European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | International Organizations*

Why in News?

The European Union (EU) and India have committed to promoting collaboration on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy on nuclear research, safety, and radio-pharmaceuticals under the India-Euratom agreement.

- It is an international organization that regulates the ***civil nuclear industry within the EU*** to ensure safe, secure, and peaceful use of nuclear energy.
- It facilitates nuclear research, safeguards materials, and manages waste, covering **roughly 30%** of EU energy production.
- **Established under –** Treaty of Rome.
- **Established in** – 1957.
- **Original members -** Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.
- It subsequently came to include all members of the European Union (EU).
- The UK left Euratom following Brexit.

  Brexit refers to the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union (EU).

- **Objectives** - Coordinates research and development, sets uniform safety standards for health protection, and ensures secure supply of nuclear materials through the Euratom Supply Agency (ESA).
- **Scope** - Focuses on the peaceful, non-military, use of atomic energy, including fusion technology (ITER).
- **Structure -** Operates under the European Commission and the Court of Justice.
- **Key Instruments -** Euratom Supply Agency (ESA) and Joint Research Centre (JRC).

- **Recent Developments -** As of early 2026, Euratom remains central to European energy security and research, particularly through the Horizon Europe program and Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Reference

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