



Draft Agenda

In person workshop European Foresight Workshop on Nuclear Workforce and Skills

12 – 13 November 2025
Brussels

Foresight workshop

JRC as catalyst for cultivating nuclear skills and competences in Europe

This two-day workshop focuses on fostering collaboration and foresight in the regional nuclear ecosystem, engaging regional/urban authorities and stakeholder. A foresight exercise explores imaginative future scenarios (10–20 years) to identify change drivers and encourage creative thinking. The Open Space format prioritizes actionable proposals for follow-up. Objectives include building Communities of Interest, facilitating knowledge exchange, networking, and shaping debates on critical issues. The Joint Research Centre (JRC) acts as a catalyst, bringing together different stakeholders to address challenges and share innovative solutions.

Wednesday, 12 November 2025

08:30 – 09:00 **Arrival with coffee**

09:00 – 09:20 **Welcome and opening session**

Ulla Engelmann, Director of Nuclear Safety and Security, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Danish presidency, tbc

09:20 – 09:30 **JRC Nuclear Safety and Security Directorate**

Ulla Engelmann, Director of Nuclear Safety and Security, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

09:30 – 10:00 **Impulse talks**

09:30 – 09:45 German experience

Andreas Volz (Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space, BMFTR, Germany)

09:45 – 10:00 French experience

Anna Jancovici (President, Université des métiers du nucléaire, UMN, France)

10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee Break (with Poster session)**

10:30 – 11:30 **Initiatives at the European Commission and elsewhere**

10:30 – 11:00 **Joanna Drake** (Deputy Director-General, Acting Director of Clean Planet, DG Research & Innovation) tbc

Jan Panek (Director Nuclear Energy, Safety & ITER, DG Energy) tbc

Jobs and Skills

Steven Engels (Head of Unit, DG Employment, European Commission)

11:00 – 11:15 EURATOM Indirect Action “Skills for Nuclear”,

Teodora Retegan Vollmer (Head of Nuclear Chemistry and Industrial Materials Recycling Group at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden), tbc

11:15 – 11:30 Group of European Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities (GMF),
Meritxell Martell (Merience Founder and Director, Spain) tbc

11:30 – 12:45 **Discussion with participants: constraints and needs in fostering nuclear skills for Europe – Open space Part 1**

Open space is a simple method for productively connecting many people on a specific, complex, and open-ended issue in a short period of time. Sounds like a coffee break? It somehow is!

The process thrives on the commitment and organizational skills of the participants but is nevertheless structured and results oriented.

- Introduction into the Open Space process and rules (JRC)
- Participants choose their own topics and serve as hosts. Everyone interested in the topic gathers at the respective documentation flipchart/pinboard and contributes with own experience, knowledge, commitment.

12:45 – 13:45 **Sandwich Lunch with coffee**

13:45 – 14:00 **Impulse talks**

13:45 – 14:00 Italian experience

Marco Ricotti (Politecnico di Milano, Department of Energy, Italy)

14:00 – 14:15 Belgian experience

Michèle Coeck (Director at the Belgian Nuclear Research Centre, Academy for Nuclear Science and Technology, Belgium)

14:15 – 17:00 **Foresight exercise Part 1 (including coffee break at 15:30 h)**

- Introduction into the process (JRC)
- Collective discussion on trends that will shape the future of nuclear technology in the EU
- Break-out for scenario exercise
Explore and test different options against possible alternative futures. Foresight scenarios will help to uncover various pros and cons of different options and how to act and adapt in different possible future contexts. The topic planned for this exercise is regional specialization in nuclear considering two dimensions: industry and research & education.

17:00 – 17:15 **Wrap-up and outlook**

17:30 – 18:30 **Cocktail**

Thursday, 13 November 2025

09:00 – 09:20 **Opening session with Impulse talk**

09:05 – 09:15 Experience from Romania,

Andrei Budu (Professor at Polytechnic University Bucharest, Romania) tbc

09:15 – 09:25 Experience from Hungary,

Attila Aszódi (Professor at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary) tbc

09:30 – 12:00 **Foresight exercise Part 2 (including coffee break at 10:30 h)**

- Introduction into the next steps (JRC)
- Recap on results of the breakout-groups (group representatives)
- Identification of strengths and weaknesses and most interesting opportunities and most harmful threats (groups)
- Scenario comparisons (plenary)
- Presentation of results

12:00 – 13:00 **Sandwich Lunch with coffee**

13:00 – 15:00 **Open space Part 2 - Triggering action**

- Introduction into the next steps (JRC)
- Recap on developed topics (Host)
- Develop action plans (Groups)

15:00 – 15:30 **Presentation of Actions**

- Present actions and commitment (Hosts and groups)

15:30 – 16:00 **Wrap-up and conclusions**

Friday, 14 November 2025 **Additional scientific visit** (limited number of participants)

07:30 – 15:30 **Visit to JRC Geel site** (including bus transfer from Brussels and back)

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