



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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(OR. en)  
PRESSE 556

## **Council establishes the instrument for nuclear safety cooperation**

The Council today adopted<sup>1</sup> a regulation establishing an instrument for nuclear safety cooperation ([16737/13](#)).

Under the new instrument, the Union will finance measures to support the promotion of a high level of nuclear safety, radiation protection, and the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in third countries. A total of EUR 225 321 000 has been set aside for the implementation of this regulation for the period 2014-2020.

The Chernobyl accident in 1986 highlighted the global importance of nuclear safety, while the Fukushima Daiichi accident in 2011 confirmed the need to improve nuclear safety and attain the highest standards. The EU should be able to support nuclear safety in third countries in order to create safety conditions which would eliminate hazards to the life and health of the general public.

[Directive 2009/71/Euratom](#), [Directive 2011/70/Euratom](#), [Directive](#) laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionising radiation and the high standards of nuclear safety and of radioactive waste and spent fuel management currently in force in the European Union are among the examples to be used in order to encourage third countries to adopt similarly high standards.

The new regulation replaces [Regulation \(Euratom\) 300/2007](#), which expires on 31 December 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> At a meeting of the Environment Council, without discussion.

# **P R E S S**