

**Question for written answer E-000073/2022**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Liudas Mažylis (PPE)**

**Subject:** Upcoming commissioning of Unit 2 of Astravets NPP and its operational safety

According to the Belarusian Ministry of Energy, the loading of nuclear fuel into the reactor core at Unit 2 of the Astravets NPP was completed on 27 December 2021. The second reactor is expected to be fully operational early this year. Given the technical problems reported last year in Unit 1, which resulted in the turbine-generator being disconnected from the grid by the automatic protection system, it is clear that Astravets NPP does not comply with European nuclear safety standards.

Could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of the technical problems reported in 2021 at Astravets NPP which resulted in the plant being disconnected from the grid by the automatic protection system? Has any new information on other safety breaches at Astravets NPP come to light in 2021 which could indicate a potential threat to both Belarusians and EU Member States?
2. Has Belarus implemented the safety recommendations set out in the final report of the second visit of the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) to Astravets NPP?
3. Does the Commission have a plan for further action in the event that information on possible defects and other malfunctions at Astravets NPP related to the ENSREG stress test is withheld and the recommendations made in the final report of the visit remain unimplemented?