

Welcome address by the Chairman of the NERS 2022 Conference on 14 June 2022

Ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues,

It is my honor to welcome you on the 14th International Conference (NERS 2022), the only dedicated annual conference on nuclear energy in the Czech Republic.

This year's conference reflects a topic that goes beyond the professional discussion in the energy community – decarbonization of energy sector as a part of solving problems related to climate change. We know that nuclear power plants are an excellent tool for contributing to the decarbonization of electricity generation. But not everyone is convinced of this fact. Now we are approaching the breaking point of our energy future. We must decide whether electricity generation will be based on the competence of engineers and technicians or on the dreams of unqualified activists. That is why we are sure, that the preparation of the new build at Dukovany will be a test and a benchmark of the ability to develop nuclear energy in Europe. I hope we succeed – I remember the “eighties” – hundreds of new reactors – why not now?

The Czech Republic has undoubtedly gone on the path of nuclear power development, thus creating such an energy mix that will ensure our long-term stable electricity supply and, of course, energy security and self-sufficiency.

Experts from the domestic scene, and also representatives of major international institutions will talk about the fact that this is a good way to go. Of course, as is the tradition, representatives of the world's largest suppliers of nuclear technology will present their solutions.

Dear colleagues, this conference could not have taken place without the material support of a number of major companies and corporations. The logos on our banners and roll-ups identify them. I would like to thank them very much for their interest in our nuclear future, which they show not only through their own activities, but also through their helpfulness and support of our conference. They are these main partners (in alphabetical order) – ČEZ, Czech Power Industry Alliance, EDF, Korean Hydro & Nuclear Power and Westinghouse Electric Company. Thanks also to all of you who accepted to participate in NERS 2022.

I hope that you will find everything we have prepared for today's conference interesting and helpful in your future work.


Jiří Marek

14. 6. 2022