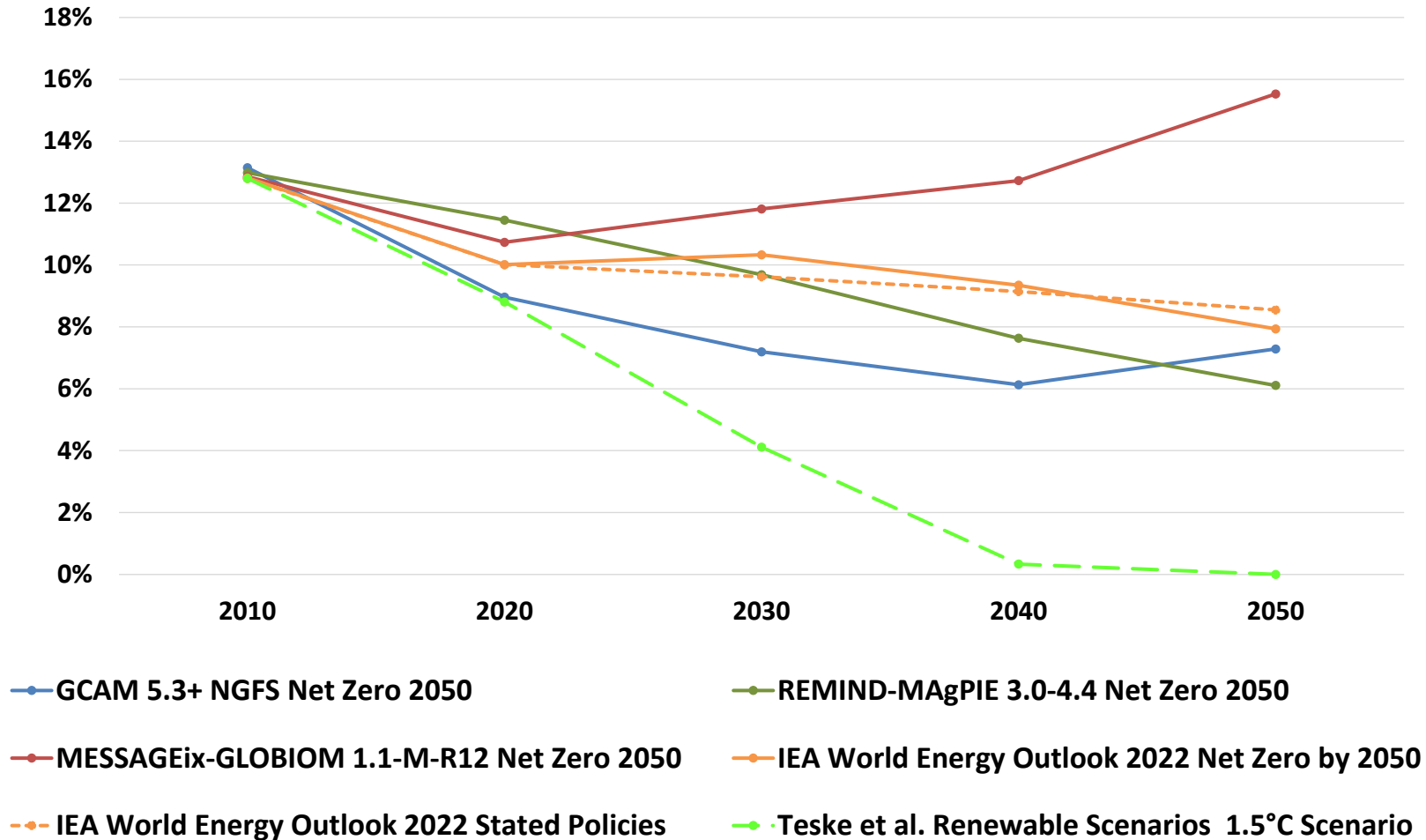


# Scientific view on the role of nuclear energy in the energy transition

Anke Herold | Europe Calling | 20.04.2023

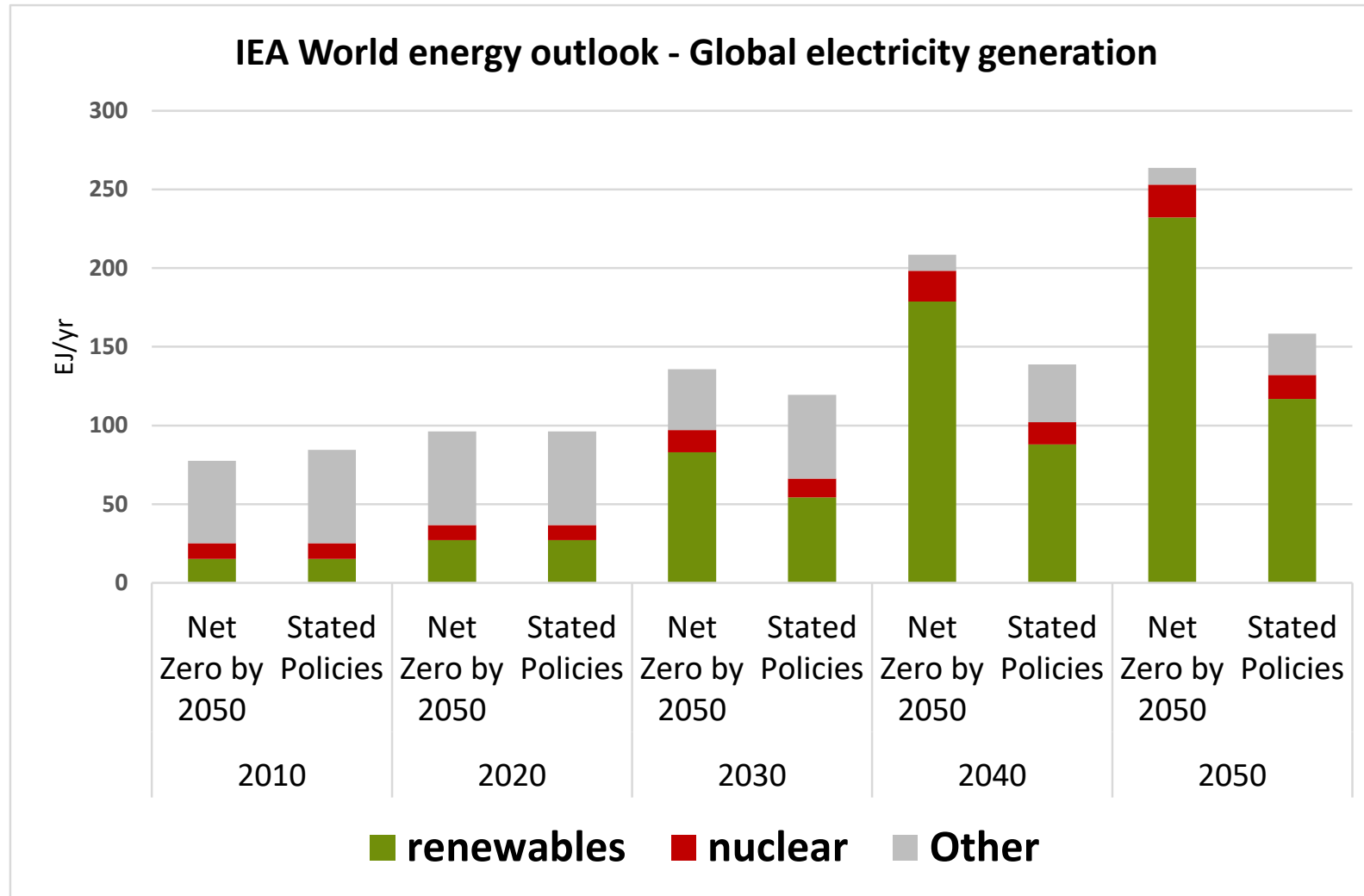
# Share of nuclear electricity generation in total electricity production in global net-zero energy scenarios

Share of nuclear electricity in global energy scenarios



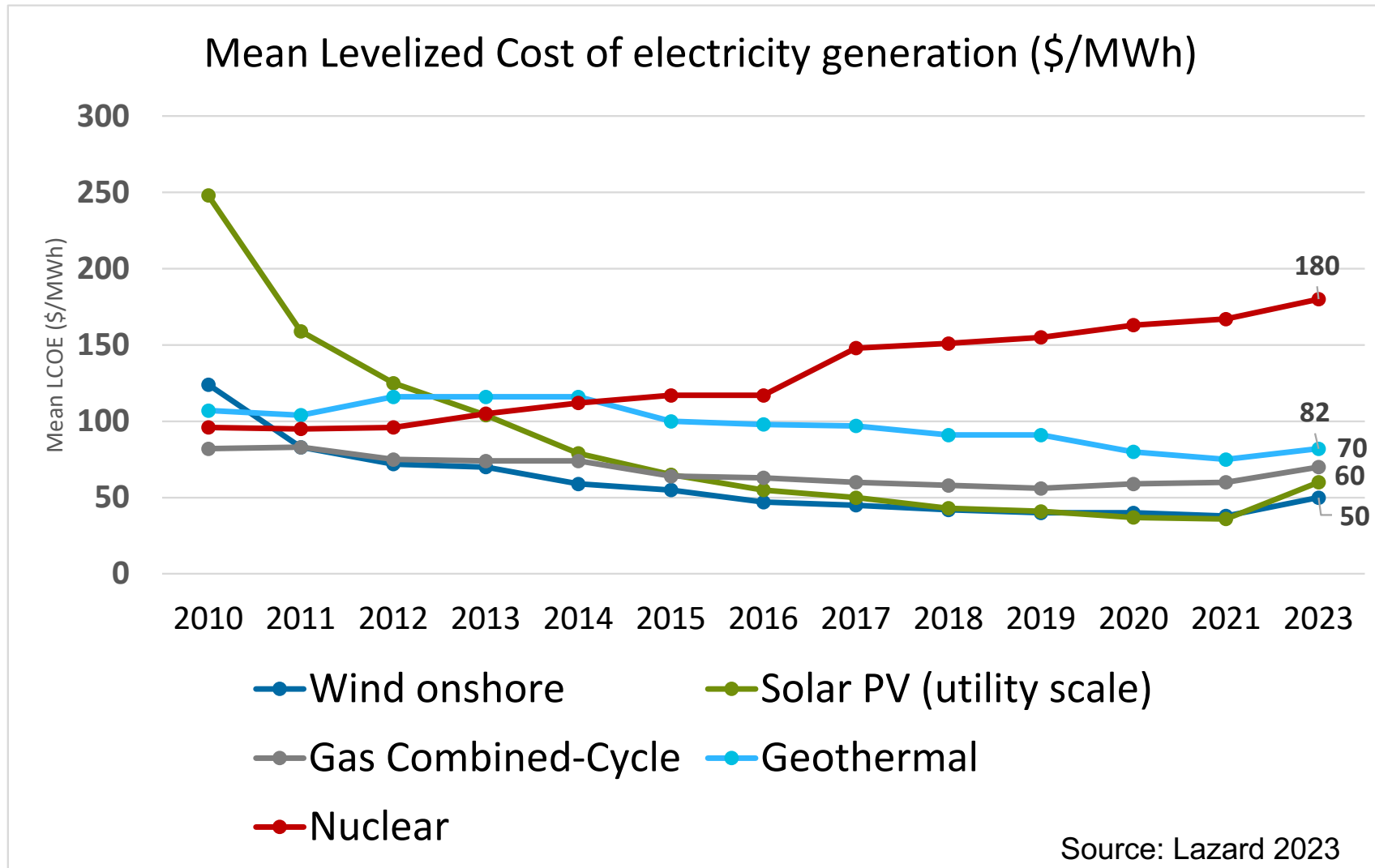
- Share of nuclear electricity in total electricity declining in most scenarios
- Existing nuclear policies & programmes of governments do not match ambition of additional nuclear construction in net-zero scenarios like IEA Net Zero by 2050

# Role of renewables and nuclear in IEA World Energy Outlook scenarios



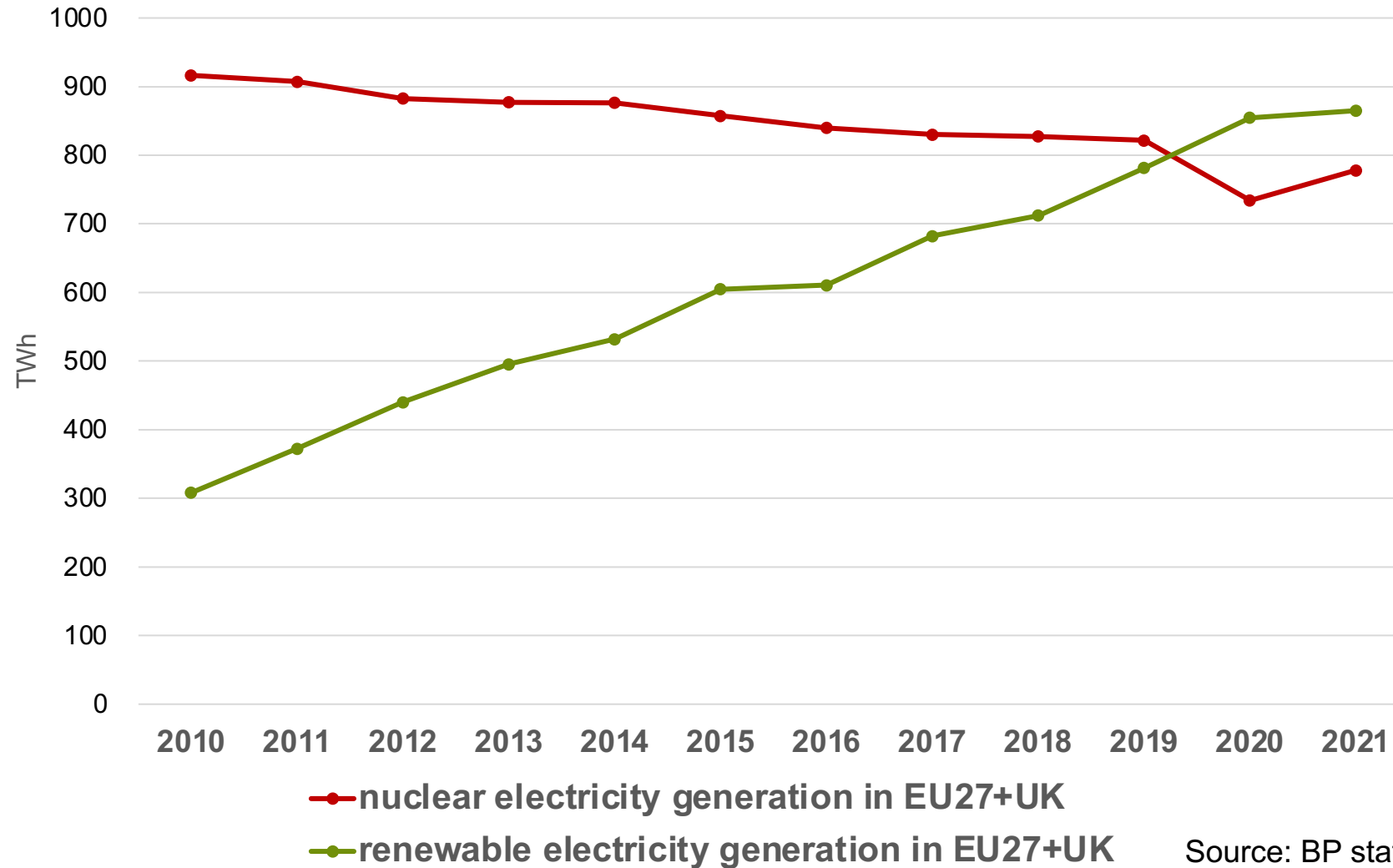
**2050:**  
 Share of nuclear: 8-10%  
 Share of renewables: 75-88%

# Cost development of renewable and nuclear electricity generation



- nuclear 3.6 times more expensive than wind onshore
- nuclear 3 times more expensive than solar PV
- Impacts of US Inflation Reduction Act:
  - Nuclear US\$ 30 billion
  - Renewables & batteries: US\$ 127-265 billion
- US funding support will further reduce renewable costs but not significantly contribute to lower costs for nuclear

## Trends in nuclear and renewable electricity generation in EU



Source: BP statistical review of world energy 2022

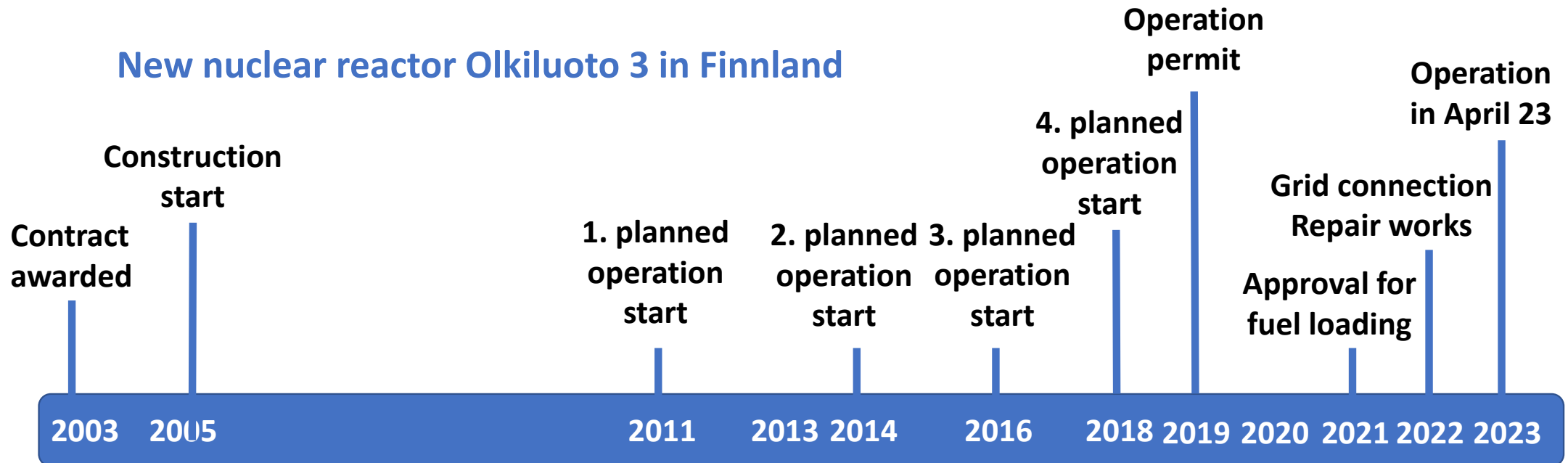
# Construction periods of new nuclear plants in EU

**Finland:** Olkiluoto 3 duration of **20 years**

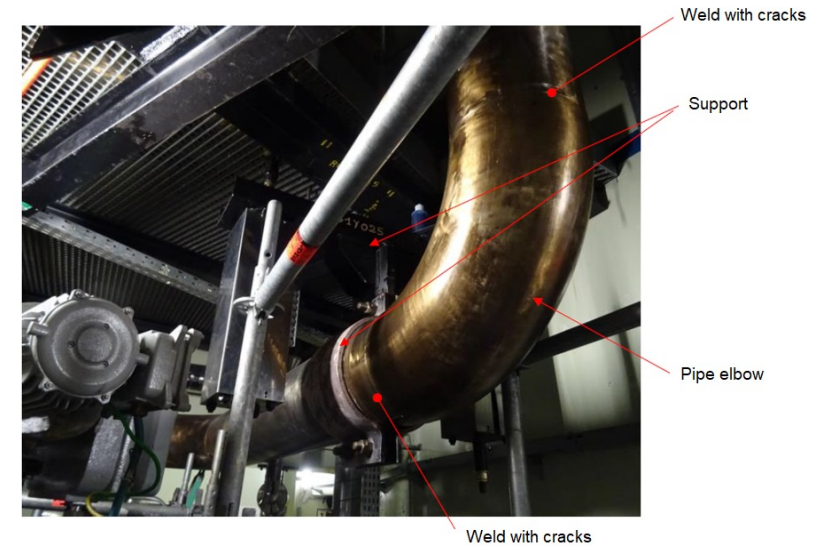
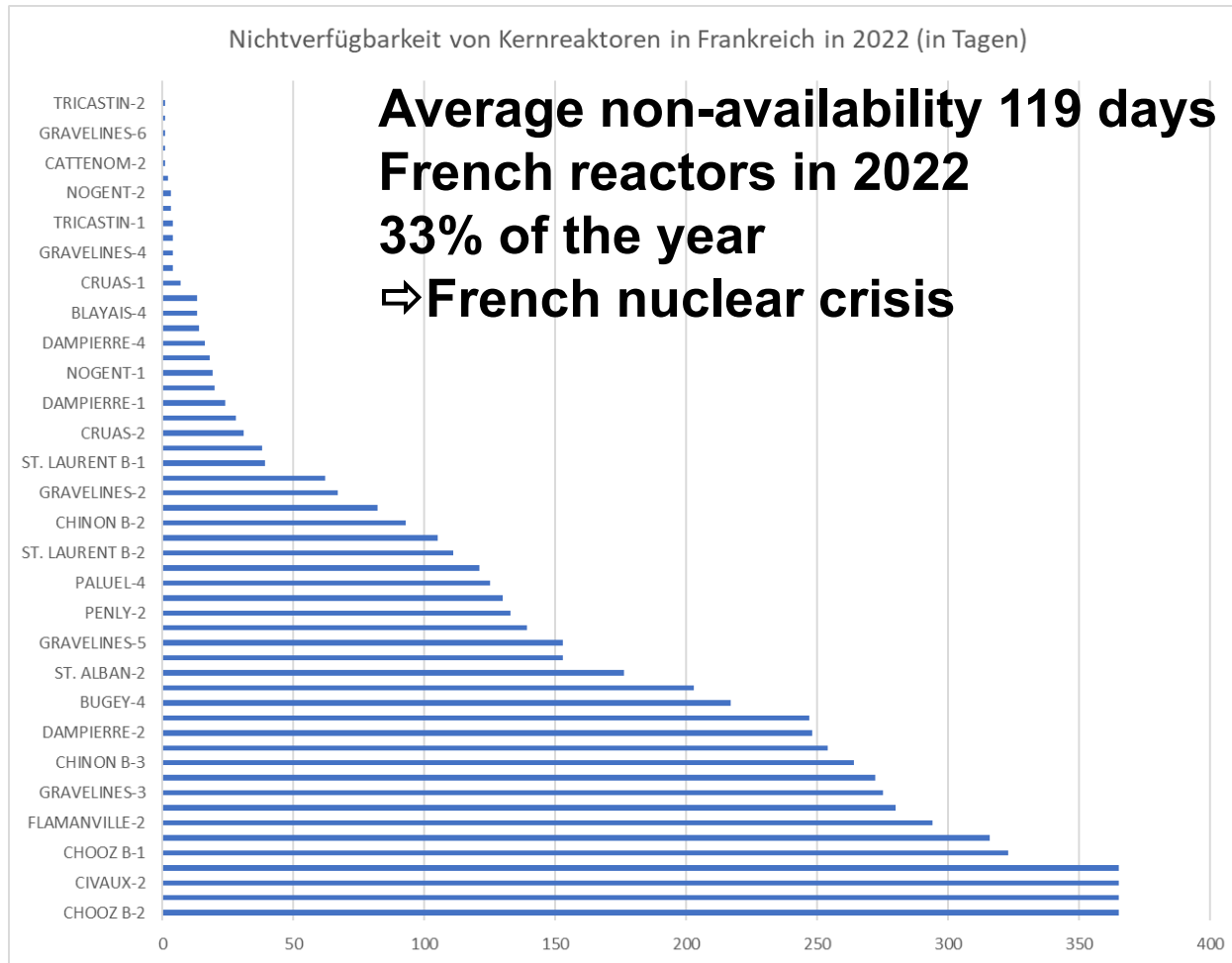
**UK:** Hinkley Point C approval in 2013, planned operation start in 2023, currently delayed to 2028  
 ⇒ minimum **15 years?**

**France:** Flamanville 3 decision in 2005, operation not yet started, planned for mid-2023 ⇒ **18 years?**

**US:** Vogtle-3 and 4: 2008 contract awarded, planned operation 2017/2018, one unit started operation in April 2023, 2nd unit planned for end of 2023 ⇒ **15 years**



# Non-availability of reactors in France in 2022



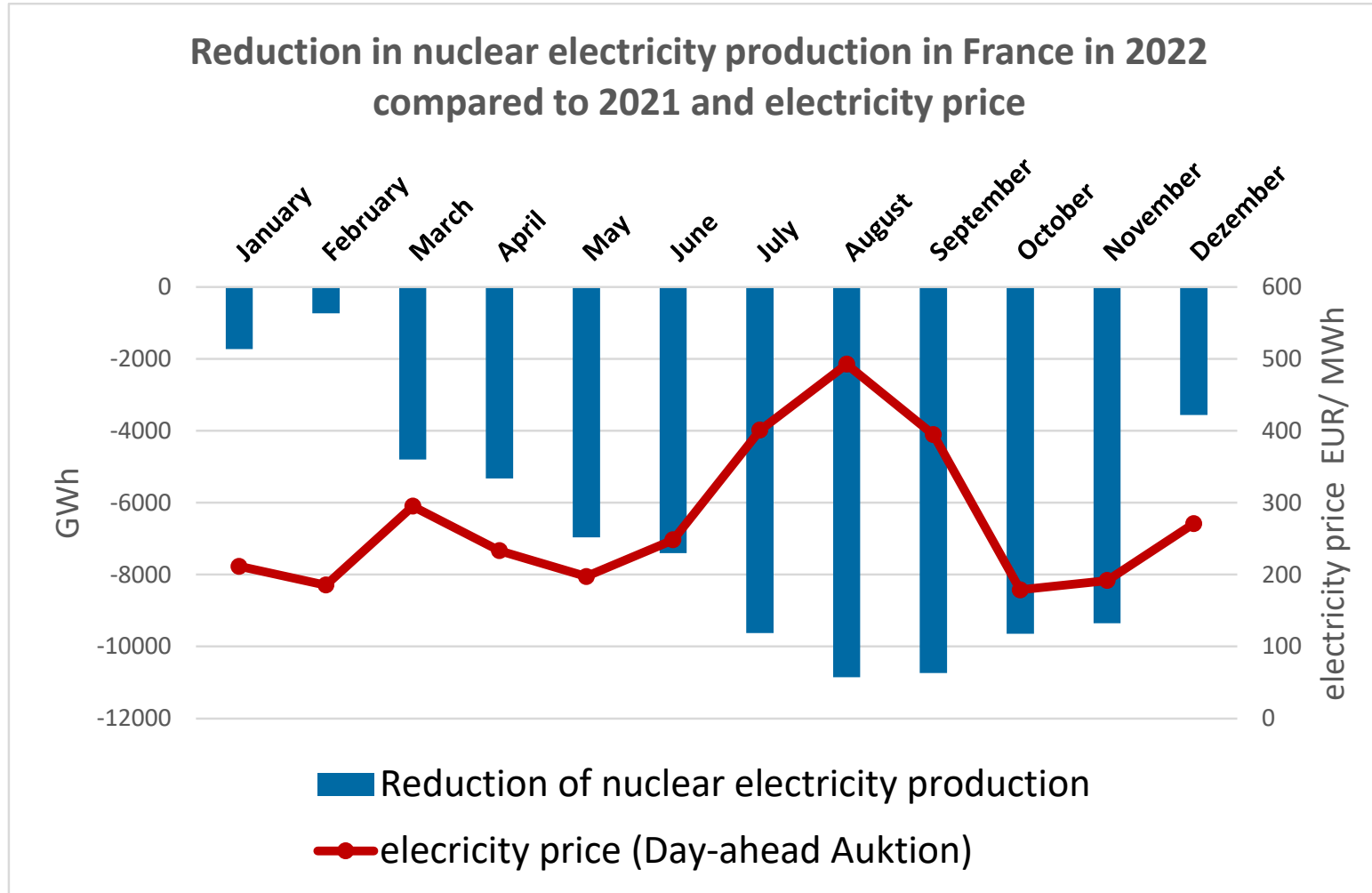
32 out of 56 nuclear reactors shut down

- 16 of the newest reactors due to corrosion and cracks in pipes of the main cooling circuit
- Remaining reactors due to planned maintenance works
- In summer due to draught & heat conditions

Average non-availability in previous years

- 2021: 103 days per reactor
- 2020: 115 days per reactor
- 2019: 96 days per reactor

# Nuclear production gap in France contributed to very high electricity prices in Europe in 2022



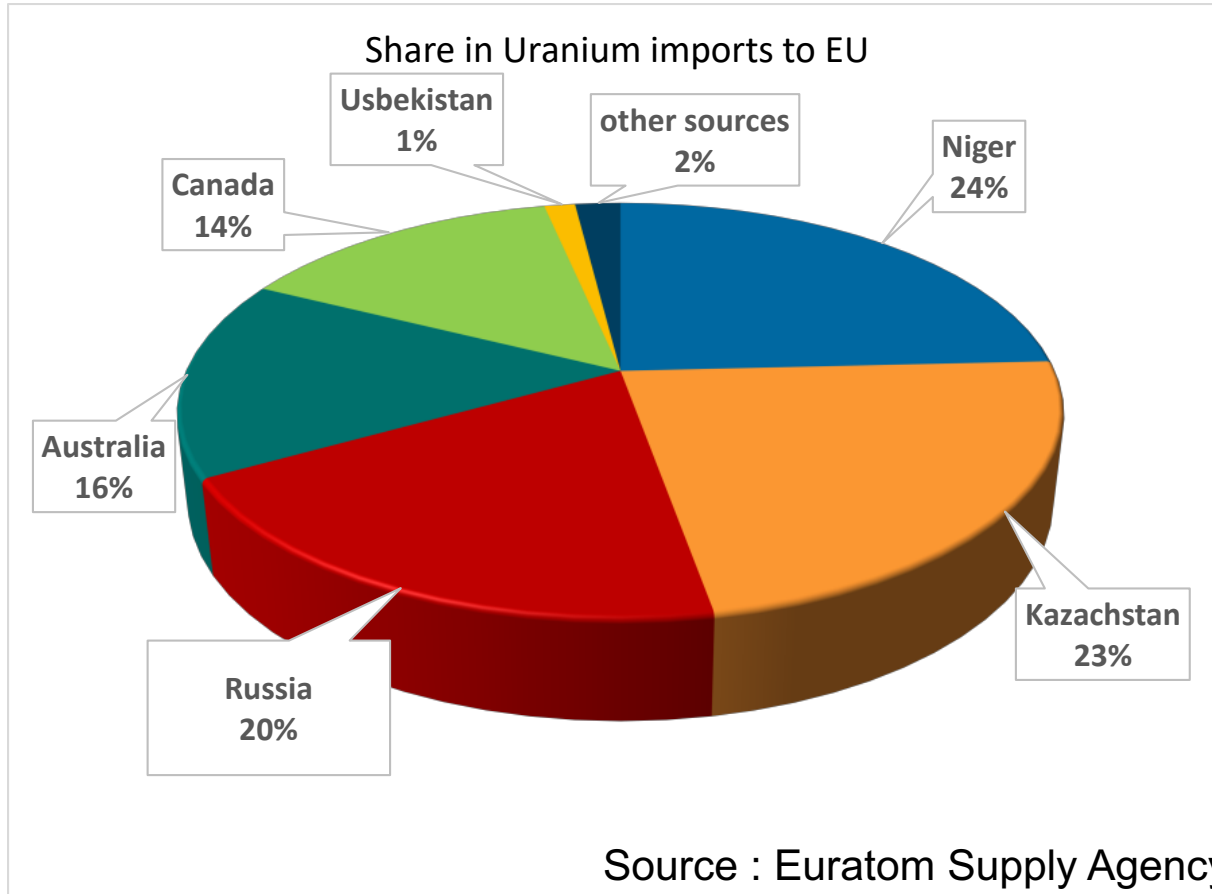
Increased production and export in Germany to France

What to expect for 2023?

- EDF announced to halt 10 reactors due to corrosion in 2023
- At least 10 reactors in 10-year maintenance and safety assessment in 2023
- Problems will continue



## Countries of origin of EU's uranium imports



Kazachstan: Some mines owned by Uranium One which belongs to Rosatom

Uranium conversion:  
EU imports 24% from Rosatom

Enriched Uranium:  
EU imports 26% from Rosatom

Rosatom only producer of HALEU,  
highly enriched uranium required for SMR

## 21 European reactors fully dependent on fuel rods from Rosatom

- 21 European reactors **fully dependent on Russian fuel rods** (WWER-440 reactors)
- Change to Westinghouse production estimated to take 6-10 years, will be more expensive
- Rosatom also provides maintenance and spare parts to Russian reactors
- Other western reactors also use partly fuel rods from Rosatom (not detailed information available)
- In February 2024 Rosatom delivered substantial parts for French ITER research reactor (electricity supply and security system), 50 additional containers to be delivered this year (News on Rosatom-international website 2023)

	<b>National Share of electricity production that depends 100% on Russian fuel rods</b>
<b>Slowakia</b>	53% of national electricity production
<b>Hungary</b>	45% of national electricity production
<b>Czechia</b>	36% of national electricity production
<b>Bulgaria</b>	35% of national electricity production
<b>Finland</b>	11% of national electricity production (Loviisa)

# CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of nuclear plants

Literature sources	GHG emissions gCO <sub>2</sub> eq/kWh	Assumed reactor age	Assumed capacity factor
ISA (2006)	58	35 years	85%
Öko-Institut (2009)	33	30 years	Not provided
Sovacool (2008) review	66	20-60 years	85-98%
Lenzen (2008)	65	35 years	85%
Warner and Heath (2012) review	25-30	30-60 years	70-90%
Storm van Leuwen (2017)	117	25 years	100%
Vattenfall (2019)	4	60 years	Not provided
Zhang and Bauer (2018)	9.4	50 years	Not provided
UNECE (2021)	5.5	60 years	95%
Results strongly dependent on assumptions on reactor age and capacity factor		Average age of nuclear reactors: 31 years Mean age of closed reactors: 28 years	
Many LCA incomplete coverage			



KERNSCHMELZE?  
NUR NOCH IM KUCHEN!

Thank you for your  
attention!