

# Information Circular

**INFCIRC/1019**

Date: 12 August 2022

**General Distribution**

Original: English

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## Communication dated 12 August 2022 received from the Delegation of the European Union to the International Organizations in Vienna

1. The Secretariat has received a Note Verbale dated 12 August 2022 from the Delegation of the European Union to the International Organizations in Vienna attaching a Joint Statement on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom, United States of America, as well as the European Union.
2. As requested, the Note Verbale is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.



**European Union**  
**Delegation to the International Organisations in Vienna**

NV(2022)081

*NOTE VERBALE*

*The Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and would like to request the Secretariat of the IAEA to circulate the attached Joint Statement as IAEA Information Circular.*

*The Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) the assurances of its highest consideration. NK*

*Vienna, 12 August 2022*



*To: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) / Secretariat of the Policy-making Organs  
Vienna International Centre,  
PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria  
Email: [Official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.mail@iaea.org)*

## **Joint Statement dated 12 August 2022 on the situation at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant**

This statement is issued on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, as well as the European Union.

The Russian Federation's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine, a sovereign country, is a gross violation of international law, including the UN Charter.

We strongly endorse the importance of the fundamental Seven Pillars of Nuclear Safety and Security as outlined by IAEA Director General Grossi. Russia's control of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant - Europe's largest nuclear power plant - poses a great danger to these principles. Deployment of Russian military personnel and weaponry at the nuclear facility is unacceptable and disregards the safety, security, and safeguards principles that all members of the IAEA have committed to respect.

The presence of Russian military forces at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant prevents the operator and the Ukrainian authorities from fulfilling their nuclear and radiation safety obligations in accordance with international conventions and IAEA safety standards, and prevents the IAEA from fulfilling its safeguards mandate.

We urge the Russian Federation to immediately withdraw its military forces and all other unauthorised personnel from the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, its immediate surroundings, and all of Ukraine so that the operator and the Ukrainian authorities can resume their sovereign responsibilities within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders and the legitimate operating staff can conduct their duties without outside interference, threat, or unacceptably harsh working conditions. This will also enable the IAEA to carry out its verification pursuant to Ukraine's safeguards obligations under safe and secure conditions and in a timely manner.

We fully support the work of the IAEA and its Director General to assist Ukraine in the areas of nuclear safety, security, and safeguards implementation during Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, while respecting full Ukrainian sovereignty over its territory and infrastructure.

As it was already expressed in the Board of Governors Resolution GOV/2022/17, it is undeniable that Russia's invasion and its continued presence at Ukraine's nuclear facilities significantly raise the risk of nuclear incidents and accidents.

We strongly condemn Russia's use of disinformation to try to justify its illegal actions in Ukraine.

The international community will hold Russia accountable for its aggression, and Russia must bear full responsibility for its unlawful actions in Ukraine.