

## Declaration on Climate Change and Nuclear Energy

We the undersigned declare that it is our shared conviction that nuclear energy should play an increasingly central role in the global fight against climate change and remain a pillar of the EU's energy and environmental policy planning. In a carbon-constrained 21st century threatened by an increasingly acute energy supply deficit, nuclear energy offers a secure, reliable, affordable and environmentally-friendly power supply. By helping the EU to meet its energy sustainability targets and by mitigating the effects of climate change, nuclear energy contributes to the achieving of EU economic and environmental objectives.

One third of the electricity generated in the EU is nuclear-generated. Because nuclear energy is virtually CO<sub>2</sub>-free, it prevents nearly 700 million extra tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions a year in the EU, equivalent to the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted by Europe's entire car fleet. Therefore, increased use of nuclear power as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel consumption should, logically, be the main option of choice in the combat against climate change. By building new nuclear power plants, increasing output at existing plants and extending operating lifetimes, nuclear energy's position as a major driving force behind winning this global challenge will be strengthened.

We recognise that there is no single solution to this global problem. Integrated energy and environmental policies are necessary to develop an effective emissions reduction strategy. All low carbon-intensive power generation technologies will need to contribute. No single source should be ruled out or prioritised for ideological or political reasons. However, we strongly believe that the increased use of nuclear energy, as the largest single contributor to the fight against climate change, is essential.

Therefore, we call upon the EU's leaders to:

- \* recognise the vital contribution made by the nuclear industry to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- \* encourage more investment in zero or low carbon-intensive power generation technologies, including nuclear energy
- \* recognise that meeting the climate change challenge will need a long-term global strategy, which should include an effective international emissions trading scheme
- \* ensure that the use of JI and CDM does not exclude nuclear projects after 2012<sup>1</sup>
- \* encourage all economic actors, including China, India and the United States, to participate in and provide solutions for meeting the global climate change challenge.

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<sup>1</sup>Joint Implementation (JI) (transferring emission allowances between developed nations, linked to specific emission reduction projects); and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). The CDM is the only Flexibility Mechanism that involves developing countries. It allows developed nations to achieve part of their reduction obligations through projects in developing countries that reduce emissions or 'fix' or sequester CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.

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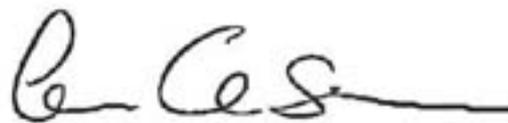
**The Declaration on Climate Change and Nuclear Energy is the result of an initiative**

- launched by the European Atomic Forum (FORATOM), the trade association for the nuclear energy industry in Europe,
- with the full backing of 25 Members of the European Parliament from across the political spectrum, and
- timed to coincide with the FORATOM Climate Change Seminar - Nuclear Energy: Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change.

**Among the first signatories are:**



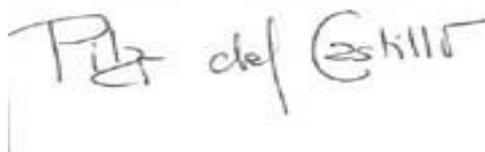
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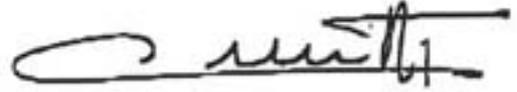
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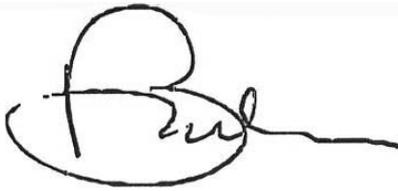
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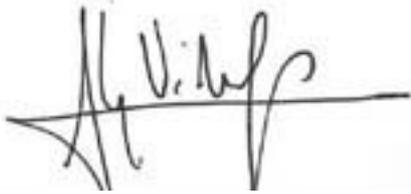
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