

**Question for written answer E-010704/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Dario Tamburrano (EFDD), Fabio Massimo Castaldo (EFDD), Bart Staes (Verts/ALE), Michèle Rivasi (Verts/ALE), Eleonora Evi (EFDD) and Ana Gomes (S&D)**

Subject: EU role in the lack of safety of Ukrainian nuclear plants

Ukraine is keeping alive its old Soviet-made nuclear power plants thanks to a modernisation project funded by Euratom and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development<sup>1</sup>. Under this project, in 2013 the SNRIU (the Ukrainian authority for nuclear safety) extended the operation of reactor number 1 of the South Ukraine nuclear power plant until 2023.

The National Ecological Centre of Ukraine has examined the documentation related to the reactor and has ascertained that it is dangerously vulnerable and that its wear parts exceed 10 times the acceptable wear limits<sup>2</sup>.

The SNRIU, which in 2013 did not notice this problem, is about to extend the operation of reactor number 2 of the South Ukraine nuclear power plant<sup>3</sup>, and a recently approved national law prevents the SNRIU from even conducting inspections<sup>4</sup>.

Considering all the above, can the Commission state whether:

- it considers appropriate that both Euratom and BERC pull back from the project of modernisation of the Ukrainian reactors;
- it considers appropriate to propose to extend the peer-review process provided for by Article 8(e) of Directive 2014/87 to at least States linked to the EU through an association agreement, as Ukraine's behaviour is anything but what is needed to guarantee European citizens' safety;
- it will consider urging Ukraine to dismantle, rather than modernise, its old and unsafe nuclear power plants.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ebrd.com/work-with-us/projects/psd/nuclear-power-plant-safety-upgrade-program.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://bankwatch.org/news-media/for-journalists/press-releases/new-study-sounds-alarm-safety-ukrainian-nuclear-power-plan>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.energoatom.kiev.ua/en/actvts/length\\_extension/43499-press\\_releaseon\\_public\\_hearing\\_process\\_for\\_safety\\_justification\\_of\\_southukrainian\\_npp\\_power\\_unit\\_\\_lifeti\\_me\\_extension/](http://www.energoatom.kiev.ua/en/actvts/length_extension/43499-press_releaseon_public_hearing_process_for_safety_justification_of_southukrainian_npp_power_unit__lifeti_me_extension/)

<sup>4</sup> <http://bankwatch.org/sites/default/files/letter-EBRD-UAnuclear-inspections-16Feb2015.pdf>