

Question for written answer E-002334/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Safety of European nuclear power plants

Some 130 nuclear power plants are operating in Europe, generating about a third of the EU's electricity. Nuclear energy accounts for a major part of the energy mix of many Member States, in particular France.

In view of the upcoming anniversaries of the nuclear disasters that took place in Chernobyl 30 years ago and in Fukushima five years ago, and in the face of the growing threat from terrorism, it is worth reflecting on the security of Europe and its inhabitants. We should be prepared for even the most extreme, most unlikely possibilities. Terrorists are, after all, constantly changing their methods and their targets – they could one day launch an attack on a nuclear facility.

A successful attack on a nuclear power plant would be an unmitigated disaster from a human, environmental, economic and political point of view. In that context, it is worth pointing out that unidentified drones have recently been spotted in the air space above nuclear installations, some in France.

How does the Commission plan to make sure that nuclear power plants in the EU are properly secured against potential terrorist attacks?