

**Question for written answer E-001473/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Tom Berendsen (PPE)**

**Subject:** European programme for the development of small modular reactors essential for the energy transition

The war in Ukraine calls for a drastic reduction in dependence on Russian gas. At the same time, sectors such as construction, industry, mobility and the future hydrogen economy all require considerably more electricity if they are to remain sustainable. This electricity must be produced without emitting greenhouse gases. A combination of renewable energy sources and nuclear energy can provide this climate-neutral electricity. Smaller modular reactors are important in this respect. They are safe, flexible, have a shorter construction time, fit better into the physical environment, are potentially interesting in the long term in terms of cost price and the financial risks are manageable because of their size. European cooperation is essential here.

1. The first EU workshop on Small Modular Reactors took place in July 2021. What follow-up steps have been taken since then and what steps are planned in the near future?
2. The Commission has stated in previous replies<sup>1</sup> that licensing needs to be streamlined and regulatory processes harmonised in order to fully exploit the benefits of modular nuclear reactors in the EU. When does the Commission plan to make recommendations in this area?
3. In the light of current geopolitical developments, when does the Commission plan to come up with an official European programme and corresponding European co-funding for European cooperation on the development of small modular reactors?

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<sup>1</sup> Question with written answer E-002975/2021 (Tom Berendsen, PPE),  
[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-002975-ASW\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-002975-ASW_EN.html)