



Ressort: Mixed News

The Return of Nuclear Power in Europe's Energy Debate

Rome, 08.03.2026 [ENA]

The debate over nuclear energy is returning to the center of European energy policy. Amid the energy crisis, the climate transition and growing concerns about the security of energy supplies, several governments are reconsidering the role of nuclear power in the future energy mix. The discussion reflects the broader challenge of balancing energy security, sustainability and economic stability.

In recent years, nuclear energy has returned to the center of political debate in Europe. The energy crisis, rising gas prices and the urgent need to reduce CO₂ emissions have led several governments to reconsider this technology. Some countries, such as France, continue to regard nuclear power as a central pillar of their energy strategy. In other European states, discussions have reopened about building new reactors or extending the operational life of existing nuclear plants.

The renewed attention to nuclear energy reflects the broader challenge faced by European policymakers: ensuring stable energy supplies while at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions and meeting ambitious climate targets set by the European Union.

According to many energy analysts, nuclear power offers an important advantage: it can generate large amounts of electricity with very low greenhouse gas emissions. For this reason, some experts consider nuclear energy a useful complement to renewable sources such as wind and solar power.

At a time when Europe must accelerate the energy transition while also ensuring stable and reliable electricity production, nuclear power is often presented as a possible element within a diversified energy mix. Supporters argue that a combination of technologies may help guarantee both climate goals and long-term energy security for European economies.

From my perspective, however, it is not possible to discuss the return of nuclear energy without also carefully considering the risks associated with this technology. Major accidents in the past have left a deep mark on public opinion and continue to influence political and social debate today.

In addition, there are crucial questions regarding plant safety, the long-term management of radioactive waste and the fact that such strategic infrastructures could potentially become targets in situations of conflict or terrorist threats. These concerns remain central whenever the future of nuclear power is

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discussed in Europe.

For this reason, I believe that Europe's future energy system cannot depend on a single technology. The energy transition will likely require a balanced combination of renewable sources, technological innovation and, in some cases, nuclear power.

Such a strategy would need to be accompanied by very high safety standards, strict international controls and transparent public debate. Only by combining environmental sustainability, technological progress and public trust will Europe be able to build a stable and secure energy system for the decades ahead.

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