

EURATOM Resolution

We, the undersigned, urge the European Council to convene a conference within the next two years to dissolve EURATOM, the European Atomic Energy Community.

To increase efficiency and make use of synergy effects the debate should start during the BREXIT negotiations. A nuclear power leaving EURATOM will inevitably make it necessary to negotiate far-reaching, new multi-lateral treaties. The current circumstances would seem to be an invitation to redistribute the EURATOM Treaty tasks 60 years after the founding of EURATOM.

We, the undersigned, believe that for the following reasons the EURATOM Treaty should be dissolved soon:

The purpose of the EURATOM Treaty according to the preamble lies in creating the conditions necessary for the development of a powerful European nuclear industry; however, 60 years later this is obsolete. Despite enormous political support, during this long period the results from using nuclear power have not improved, rather the contrary. Renewable energies are taking over, not only in terms of their ecological and social advantages over nuclear power, but also economic ones. The generation of nuclear power and the construction of new-builds in Europe have been decreasing over the past years, while the share of other energy sources in Europe's electricity supply is constantly growing. The support granted to one energy form based on primary law is therefore outdated and cannot be justified. This goes even further: the targets laid down in the EURATOM Treaty force the EU Commission to give unique preferential treatment to nuclear power over all other types of energy generation. This obligation is perpetual and inhibits progress because the Treaty does not contain rules regulating the end of the Treaty.

When it comes to nuclear power, the European Union should, in future, restrict itself to dealing with the problems and hazards which are the aftermath of nuclear power. The related tasks should be transferred into the relevant sections of the EU Treaty (TEU) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), thereby securing their fulfilment. All the necessary regulations should be implemented by directly applicable EU regulations. This re-grouping of competences provides the opportunity to include important aspects of the nuclear industry which have not been regulated by EURATOM to date. There are no valid arguments why the consequences of the nuclear industry should not fall under the EU environmental protection regulations. EU-wide rules would offer the best solution for regulating the following issues:

- **Disposal of radioactive waste and decommissioning of NPP** – Solutions extending beyond generations and countries are required, all necessary measures need to be paid for by the operators, the obligatory evidence of the provision of adequate reserves must be required.
- **Emergency protection** - A Europe-wide Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan must be prepared, the potential costs for adequate measures must be borne by those creating the risk. In developing those emergency scenarios the earthquake hazards, decreasing nuclear safety due to life-time extension of NPP, as well as vulnerability towards external threats must all be assessed.
- **Radiation protection** – A regulation in line with the ALAP principle (as low as possible) is needed to protect European citizens against industrial radiation risks. Emergency regulations, allowing for higher radiation levels in case of radioactive releases due to accidents, shall no longer be tolerated.
- **Nuclear liability** – For the operators of nuclear power plants a binding, uniform nuclear liability regime, adequately covering potential damages, needs to be calculated and come into effect promptly.
- **Non-proliferation** – Nuclear and non-nuclear countries must cooperate in establishing a non-proliferation regime, more comprehensive and more transparent than the IAEA regime.
- **Research** – European research shall be financed and conducted without privileges for certain disciplines, instead serving higher and transparent goals for the wellbeing of society. With respect to nuclear power, only research into ending the nuclear age – primarily decommissioning and the final disposal of nuclear waste—should be continued.
- **National regulators** – Their method of appointment should be questioned and if necessary re-defined.
- **Nuclear safety of NPP** – Life-time extensions (PLEX) of nuclear power plants must be subject to a binding EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) which explicitly examines additional hazards caused by material degradation. Attempts to harmonize the EU-wide licensing of new reactor types are not acceptable.
- **The participation of independent experts** during decision-taking in the field of nuclear power is necessary. International conventions (ESPOO/EIA and Aarhus/environmental information and public participation) must be applied in the nuclear field without limitations.

If a conference to dissolve EURATOM cannot be set up within the next two years, the nuclear-free and nuclear phase-out countries should withdraw from the EURATOM Treaty and end financial contributions to the EURATOM budget.