



EUROPEAN BUSINESS NUCLEAR ALLIANCE

Paris, February 12th, 2025

The organisations signing this declaration, comprising European business federations, today announce their shared commitment to strengthening the European nuclear industry, as it contributes to Europe's decarbonisation, competitiveness, and resilience objectives alongside renewable and low-carbon solutions.

Businesses are fully aligned: a competitive industry and the resilience of our socio-economic model demand a joint approach for decarbonisation, growth, and competitiveness. With the global race to develop clean technologies intensifying, Europe must deepen and expand its investments in strategic value chains to cement its position as a climate leader and defend its economic potential. A diverse set of solutions and technologies are needed in the face of intensifying decarbonization demands and competitiveness pressures.

Nuclear energy is one of these critical levers, complementing renewable energy and other clean solutions and ensuring businesses have access to a competitive, stable, and predictable supply of decarbonised energy. Scaling up investment, driving innovation in advanced technologies and strengthening the circular economy offer a strategic opportunity to consolidate the nuclear value chain alongside other key clean industrial sectors, fostering competitiveness and resilience at the European level.

In this context, this Alliance aims to organise the support of the economic sector to strengthen the nuclear industry and amplify its dynamism in innovation, skills development, and industrialisation. We aim to leverage action at the European level, working closely with the European Commission, the Nuclear Alliance of Member States, nucleareurope, the European industrial alliance on SMRs and other stakeholders to take necessary decisions, address existing barriers and allow the nuclear industry to fully contribute to shared challenges, **all within a technology-neutral vision for the decarbonized energy transition.** We welcome the new momentum for nuclear energy that is emerging at European level, including the recognition of the role of nuclear energy at EU level in the Net Zero Industry Act, 2040 Climate objective Communication, as well as the launch of the SMR Industrial Alliance. It is time for Europe to build on these breakthroughs and go further.

To this end, we have identified 4 focus areas, in alignment with the development of the Clean Industrial Deal and in anticipation of the next milestones for meeting European economic and climate objectives. As a result, we call European institutions and Member States to:

1. **Provide a clear and enabling institutional framework, removing barriers and fully apply technological neutrality,** in line with the commitments of EU Commission president Ursula von der Leyen. A level playing field between solutions is vital for an efficient and competitive European decarbonization. The EU framework should better enable Member States' freedom to determine and decarbonize their energy mix, allowing them to achieve climate goals in the most cost-effective and sustainable way. As a first step, a 'technology neutrality-check' could be considered for upcoming legislation and planned revisions to identify potential barriers and ensure a level playing field for all renewable and low-carbon energy sources.
2. **Secure access to both private and public funding,** by further developing long-term contracts, and ensuring nuclear and derivative low-carbon solutions can fully access European financing and guarantee programmes in application of technology neutrality (State Aid guidelines, IPCEIs, European Investment Bank, Innovation Fund, European Hydrogen Bank, support to electrification based on excellence of projects, etc.).

3. **Accelerate the industrialisation of the sector and foster a robust nuclear ecosystem in Europe**, by enhancing international collaboration on innovation, strengthening the industrial base, securing the fuel supply chain and leveraging the scale and integration of the European market.
4. **Support the development and renewal of skills**, by recruiting and training the next generation of workers across the entire associated value chain and fostering European professional mobility.

Europe must leverage all solutions to ensure a climate transition that is competitive and socially inclusive and to foster resilience and growth. Time is running out as Europe faces one of its most severe economic downturns in decades, while our global competitors are more determined than ever to defend their interests, including by heavily ramping up their investments in nuclear. **Nuclear energy cannot remain on the sidelines of European strategies.** On the path to a decarbonised economy and energy system, all technologies that result in the reduction of emissions must be deployed. It is now urgent to set up the framework and the concrete actions for a transition that fully leverages the complementarity between nuclear, renewable energies and other low-carbon technologies.



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