Basic information

2018/2222(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy **Subject** 3.50.20 Scientific and technological cooperation and agreements 3.60.15 Cooperation and agreements for energy 8.40.08 Agencies and bodies of the EU	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	MARINESCU Marian-Jean (PPE)	10/09/2018
	Shadow rapporteur ZANONATO Flavio (S&D) MATTHEWS Rupert (ECR) RIQUET Dominique (ALDE) KOHLÍČEK Jaromír (GUE/NGL) RIVASI Michèle (Verts/ALE) TAMBURRANO Dario (EFDD)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Energy	ARIAS CAÑETE Miguel

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/09/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/11/2018	Vote in committee		
26/11/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0393/2018	Summary
14/01/2019	Debate in Parliament		
15/01/2019	Decision by Parliament	T8-0011/2019	Summary

15/01/2019	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/01/2019	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2018/2222(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/8/14535

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE627.719	14/09/2018	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE628.638	11/10/2018	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0393/2018	26/11/2018	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0011/2019	15/01/2019	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2019)355	28/05/2019	

European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy

2018/2222(INI) - 15/01/2019 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 526 votes to 126, with 43 abstentions, a resolution on the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy.

Members recalled that fusion could play a key role in the future European and global energy landscape as a potentially inexhaustible, safe, climate-friendly, environmentally responsible and economically competitive source of energy. Europe has from the start played a leading role in the ITER project, developed in close collaboration with the non-European signatories to the ITER Agreement (the US, Russia, Japan, China, South Korea and India), and whereas the European contribution, channelled through the Joint Undertaking, represents 45 % of the construction costs of the project.

Multiannual financial framework 2021-2027

Parliament welcomed the Commission proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 2007/198/Euratom establishing the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy and conferring advantages upon it, which will provide the basis for the financing of the activities of the Joint Undertaking for the period 2021-2027.

Members regretted, however, the fact that the Council has not consulted Parliament on that proposal and welcomed the Commission's stated intention to consider 'options for enhanced qualified majority voting and for a possible reform of the Euratom Treaty'. It expects that such a reform would necessarily lead to **co-legislative powers** for Parliament.

It recalled the delay in the construction of the experimental reactor which will now not commence until 2025 and stressed that:

- the Euratom contribution to the Joint Undertaking for the period 2021-2027 should not be exceeded;

- in order to avoid successive upward revisions of the projected cost of the project, to avoid delays in the expected dates of operational milestones and to ensure the highest possible degree of schedule reliability, the ITER Organisation should include reasonable contingency provisions in any revised schedule.

Members supported, in this regard, the contingency provisions of up to 24 months in terms of schedule and 10-20 % in terms of budget proposed by the Commission.

Council recommendations

The Council is called on to approve the Commission proposal while introducing the following modifications:

- indicate the Euratom contribution to the Joint Undertaking in both constant and current prices,

- use, for clarity purposes, the word 'Euratom' instead of 'Community' throughout the text,

- include clear provisions regarding the committees assisting the Governing Board of the Joint Undertaking, in particular the Administration and Management Committee, the Procurement and Contracts Committee, and the Technical Advisory Panel, as regards their composition, permanent or temporary status, number of meetings and method of remuneration of their members,

- evaluate and eliminate overlapping responsibilities between the Administration and Management Committee and the Technical Advisory Panel with regard to project plans and work programmes,

- introduce provisions regarding the contributions of the ITER host state,

- include in Annex III a requirement to lay down, in the Financial Regulation of the Joint Undertaking, rules and procedures for the evaluation of in-kind contributions,

- include provisions in Article 5 and Annex III enabling the Joint Undertaking to receive funding in the form of financial instruments in connection with blending operations implemented in accordance with the future InvestEU Programme,

- clarify the role and contribution of the United Kingdom in the light of its Euratom status, particularly with regard to potential participation in ITER,

- include provisions regarding synergies and cooperation between ITER and the Euratom Research and Training Programme for the period 2021-2025,

- consider cooperation with small and medium-sized private disruptive players, such as start-ups experimenting with new approaches and technologies, in the research programme and the network of organisations designated in the field of scientific and technological fusion research,

- clarify the provisions concerning the annual reports and assessments drawn up by the Joint Undertaking,

- include in the proposal a recommendation to investigate the possible further use of the materials currently being used in the ITER project.

European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy

2018/2222(INI) - 26/11/2018 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the report by Marian-Jean MARINESCU (EPP, RO) on the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy.

The Committee welcomed the Commission's proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 2007/198/Euratom establishing the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy which will provide the basis for the financing of the activities of the Joint Undertaking for the period 2021-2027 under the Euratom Treaty.

It however regretted the fact that the Council has not consulted Parliament on that proposal and welcomed the Commission's stated intention to consider 'options for enhanced qualified majority voting and for a possible reform of the Euratom Treaty'. It expects that such a reform would necessarily lead to co-legislative powers for Parliament.

It recalled the delay in the construction of the experimental reactor which will now not commence until 2025 and stressed that:

- the Euratom contribution to the Joint Undertaking for the period 2021-2027 should not be exceeded;

- in order to avoid successive upward revisions of the projected cost of the project, to avoid delays in the expected dates of operational milestones and to ensure the highest possible degree of schedule reliability, the ITER Organisation should include reasonable contingency provisions in any revised schedule.

The Committee supported, in this regard, the contingency provisions of up to 24 months in terms of schedule and 10-20 % in terms of budget proposed by the Commission.

Members called on the Council to approve the Commission proposal while introducing the following modifications:

- indicate the Euratom contribution to the Joint Undertaking in both constant and current prices,
- use, for clarity purposes, the word ‘Euratom’ instead of ‘Community’ throughout the text,
- include clear provisions regarding the committees assisting the Governing Board of the Joint Undertaking, in particular the Administration and Management Committee, the Procurement and Contracts Committee, and the Technical Advisory Panel, as regards their composition, permanent or temporary status, number of meetings and method of remuneration of their members,
- evaluate and eliminate overlapping responsibilities between the Administration and Management Committee and the Technical Advisory Panel with regard to project plans and work programmes,
- introduce provisions regarding the contributions of the ITER host state,
- include in Annex III a requirement to lay down, in the Financial Regulation of the Joint Undertaking, rules and procedures for the evaluation of in-kind contributions,
- include provisions in Article 5 and Annex III enabling the Joint Undertaking to receive funding in the form of financial instruments in connection with blending operations implemented in accordance with the future InvestEU Programme,
- clarify the role and contribution of the United Kingdom in the light of its Euratom status, particularly with regard to potential participation in ITER,
- include provisions regarding synergies and cooperation between ITER and the Euratom Research and Training Programme for the period 2021-2025,
- consider cooperation with small and medium-sized private disruptive players, such as start-ups experimenting with new approaches and technologies, in the research programme and the network of organisations designated in the field of scientific and technological fusion research,
- clarify the provisions concerning the annual reports and assessments drawn up by the Joint Undertaking,
- include in the proposal a recommendation to investigate the possible further use of the materials currently being used in the ITER project.