

**Question for written answer E-000009/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Mathilde Androuët (ID)

Subject: What additional support will be made available to help the European SMR industry face global competition?

At the 16th European Nuclear Energy Forum on 6-7 November, European Commissioner for Energy, Kadri Simson, expressed her support for setting up a European alliance on SMRs¹, which would allow the EU to continue showing 'technological leadership' and safeguard its 'strategic autonomy' in the field of energy². On 21 November, the European Parliament adopted the NZIA³, which includes SMRs in the European support programme for 'green industries'⁴. This is particularly important in view of the advances made in this area by Russia⁵ and China⁶, as well as the United States, which is already setting foot on the European market with SMRs from the US groups NuScale Power and Westinghouse due to be launched in Romania, Slovakia, Poland⁷, Sweden, Finland and Bulgaria⁸.

Significant state aid has allowed for the technological and commercial development of SMRs in the United States, including recent allocations granted under the Inflation Reduction Act. Does the Commission think it would be appropriate to allow similar projects in the European nuclear industry to benefit from European funding for research, in particular under the Horizon Europe programme?

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¹ Small modular reactors.

² 'Bruxelles apporte son soutien à une alliance européenne des petits réacteurs nucléaires', Euractiv, 8 November 2023.

³ Net-Zero Industry Act.

⁴ 'MEPs fully include nuclear in Net-Zero Industry Act', World Nuclear News (WNN), 22 November 2023.

⁵ 'Mise en service de la première centrale nucléaire flottante en Russie', Revue Générale Nucléaire (RGN), 28 September 2021.

⁶ 'La Chine devance le reste du monde avec le premier mini-réacteur nucléaire à haute température en fonctionnement', L'Usine Nouvelle, 7 January 2022.

⁷ 'Westinghouse Establishes Cooperation with Dozens of Polish Suppliers for the Construction of the First Polish Nuclear Power Plant', BusinessWire, 22 September 2022.

⁸ 'Westinghouse participe à la construction de nouvelles centrales nucléaires en Finlande, en Suède et en Bulgarie', Forum Nucléaire, 28 June 2023.