

First Round Table:  
**ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN THE EU LOW CARBON  
ECONOMY AND A GLOBAL CONTEXT**  
A European Trade Union Approach

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# outline

- Energy: A major challenge for our societies
- ETUC priorities 'energy policy': Climate change, new industrial policies and crises
- Nuclear energy: a response ?

# The major challenges of today

- Fight against climate change:
  - Limit the warming of 2°C
  - Reduce the waste of energy
  - Promote a more egalitarian use of energy globally and within countries including industrialized countries
- The choice of investments a key point
  - Economic system in crisis
  - Supply and demand

# ETUC responses and proposals

- An ambitious, binding, comprehensive CPH
- Move from fossil based energy production to renewable and energy efficiency
- Just transition: the key message
- Workers and their representatives must be considered as crucial players to negotiate transition
- EU legislation must contain strong provisions regarding competitiveness
- Free allocation of quotas to energy intensive industries based on BAT and complementary to border compensation from 2013 if global competition is not corrected

## And also..

- Mitigation Strategy based on carbon capturing and storage
- Traceability carbon and international sectoral agreements
- Establish a European Agency and clear rules to avoid financial speculation
- Public investments and reorientation of financial flow

# Negotiate the transition – A must

- Social dialogue and with the civil society
- At the European level, set up the instruments to anticipate transitions
- A much stronger social dimension in European policies towards the development of low carbon industrial strategies

# Nuclear energy: a response ?

- The EU scenarios must take into account the different options that are made by the Member States
- At the last ENEF meetings:
  - Need of transparency
  - Clarification of the issues
  - What role of parliaments and the meaning of democracy ?
  - What political stability ?

# Nuclear

- More stable prices
- Poor in carbon
- Energy independence
- But not a response to all the present challenges:
  - Multiplication of plants and extending the life of existing plants
- Another way to produce energy to meet demand mastered?

# The major challenges of nuclear energy

- Waste
- Risk of accidents
- Worker safety
- Development of the sector in non-democratic countries
- Weather dependent
- Dependence of significant public funding for R & D, industrial deployment, waste, the coverage of accident risks ...

## The next steps..

- Ecosoc role to re-launch the debate and bring clarification
- Follow up of the ETUC demands to develop an instrument to ensure the anticipation transitions socio-economic policies related to climate and strengthening the dialogue between social partners and governments

# To conclude

- Need to examine the different scenarios and options
- Move forward toward transition and technological innovation
- A must: build up new social rights in echoes to the major challenges