



#Euratom

Nuclear in the European Union A Crash Course

Fundamentals on the European
Institutions and the Euratom Treaty

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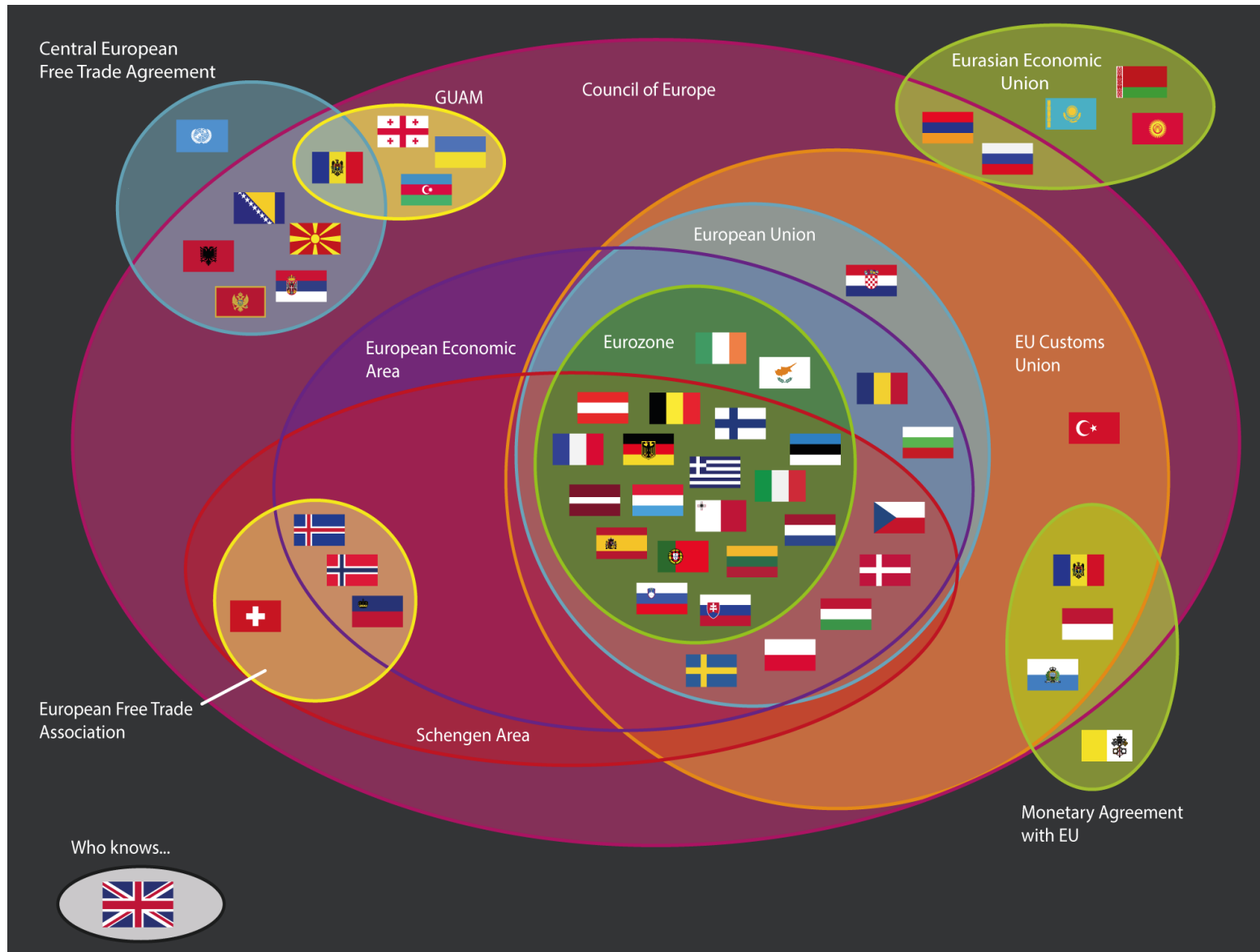
Outline

- The European Institutions and the Decision-Making
- The Euratom Treaty: History and Objectives
- The Euratom Institutional Framework
- The Euratom Research and Training Programme

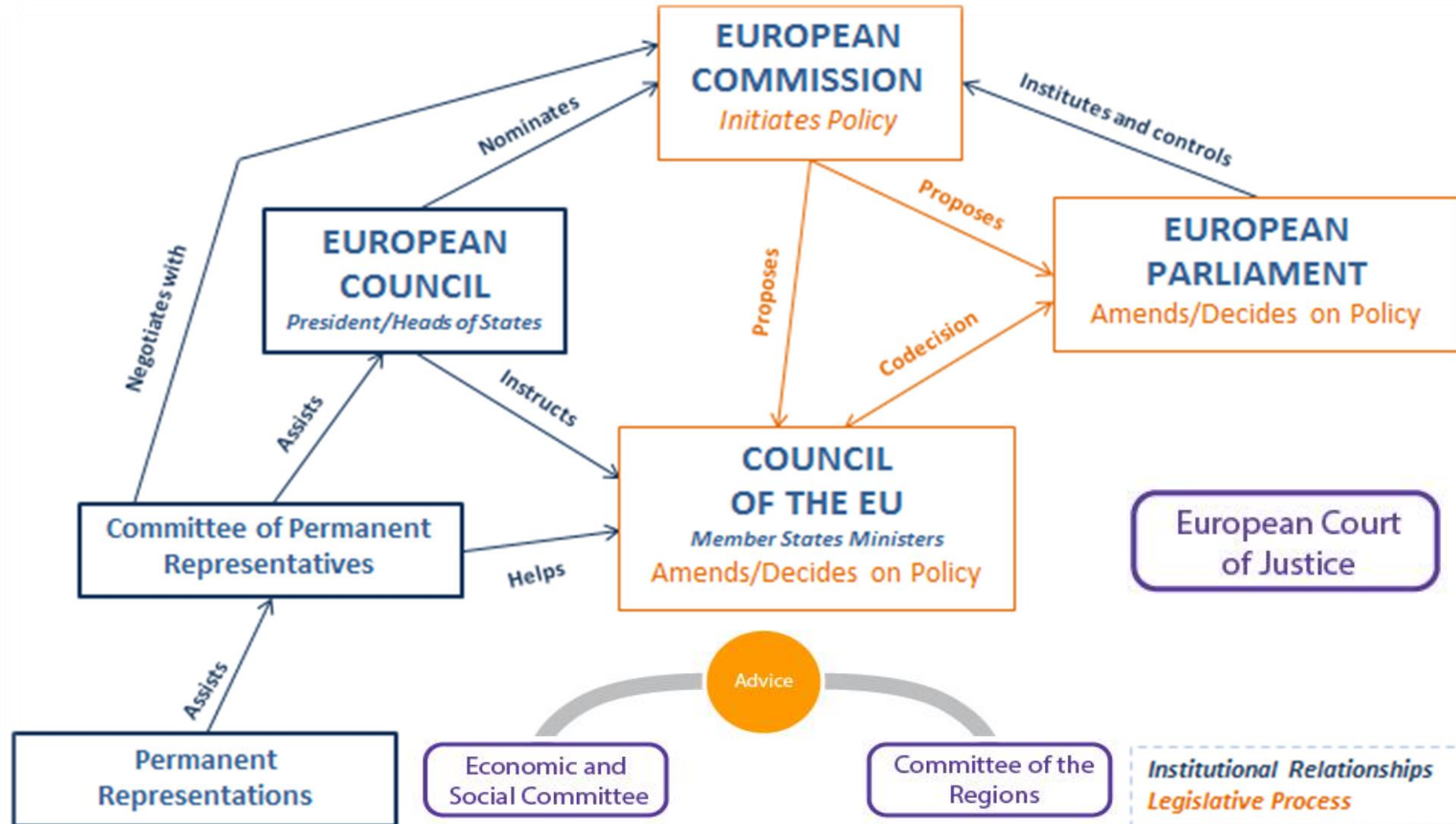
The European Institutions and the Decision-Making



What is Europe? (Not up to date anymore!)



EU Decision-Making: A Maze



The Institutions of the European Union

European Council

- Provides impetus and direction -



- summit of the **Heads of state** or **government**, the **President of the European Council** and the **President of the European Commission**.
- gives the necessary political impetus for the development of the Union and sets its general objectives and priorities
- does not legislate
- based in **Brussels**



Council of the European Union

- Legislature -



- acts together with the Parliament as a **legislature**
- shares with the Parliament the budgetary power
- ensures coordination of the broad economic and social policy and sets out guidelines for the **Common Foreign and Security Policy** (CFSP)
- concludes **international agreements**
- based in **Brussels**



European Parliament

- Legislature -



- acts together with the Council as a **legislature**
- shares with the Council the budgetary power and decides in the last instance on the **budget**
- exerts the democratic control over the institutions including the European Commission and approves the Commission members
- based in and plenary sessions in **Strasbourg**, primarily meets in **Brussels**



European Commission

- Executive -



- is the **executive**
- submits proposals for new legislation to the Parliament and Council
- implements policies
- administers the **budget**
- ensures compliance with **European law** ("guardian of the treaties")
- negotiates **international agreements**
- based in **Brussels**



Court of Justice of the European Union

- Judiciary -



- ensures the uniform application and interpretation of **European law**
- has the power to decide legal disputes between member states, the institutions, businesses and individuals
- based in **Luxembourg**



European Central Bank

- Central bank -



- forms together with the national **central banks** the **European System of Central Banks** and thereby determines the **monetary policy** of the **eurozone**
- ensures **price stability** in the **eurozone** by controlling the **money supply**
- based in **Frankfurt**



European Court of Auditors

- Financial auditor -



- checks the proper implementation of the **budget**
- based in **Luxembourg**

The European Commission

Parliamentary confirmation hearings of the Commissioners designate and portfolios **Compendium**

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI\(2024\)762465](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI(2024)762465)

Nuclear industry remains wary after commissioners-designate hearings

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/eet/news/nuclear-industry-remains-wary-after-commissioners-designate-hearings/>

Towards a new Commission (2024-2029)

https://commission.europa.eu/about-european-commission/towards-new-commission-2024-2029_



The Euratom Treaty: History and Objectives



The Euratom Treaty

- Article 1: « It shall be the task of the Community to contribute to the raising of the standard of living in the Member States and to the development of relations with other countries by creating the conditions necessary for the speedy establishment and growth of nuclear industries »



Paul-Henri Spaak and Jean-Charles Snoy et d'Oppuers at the signature of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) 25 March 1957

Context and History

- The Euratom Treaty was signed in **1957** by the **six founding States** (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands) who joined together to form **European Union**
- In the 1950s, three European Communities were established, including the **European Coal and Steel Community**, the **European Economic Community**, and the **European Atomic Energy Community** (Euratom), with **Euratom remaining substantively unchanged since its founding in 1957**.
- Despite this, the Euratom Treaty has evolved through broad interpretations by the Court of Justice of the EU, and it focuses on promoting nuclear industry development, improving living standards, and ensuring energy supply security across Member States.
- To tackle the general shortage of "conventional" energy in the 1950s, the six founding States looked to nuclear energy as a means of achieving **energy independence**.
- Since the costs of investing in nuclear energy could not be met by individual States, the founding States joined together to form Euratom.

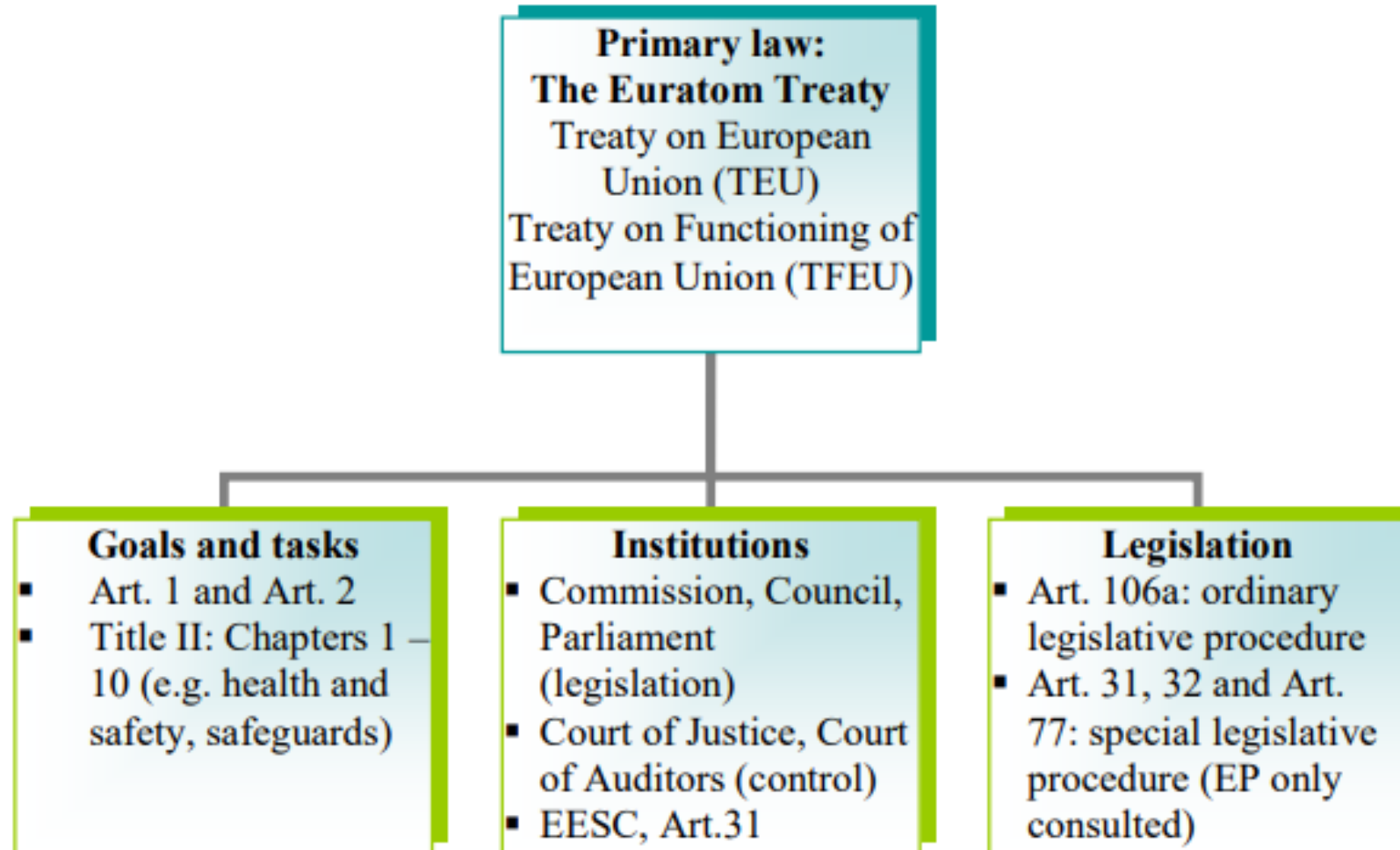
Tasks and Euratom

- to **promote research** and ensure the dissemination of technical information
 - Establishment of the **Joint Research Centre (JRC)**
 - on publication of a list of the sectors of nuclear research which it considers to be insufficiently explored
- to establish **uniform safety standards** to protect the health of workers and of the general public and ensure that they are applied
- to ensure that civil nuclear materials are not diverted to other purposes
 - Euratom Safeguards inspectors have unlimited access in all MS to relevant sites, data and persons
 - Commission entitled to impose sanctions eg. withdrawal of source materials or special fissile materials
- to **facilitate investment** and ensure the establishment of the basic installations necessary for the development of nuclear energy in the EU

Tasks and Euratom

- The Commission regularly publishes illustrative nuclear programmes (**PINCs**) indicating nuclear energy production targets and the investment required for their attainment (**Art 40**)
- Operators must notify investment plans to Commission (**Art 41**)
- to ensure that all users in the EU receive a regular and equitable supply of ores and nuclear fuels
- **Supplies of ores, source materials and special fissile materials** are ensured by means of a common supply policy based on the principle of equal access to sources of supply
- **Prohibition on practices** designed to secure **privileged positions** for users
- ESA right of option on nuclear materials produced in MS, exclusive right to conclude contracts on supply of ores, source materials and special fissile materials coming from inside or outside the EU

Hierarchy of laws



Euratom - Large body of secondary legislation

- **Directive 2013/59** laying down basic safety standards for the protection against the dangers arising from ionising radiation (and repealing previous Directives 89/618/Euratom, 90/641/Euratom, 96/29/Euratom, 97/43/Euratom and 2003/122/Euratom)
- **Directive 2009/71** establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations, amended by Directive 2014/87 to take into account the Fukushima accident and the findings of the European stress tests
- **Directive 2006/117** on the supervision and control of shipments of radioactive waste and spent fuel
- **Directive 2011/70** establishing a Community framework for the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste

The Euratom Treaty: Institutional Framework



The Euratom Institutions

- The **Euratom Treaty** is broadly similar to that of the EEC Treaty and is built around the same "institutional triangle" (Council, Commission and European Parliament).
- The completion of the tasks of the Euratom Community is ensured not only by the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council, but also by the Court of Justice and the Court of Auditors.
- The Euratom institutions are responsible for implementing the Treaty and for the two specific Euratom bodies: the **Supply Agency** and the **Safeguards Office** (which carries out physical and accounting checks in all nuclear installations in the Community).
- The **Euratom Supply Agency** has legal personality and financial autonomy and is under the supervision of the Commission, which issues directives to it and possesses a right of veto over its decisions.
- **Scientific and Technical Committee**: is attached to the Commission, has advisory status and comprises 41 Members appointed for 5 years by the Council

Expert Groups and Energy Fora

ENSREG

- **Independent expert** advisory group established in **2007**
- **Senior officials** from the national nuclear safety, radioactive waste safety or radiation protection regulatory authorities and senior civil servants with competence in these fields from all MS in the EU and representatives of the EC
- ENSREG's role is to help to establish the conditions for **continuous improvement** and to reach **a common understanding** in the areas of **nuclear safety** and **radioactive waste management**.

European Nuclear Energy Forum

- Established in **2007**, provides a platform for discussion between relevant stakeholders: **MS, EU institutions, industry, NGOs, consumers**
- Discussions on **transparency issues** and **opportunities and risks of nuclear energy**
- WG Opportunities, WG Risks and WG Transparency previously active, now only plenary annual meetings in CZ and SK

European Institutions

- Relationship between the **Euratom Treaty (ET)** the **Treaty on European Union (TEU)** and the **Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)**:
 - Article 4(2)(i) TFEU: **Energy is a field of shared competence** between the Union and the MS
 - Article 194(1) TFEU: Union policy on energy based on (a) ensuring functioning of energy market (b) ensuring security of supply in the EU (c) promoting energy efficiency and saving and the development of new and renewable forms of energy (d) promoting the interconnection of energy networks
- The three treaties are linked by their common institutions and by several legal provisions:
 - Article 194(2) TFEU: policy objectives to be achieved by measures of the European Parliament and the Council, acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, without prejudice to the application of the other provisions of the Treaties; **such measures shall not affect a MS's right to determine the conditions for exploiting its energy resources, its choice between different energy sources and the general structure of its energy supply.**

Article 41 Euratom

- Persons and undertakings engaged in the industrial activities listed in Annex II to this Treaty shall communicate to the Commission investment projects relating to **new installations and also to replacements or conversions** which fulfil the criteria as to type and size laid down by the Council on a proposal from the Commission.
- The list of industrial activities referred to above may be altered by the Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, which shall first obtain the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee.
- Implemented by
 - **Council Regulation (Euratom) n° 2587/1999** of 2 December 1999 defining the investment projects to be communicated to the Commission in accordance with Article 41 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community
 - **Commission Regulation n° 1209/2000** of 8 June 2000 determining procedures for effecting the communications prescribed under Article 41 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community

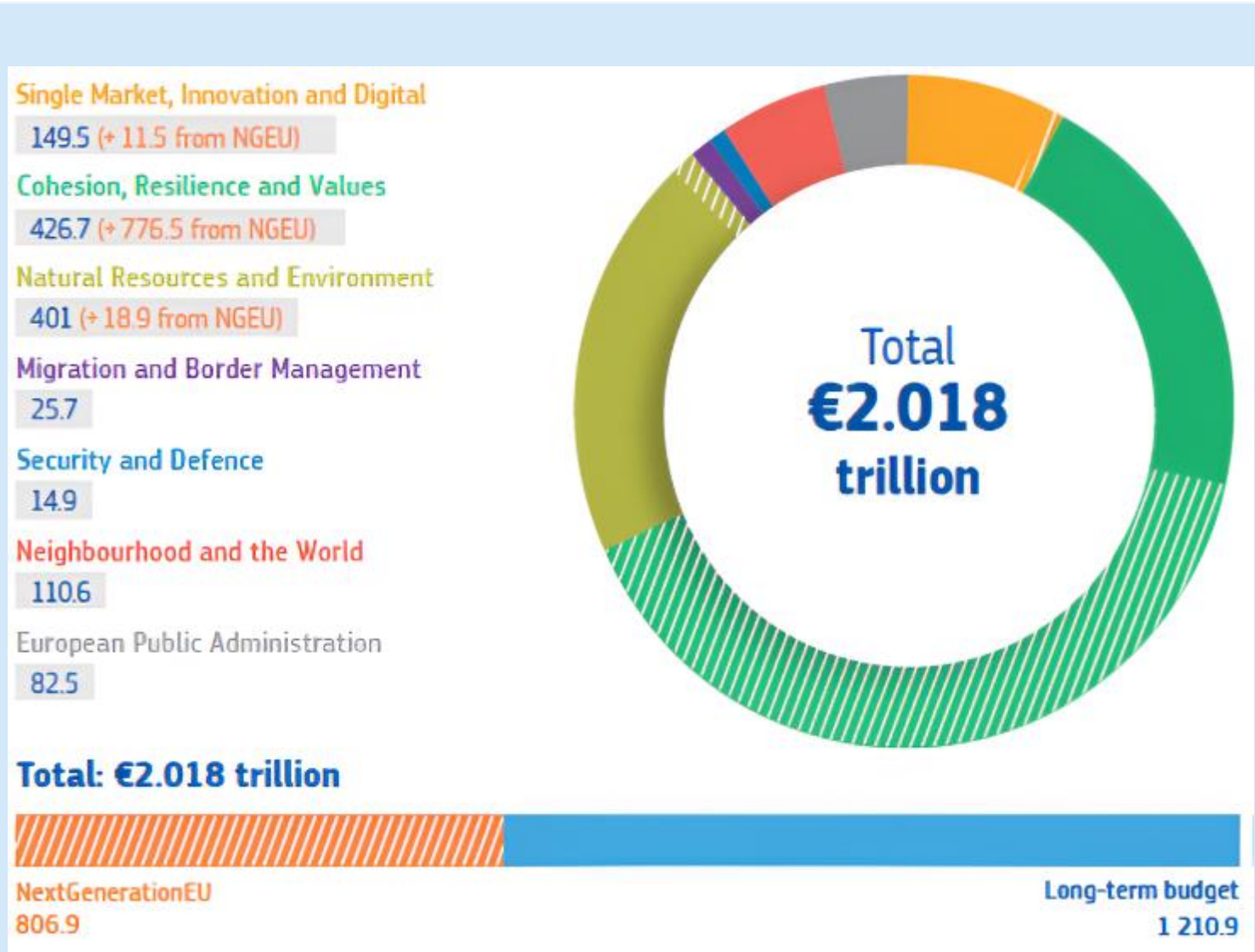
Article 41 Euratom – Scope of Application

- Installations situated on EU territory
- 13 industrial sectors concerned throughout the nuclear fuel cycle
- Investment projects aimed at:
 - (a) creating a production capacity;
 - (b) maintaining quantitative and qualitative production capacity;
 - (c) directly increasing production capacity;
 - (d) directly increasing productivity;
 - (e) improving the quality of production;
 - (f) creating facilities for the management of spent fuel or radioactive waste, including treatment, interim or final storage and/or disposal;
- For NPPs, threshold of 100 M EUR for new installations and 40 M EUR for transformations or replacements

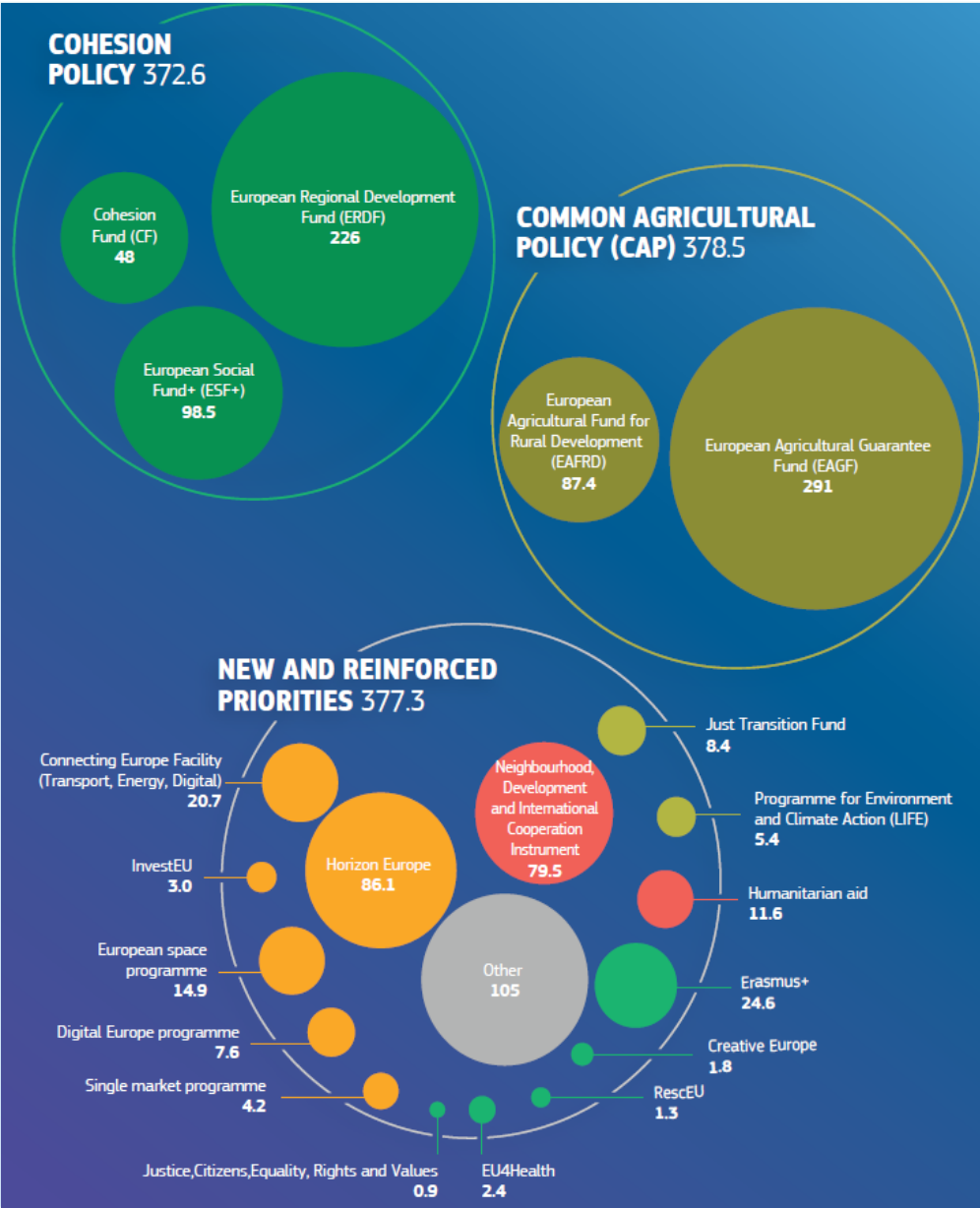
The Euratom Research and Training Programme



Multi-Financial Framework MFF 2021-2027



The EU's 2021-2027 long-term budget & NextGenerationEU – Facts and figures dated 29/04/2021
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d3e77637-a963-11eb-9585-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>



HORIZON EUROPE

EURATOM

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on
defence research
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Research
actions

Development
actions

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

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Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint
Research
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* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

Euratom Programme 2021-2025



The financial envelope for the implementation of the new Euratom Programme 2021-2025 shall be **€1.382 billion in current prices.**

€583 million for indirect actions in fusion research and development

€266 million for indirect actions in nuclear fission, safety and radiation protection

€532 million for direct actions undertaken by the Joint Research Centre

⇒ *A 2-year extension of the Euratom programme will be requested in 2025 with an additional top-up budget to be defined*

ATOMIC INTELLIGENCE AI & NUCLEAR EVENT

SAVE THE DATE

19 MAY 2025

Discover AI's transformative potential & the challenges of its use by scientists through three engaging panels:

- ❑ **Exceptional Innovation:** AI-Induced Disruptive Innovation
- ❑ **AI & Robotics:** Pushing Research Boundaries of Material Science
- ❑ **Fostering Critical Thinking:** Education's AI Challenge

Visit: <https://europa.eu/!7B6t8N>



Publications – CORDIS (EC R&D Information Service)



View all H2020 Euratom projects summaries
and public deliverables on CORDIS <https://cordis.europa.eu/>

H2020 Euratom projects (All)

[https://cordis.europa.eu/search?q=contenttype=%27project%27%20AND%20\(programme/code=%27H2020%27%20OR%20programme/code=%27H2020-Euratom%27\)%20AND%20\(%27euratom%27\)&p=1&num=100&srt=Relevance:decreasing](https://cordis.europa.eu/search?q=contenttype=%27project%27%20AND%20(programme/code=%27H2020%27%20OR%20programme/code=%27H2020-Euratom%27)%20AND%20(%27euratom%27)&p=1&num=100&srt=Relevance:decreasing)

... Latest relevant projects summaries

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Thank you!

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[**https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/euratom**](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/euratom)



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