

**Joint letter from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary,
Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden**

Mr Maroš Šefčovič

Executive Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of the European Green Deal, Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight

Ms Kadri Simson

Commissioner for Energy
European Commission

Mr Thierry Breton

Commissioner for Internal Market
European Commission

Ms Iliana Ivanova

Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
European Commission

Dear Vice-President, Dear Commissioners,

We strongly support the European Commission's initiatives to accelerate the deployment of all fossil-free technologies and to emphasise that nuclear energy is one of the solutions towards the net-zero emission target, together with renewable energy. In particular, along with long term operations and large scale new nuclear reactors, Small Modular Reactors (SMR) can be a solution for the production of fossil-free electricity, heat and hydrogen in the 2030s.

To this end, we welcome the work carried out by the European Commission and the investment of all stakeholders in the European pre-partnership on SMRs. The results of this work, published in July 2023, encourage the readiness for SMR development and future deployment with the creation of an SMR "industrial alliance" at EU level. This initiative should stimulate investment in European SMR capacities and the development of a European value chain, strengthening our energy sovereignty and the competitiveness of our industry.

While several Member States have included SMRs in their energy strategy, which sends a positive signal to the market and suppliers, the support of the European Commission is needed to ensure that these innovative projects benefit from existing and future EU legislation.

We are delighted with the consultation initiated by the Commission and the stakeholder forum held on 26 October 2023. However, we reaffirm our commitment, as Member States and together with our industries, to bring this European initiative on SMRs to a next level, working towards timely and viable schemes.

Given the large potential role of SMR technologies in achieving European climate goals and adding to energy diversity, we urge the European Commission to make the European SMR

initiative a reality by creating a genuine EU industrial alliance enabling development of European value chain for various SMR technologies. We believe that the European Nuclear Energy Forum (ENEF) conference would be a window of opportunity to engage in this direction.

We would also like to restate the importance of a balanced decarbonized energy mix. Based on the declaration of the Nuclear Alliance in May 2023, nuclear power may provide up to 150 GW of electricity capacity by 2050 to the EU (compared to 100 GW today). In order to achieve this important objective, and given their major positive impact on the energy transition, the current development of SMR's needs to be seen in line with other major nuclear developments such as life time extension, nuclear new build projects and associated fuel cycle technologies.

Signatories:

- Rumen RADEV, Minister of Energy, **Bulgaria**
- Davor FILIPOVIĆ, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, **Croatia**
- Jozef SIKELA, Minister of Industry and Trade, **Czech Republic**
- Kai MYKKÄNEN, Minister of Climate and the Environment, **Finland**
- Agnès PANNIER-RUNACHER, Ministre de la Transition énergétique, **France**
- Attila STEINER, State Secretary for Energy and Climate - Ministry of Energy, **Hungary**
- Rob JETTEN, Minister for Climate and Energy Policy, **Netherlands**
- Anna MOSKWA, Minister of Climate and Environment, **Poland**
- Sebastian-Ioan BURDUJA, Minister of Energy, **Romania**
- Denisa SAKOVÁ, Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, **Slovakia**
- Bojan KUMER, Minister of Environment, Climate and Energy, **Slovenia**
- Ms Ebba BUSCH, Minister for Energy, Business and Industry and Deputy Prime Minister, **Sweden**

Obtenu par **CONTEXTE**