

Urgent Appeal

to the

Council of Europe

European Parliament

EESC- European Economic and Social Committee

OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

**and all institutions and citizens in Europe who care for democracy and
compliance with international obligations**

Stop the European Commission from supporting Ukraine in violating international law – ESPOO Convention

We, the undersigned organizations from all over Europe urge you to exert your influence in international politics. The United Nations ESPOO Implementation Committee on the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) clearly ruled non-compliance with the ESPOO convention by Ukraine in the case of the life-time extension of nuclear units, informing the Government of Ukraine on 25th March 2013¹.

In spite of this, the European Commission did not stop preparations to grant EUR 300 million loan (through its EURATOM loan facility) for Ukraine NPP Safety Upgrade Project which endorses these life-time extensions and enables more extensions at other nuclear power plants in Ukraine. Thereby the European Commission is giving support to the Ukrainian authorities despite acknowledged violation of rights of European citizens to be informed and consulted about the life-time extension of the nuclear programme in Ukraine. Non-governmental organization has been pointing out directly to the European Commission such inconsistencies and potentially arising risks.² The European Commission is also counteracting its own efforts laid down in the EU - Ukraine Association Agreement aimed at enforcing democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, a market economy and sustainable development, which is scheduled for signing in Vilnius in six months' time.

We urge you to call on the European Commission to use its financial and political leverage to ensure restoration of the rights of European citizens. We believe that the European Commission should freeze further loan approval and disbursement proceedings until Ukraine resolves the current non-compliance issues to the satisfaction of the Espoo Implementation Committee.

¹ <http://www.ecoclubrivne.org/files/Espoo13.pdf>

² <http://bankwatch.org/sites/default/files/letter-EC-EuratomUANukes-20Jun2013.pdf>

For more information go to: <http://bankwatch.org/news-media/for-journalists/press-releases/ukraines-nukes-are-breach-un-convention>

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2. FoEE - Friends of the Earth Europe

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3. National Ecological Centre of Ukraine (NECU)

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4. GREENPEACE CEE

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5. GREENPEACE EU Unit

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6. Salzburg Platform Against Nuclear Dangers (PLAGE)

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7. WISE International, World Information Service on Energy

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8. atomstopp_atomkraftfrei leben!

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9. Focus, Association for sustainable development

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10. NGO Ecoclub

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11. Urgewald

Regine Richter,

Germany

12. Balkan Anti-nuclear coalition

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13. Centre for Environmental Information and Education (CEIE)
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14. For the Earth/Za Zemiata,
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15. Centre for Transport and Energy
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16. Hnutí Duha- Friends of the Earth Czech Republic
Pavel Pribyl
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17. Estonian Green Movement- Friends of the Earth Estonia
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18. Latvian Green Movement
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19. Amigos de la Tierra España – Friends of the Earth Spain
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20. Asociatia Bankwatch
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21. National Society of Conservationist- Friends of the Earth Hungary
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22. Polish Green Network
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23. Center for Environmental Public Advocacy - Friends of the Earth Slovakia
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24. Prietenii Pamantului
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25. Bulgarian Anti-nuclear coalition
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26. Foundation for Environment and Agriculture
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27. Zelenite political party,
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28. Calla - Sdružení pro záchranu prostředí
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29. Milieudefensie
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30. Eko-svest
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31. Green Alternative,
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32. Laka Foundation
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33. Both Ends
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34. Friends of the Earth Australia
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35. Zelena akcija - Friends of the Earth Croatia
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36. Swedish Antinuclear Movement (FMKK)
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37. Friends of the Earth Ukraine
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38. Asociatia Re.Generation
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Brussels/Kiev, July 1, 2013

