSE, Hungary	Esther HERRANZ GARCÍA EPP-ED, Spain	Ján HUDACKÝ EPP-ED, Slovakia
Ville ITÄLÄ EPP-ED, Finland	Carlos José ITURGAIZ ANGULO EPP-ED, Spain	Caroline JACKSON EPP-ED, United Kingdom	Romana JORDAN CIZELJ EPP-ED, Slovenia	Piia-Noora KAUPPI EPP-ED, Finland	Jaromír KOHLÍČEK GUE/NGL, Czech Republic	Eija-Riitta KORHOLA EPP-ED, Finland	Anne LAPERROUZE ALDE, France
Lasse LEHTINEN PSE, Finland	Eugenijus MALDEIKIS UEN, Lithuania	Ana MATO ADROVER EPP-ED, Spain	Íñigo MÉNDEZ DE VIGO EPP-ED, Spain	Miroslav MIKOLÁŠIK EPP-ED, Slovakia	Miroslav OUZKÝ EPP-ED, Czech Republic	Justas Vincas PALECKIS PSE, Lithuania	Atanas PAPANIZOV PSE, Bulgaria
John PURVIS EPP-ED, United Kingdom	Miloslav RANSDORF GUE/NGL, Czech Republic	Vladimír REMEK GUE/NGL, Czech Republic	Herbert REUL EPP-ED, Germany	Libor ROUČEK PSE, Czech Republic	José Ignacio SALAFRANCA SÁNCHEZ-NEYRA EPP-ED, Spain	Petya STAVREVA EPP-ED, Bulgaria	
Struan STEVENSON EPP-ED, United Kingdom	Hannu TAKKULA ALDE, Finland	Vladimír URUTCHEV EPP-ED, Bulgaria	Ari VATANEN EPP-ED, France	Alejo VIDAL-QUADRAS EPP-ED, Spain	Oldřich VLASÁK EPP-ED, Czech Republic	Dominique VLASTO EPP-ED, France	Jaroslav ZVĚŘINA EPP-ED, Czech Republic

Launched by:

FORATOM
european atomic forum

Endorsed by:

BUSINESSEUROPE

UNION OF THE ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY
eurelectric

IFIEC Europe