

The EU Blueprint for Fusion Energy

23 April 2024, Strasbourg

Agenda

Moderator: *Michala Hergetová*

8:30 Arrivals at the venue & registration

9:00 Opening remarks

Kadri Simson, European Commissioner for Energy

9:15 Introductory session: The state of global fusion policy and its current challenges

What is the state of global fusion policy and what can be done to further accelerate commercial fusion deployment? This high-level introduction will assess the fusion policies in the EU and worldwide, while highlighting the role of fusion energy in relation to decarbonization objectives, security of supply, industrial competitiveness, as well as its potential for a game changer.

Introduction: *Rafael Grossi, Director General, IAEA (by video message)*

Panellists:

- *Massimo Garribba, Deputy Director-General, DG Energy, European Commission*
- *Yutaka Kamada, Deputy Director-General for Science and Technology, ITER Organization*
- *Ambrogio Fasoli, Programme Manager, EUROfusion*
- *Laurence Picketty, Deputy CEO, CEA*
- *Jennifer Ganten, Chief Global Affairs Officer, Commonwealth Fusion Systems (by video message)*
- *Randolph Bell, Head of International Government Affairs, Commonwealth Fusion Systems*
- *Ian Chapman, Chief Executive Officer, UKAEA*

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Common session: Developing the fusion ecosystem industry and workforce

Research and development efforts in fusion are accelerating globally, as demonstrated by recent breakthroughs. The need to cultivate a robust fusion industry ecosystem and a skilled workforce will be instrumental to shift fusion energy from research to industry. The panel gathers high-level representatives of the industry, fusion start-ups and institutions to discuss how can the industry stay engaged and build capacity during low demand periods, drawing lessons from nuclear fission's business case, while considering how other innovative sectors are addressing similar challenges, and what profiles and strategies are

needed to transition fusion from research to industrialization and attract a skilled workforce for the future commercialization.

Introduction: *Pietro Barabaschi, Director General, ITER Organization (by video message)*

Panellists:

- *Marc Lachaise, Director, F4E*
- *Jan Panek, Director for Nuclear Energy, Safety and ITER, DG Energy, European Commission*
- *Gianfranco Federici, ITER representative presenting the "ITER White Book"¹ and the overall approach to know-how gathering and passing on to the next generation*
- *Ana Bélen Del Cerro, SP ILO for fusion at CDTI, Deputy Chair of the fusion ILOs Network and Chair of PERIIA (Pan European ILOs network for Big Science)*
- *Roberto Adinolfi, Chairman, Ansaldo Nucleare*
- *Milena Roveda, CEO, Gauss Fusion*
- *Peter Roos, CEO, Novatron Fusion*

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Common session: Fusion regulation and international harmonization

This session will discuss the identified need to develop a regulatory framework for fusion facilities. Such a framework would need to recognise differences between fission and fusion hazard potential and allow for a graded approach proportionate to the safety challenges. A well-designed regulatory framework would provide clarity to both regulators and developers/operators and steer regulators to a common approach thus optimise time and cost of licensing process, encourage investments in fusion development, and spur innovation.

Introduction: the industry point of view on regulatory needs

- *Thomas Forner, Founder and President, Focused Energy*

Panellists:

- *Lydie Evrard, Deputy Director-General, IAEA*
- *Scott Morris, Deputy Executive Director for Operations, Nuclear Regulatory Commission*
- *Juan Carlos Lentijo, ENSREG Chair and CSN President*
- *Olivier Dubois, Commissioner, ASN*
- *Sarah Albon, Chief Executive, UK Health and Safety Executive*

15:15: Coffee break

¹ A technical manual, drawing on the full range of acquired know-how in Engineering, Fabrication, Assembly, Safety and Licensing, etc...; all of this to include the documentation of insights and lessons learned, **including recovery from retired experts** where such know-how otherwise would be lost.

15:45 Common session: Fusion financial landscape

As a nascent technology, a supportive financial framework can accelerate fusion deployment and make a faster impact on emissions. Public-private partnerships, green taxonomy, contracts for difference, research funding, and concessionary finance can all facilitate rapid deployment of fusion in the 2030s. The panel will illustrate the most effective policies, financial frameworks, and market design to best enable fusion power to support the EU in achieving its decarbonization goals by 2050.

Panellists:

- *Radomir Panek, Chair General Assembly, EUROfusion*
- *Sanjoy Rajan, Head of Division (Energy Security), European Investment Bank*
- *Peter Schroth, Head of Division, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research*
- *Francesca Ferrazza, Head, Magnetic Fusion Initiatives, Eni S.P.A.*
- *Lucio Milanese, Co-founder & COO, Proxima Fusion*
- *Matthew Smith, Senior Consultant, Trinomics, presenting the study ["Analysis on a strategic public-private partnership approach to foster innovation in fusion energy"](#)*

17:00 Concluding remarks

Maroš Šefčovič, Executive Vice-President, European Commission

17:15 Drink and networking