



## **Research Tour: Climate change, war in Ukraine and the quest for energy security: What is the role of nuclear energy in Europe?**

A research tour for journalists

from 9 to 12 October 2022

Stuttgart – Nancy – Bure – Mulhouse – Leibstadt

## Overview

The nuclear phase-out in Germany seemed to set to end decades of heated political debates, and satisfied a large majority in society, as well as among politicians and in the industry. Elsewhere, in Europe and other parts of the world, nuclear energy continues to play a major role; Germany's phase-out is thus frequently considered as a mistake, also among climate activists. Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine, and the ensuing energy crunch, has caused the long-standing debate on nuclear to resurface within the country.

But what role can nuclear play in Europe's push towards climate neutrality? Currently, only 13 of the 27 EU Members operate nuclear power plants, and only two are building new ones. The Clean Energy Wire Research Tour for journalists offers insights into the plans, controversies and issues faced in three European countries which, in some ways, have vastly different approaches to nuclear power: The EU powerhouses Germany and France, and their fiercely independent neighbour Switzerland.

## Programme

### Sunday, 9 October

till 15.00      Arrival of the participants in Stuttgart, overnight stay at Maritim Hotel Stuttgart, Seidenstraße 34, 70174 Stuttgart

15.30          welcome coffee

16.00          **The nuclear phase out in Germany - Milestones and backdrops**  
An introduction into the topic by



- **Rainer Baake**,  
Managing Director Stiftung Klimaneutralität

17.45          **Key Insights from the World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2022**  
Focus Europe and France  
(online)



- **Mycle Schneider**  
Project Coordinator and Publisher, World Nuclear Industry Status Report (WNISR)

19.00          Dinner

Location: Maritim Hotel Stuttgart, Seidenstraße 34, 70174 Stuttgart

## Monday, 10 October

9.00 check out

9.30 **Nuclear phase-out in Germany - how to cope with the current energy crisis**



- *Dr. Andre **Baumann**,*  
State secretary

Background talk at the Ministry for the Environment, Climate Protection and Energy Sector of the State of Baden-Württemberg.

11.00 **Electricity market design and the evolution of the generation mix**



- ***Alexander Dusolt***  
Senior Associate European Energy Policy at Agora Energiewende  
(online)

Location: Maritim Hotel Stuttgart, Seidenstraße 34, 70174 Stuttgart

12.00 Transfer by bus to Nancy/France

14.30 Lunch in Rastatt (half way) at Hausbrauerei Hopfenschlingel  
<https://www.hopfenschlingel.com/>

18.30 arrival in Nancy

19.00 **Towards a nuclear Renaissance in France? What role can French nuclear play in the current and future energy context?**



- ***Phuc-Vinh Nguyen**,*  
Research Fellow on French and European Energy policy  
Jacques Delors Energy Center

Location: Ibis Nancy Centre Sainte-Catherine, 42, avenue du XXe Corps  
54000 Nancy – France

20.00 Dinner, option to continue talks with Phuc-Vinh Nguyen and Lara Martelli,  
head of media relation at Jacques Delors Institute

Location: Restaurant La Tana di Pasta, 40 avenue du XXe corps, 54000 Nancy

## Tuesday, 11 October

8.30            **The status of nuclear energy in France, stuck between wants and reality**



- *Yves Marignac*,  
Association négaWatt

Location: Ibis Nancy Centre Sainte-Catherine, 42, avenue du XXe Corps  
54000 Nancy – France

10.00            Leaving Nancy by Bus to Bure

11.00            Meeting on-site with Joël Domenjoud, member and activists of the antinuclear  
association and network **Sortir du Nucléaire** (including light lunch)



13.30            Arrival at the compound of the **underground laboratory in Bure**  
checking identities, introduction/safety learning, getting safety clothes & shoes, etc.



15.00            Underground visit until 17.30 pm

18.00            Dinner at l'Auberge du Canal à Houdelaincourt  
<https://www.aubergeducanal.com/restaurant>

19.30            Transfer by bus to Mulhouse

24.00            Arrival in Mulhouse

Location: Hotel Roi Soleil Mulhouse Sausheim  
Z.a. Ile Napoleon - CD 201  
68390 Sausheim

## Wednesday, 12 October

8.30            Travel from Mulhouse (France) to Leibstadt (Switzerland)

8.30            **Nuclear phase-out light. On the Controversial Present and Uncertain Future of a  
Typical Swiss Compromise**



- *Fabian Lüscher*,  
Head of Nuclear Energy Section at Swiss Energy Foundation SES  
(in the bus)

10.30            Visit of the **Nuclear Power plant in Leibstadt**

Welcome and introduction in the visitors' center

11.00 Speeches by and Talks with the management:

**Nuclear power in Switzerland**



- Dr Willibald **Kohlpaintner**, Head Division Nuclear, Axpo Power AG; Chairman of the Executive Board, Kernkraftwerk Leibstadt AG

**Switzerland's Energy Strategy: current and long-term challenges**

- Simon **Weiber**, Senior Strategy Manager, Axpo Corporate Strategy & Energy

12.30 lunch in the staff canteen

13.30 Guided tour on the compound including photo-ops

14.30 Transfer by bus to Stuttgart (Germany) Central Station

17.30 End of the programme  
(as we are travelling by bus, it is likely that we manage to be in Stuttgart at 17.30, but we cannot guarantee it.)

## From A to G:

### Background info on the programme



- The **Stiftung Klimaneutralität** (Climate Neutrality Foundation) was established to develop cross-sectoral strategies for a climate-friendly Germany in close cooperation with other think tanks. Based on good research, the foundation aims to inform, advise and initiate debates.
- In July 2020, the Climate Neutrality Foundation began its work in Berlin. Climate and energy expert **Rainer Baake**, who was State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment from 1998 to 2005 and State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy from 2014 to 2018, was appointed director.

➞ <https://www.stiftung-klima.de/en/>

## B

- The annual **World Nuclear Industry Status Report (WNISR)** provides a comprehensive overview of nuclear power plant data, including information on operation, production, construction, and decommissioning. The WNISR assesses the status of new-build programs in existing as well as in potential newcomer nuclear countries. The report also compares the development of nuclear power and renewable energy globally.
- **Mycle Schneider** is the initiator and Convening Lead Author of the World Nuclear Industry Status Reports. works as independent international analyst and consultant on energy and nuclear policy, based in Paris.

➡ <https://www.worldnuclearreport.org/>

## C

- **Baden-Württemberg** is the third largest Federal German state (Bundesland) with more than 11 million inhabitants. It is known for its strong economy with various industries like car manufacturing, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and the service sector.
- The **Ministry of the Environment, Climate Protection and Energy Sector** is headed by Minister Thekla Walker since 2021. The Ministry's seven departments are responsible for sustainability strategy, climate protection, resource efficiency, circular economy and environmental technology, international cooperation, energy transition and the phase-out of nuclear power, soil protection, water conservation and flood protection, nature conservation and maintaining biodiversity.
- **Dr. Andre Baumann** is member of the German party Bündnis 90/Die Grünen (Green party). He is the State Secretary in the Ministry for the Environment, Climate Protection and Energy Sector since May 2021, and previously held that position from May 2016 to January 2020.

➡ <https://um.baden-wuerttemberg.de/en/home/>

## D

- **Agora Energiewende** is a think tank that develops evidence-based and politically viable strategies to advance the goal of climate neutrality in Germany, Europe, and the rest of the world. Agora Energiewende develops robust policy proposals for decarbonising the economy, relying on the targets set by the German government and the European Union and on research carried out by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- **Alexander Dusolt** is Senior Associate on European energy policy, market design and integration of renewable energy sources. From 2014 to April 2021, Alexander worked for the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E).

➡ <https://www.agora-energiewende.de/en/>

## E

- **Jacques Delors Institute** is a European think tank founded by Jacques Delors in 1996 (under the name Notre Europe), at the end of his presidency of the European Commission.
- **Phuc-Vinh Nguyen** is a Research fellow at the Jacques Delors Energy Center and works on both French and EU energy policy. His works mainly focuses on France's role regarding the European Green Deal as he studies its aftermath on French public policies.

➡ <https://institutdelors.eu/en/>

F

- The **négaWatt** association is a non-governmental French think tank involving around twenty experts in energy issues with strong field experience and complementary skills. Established in 2001, it is supported by more than 1,200 individual members.
- Its main purpose is to recommend solutions on energy demand and supply to implement an energy transition in France, reducing as much as possible all the detrimental risks and impacts of the national energy system.
- Yves **Marignac** is an expert on nuclear issues and energy transition, research and consultant fellow and spokesperson of Association negaWatt

➡ <https://negawatt.org/en>

G

- The **Network Sortir du nucléaire** is currently the main French antinuclear coalition, with a membership of almost 930 organizations and 60.000 individual subscribers. It is completely independent, entirely funded by donations and the subscriptions from its members.

➡ <https://www.sortirdunucleaire.org/>

H

- The **Meuse/Haute Marne Underground Research Laboratory** is a laboratory located 490 metres underground in Bure in the Meuse département. It allows study of the geological formation in order to evaluate its capacity for deep geological repository of high-level and long-lived medium-level radioactive waste. It is managed by the National Agency for the Management of Radioactive Waste (ANDRA).
- **Andra**, the French National Radioactive Waste Management Agency, is a public agency tasked with developing and implementing safe solutions for the management of all types of radioactive waste in France. Andra is independent of radioactive waste producers and is supervised by the French Ministries for Energy, the Environment and Research.
- [https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2019-03/CMHM\\_2015\\_Version2017\\_EN\\_relu\\_planche\\_1.pdf](https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2019-03/CMHM_2015_Version2017_EN_relu_planche_1.pdf)

➡ [https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2019-03/CMHM\\_2015\\_Version2017\\_EN\\_relu\\_planche\\_1.pdf](https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2019-03/CMHM_2015_Version2017_EN_relu_planche_1.pdf)

➡ <https://meusehautemarne.andra.fr/landra-en-meusehaute-marne>

I

- Swiss Energy Foundation SES was established as a foundation in 1976 and has ever since been committed to an intelligent energy policy that respects the environment and people.
- SES is committed to the efficient use of energy and the promotion and use of renewable energy sources. It outlines paths for Switzerland to break free from the dependence on a fossil-nuclear energy supply.
- SES is financed almost exclusively by private donations. SES is subject to federal foundation supervision and is recognized by the federal government and the cantons as a non-profit organization.

➡ <https://energiestiftung.ch>



- **Kernkraftwerk Leibstadt (KKL)**, Leibstadt Nuclear Power Plant, with a capacity of 1285 MW, it is Switzerland's youngest and most powerful nuclear power plant since 1984. It reliably produces approximately one seventh of Switzerland's electricity needs with about 500 employees. Its mission is to produce electricity safely, reliably and economically at least until 2045.
  - KKL is owned by **Axpo** (via three subsidiary companies and with a majority of 52.7%), Alpiq, BKW and AEW.
- ➔ <https://www.kkl.ch/>
- ➔ <https://www.axpo.com/ch/en/about-us.html/>

## Organisational details

### What languages will be spoken?

Presentations during the workshop will be in English.

### What about travel arrangements?

Local transport *during the workshop* will be organised by the Clean Energy Wire. Participants are kindly asked to organise their own travel to Stuttgart Central Station and back.

The official programme will start on Sunday, 9 October, at 16.00. The official programme will end on Wednesday around 17.30/5.30 p.m. at Stuttgart Central Station. Clean Energy Wire will reimburse the costs of an overnight stay (economy class) from Wednesday to Thursday if your travel options force you to stay overnight.

### Is there a possibility for individual research?

If you are interested in extending the study tour for individual research, please contact the Clean Energy Wire. We will support you in finding the most relevant experts, stakeholders, and locations for your questions.

### What about quotes and interviews?

We work on the basis that statements made by participants can be quoted by the journalists present in their media reports. As a rule, conversations are "on the record".

If speakers do not want to be quoted, we ask them to inform the participating journalists where this is the case. Remarks may then be made "off the record" and will not be quoted.

In Germany, it is common practice for journalists to seek authorisation for quotes before using them. Speakers are asked to advise participating journalists if they would like to check quotes before publication.



### **What about photos, videos and audio recordings?**

We respect journalists' fundamental right not to disclose the sources of their research. Some of the participants also come from countries where press freedom is under threat and where journalists are prosecuted. As a safeguard to participants' rights and their well-being, we kindly ask you not to take any photos or to make any film or audio recordings on which participants can be individually identified.

If you would like to take photos or make audio or video recordings of our visit, please approach a staff member for Clean Energy Wire so that we can agree on safe and workable solutions. As Clean Energy Wire staff, we are happy to appear in any documentation of our visit.

For all photos of speakers or photos taken at locations and during on-site visits, please respect the specific requirements made.

**For all other questions on organisational issues please check the [FAQ section here](#) or get in touch with us at:**

event@cleanenergywire.org

[www.cleanenergywire.org](http://www.cleanenergywire.org)

■ [#CLEWontour](#)

## About the organisers

### **Clean Energy Wire**

Germany's transformation of its energy system from fossil fuels and nuclear power to one based on renewables and efficiency is one of the country's defining stories. The move to a climate-friendly economy has far-reaching implications: The Energiewende changes not only markets and business models but reaches deep into society and well beyond Germany's borders. This creates many fascinating stories and requires strong journalism to keep track of the progress and inform the debates.

*What we do:* Clean Energy Wire CLEW produces and facilitates top-quality journalism about the energy transition in Germany and beyond. Our [CLEW Journalism Network](#) fosters cross-border cooperation among reporters covering the move towards a climate-friendly society.

*Why we do it:* A global energy transition is the key to getting the climate crisis under control. As a real-world laboratory, renewable energy pioneer Germany showcases what the shift to a climate-friendly future means for citizens, businesses and society as a whole. Good journalism is central to drawing the right conclusions from the experience of Europe's biggest economy, and to inform the public debate across the globe.

*Who pays for it:* As a non-profit organisation, Clean Energy Wire CLEW can offer its services free of charge thanks to its funders, [Stiftung Mercator](#) and the [European Climate Foundation](#).

[www.cleanenergywire.org](http://www.cleanenergywire.org)