

**Question for written answer E-003688/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Regional centre/storage facility for radioactive waste in Bulgaria

Bulgaria, along with 13 other countries, participates in the International Pangea Consortium to explore the possibility of building international repositories for radioactive waste. Since 2006, Bulgaria has been part of the EU's programme on the same topic. The Commission decision of 17 July 2007 on establishing the European High Level Group on Nuclear Safety and Waste Management established a working group in which Bulgaria was represented by an expert from the State Enterprise Radioactive Waste. On 17 February 2010, an article in *The Times* newspaper referring to the discussions in the working group said that Eastern Europe would host an EU nuclear storage facility.

In this context, I would like to raise the following questions:

1. Has Bulgaria expressed a desire to establish a regional centre/storage facility for radioactive waste? If so, when, how and by whom will it be established?
2. Is grant funding for the National Operator For Radioactive Waste Management subject to the acceptance of foreign radioactive waste?