

Letter by the Deputy Mayor for the Environment of Vienna

I would like to ask your support for our call for a nuclear free Europe and participate in our network of Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe. I would like to bring together cities and political leaders to exchange information, to lobby towards national and European authorities and to develop common activities. Together we can make the voice of European cities heard.

As Deputy Mayor for the Environment in Vienna, I am responsible for the health and security of our citizens. Nuclear hazards and radiation are a local consequence of a national policy. Immediately after the nuclear disaster in Fukushima in 2011, I addressed an appeal to the European Commission to sincerely reconsider the European nuclear policy.

Our small group of motivated cities has stayed in touch since then and we have exchanged information and developed common activities. We have presented a study and an exhibition on uranium mining in Europe at the European Parliament, we have published a study on the CO₂-balance of nuclear power, and we have set up a close cooperation with Mayors for Peace, with Nuclear Free Local Authorities in the UK and with Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan.

It is very much needed that the voice of European cities is still heard. The nuclear industry is lobbying strongly for new nuclear plants, although the stress-tests have shown that "Fukushima" can also happen in our densely populated Europe. Some states claim that nuclear power should even get more subsidy than it receives now already, to be able to compete with renewable energy.

In my opinion European cities have the duty to protect their citizens against nuclear hazards and radiation. Signatories of the Covenant of Mayors show that cities are prepared and are able to seek for alternatives energy sources.

You can call or mail me anytime if you need more information. You can express your support by writing me a letter and appoint a contact person so we can communicate directly in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Ulli Sima

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ulli Sima". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large 'U' and 'S'.

Deputy Mayor for the Environment,

Rathaus, A-1082 Wien
Sekretariat: Tel. Nr.: (+431) 4000-81341
Telefax Nr.: (+431) 4000-7107
ulli.sima@wien.gv.at