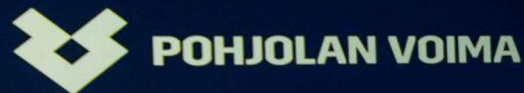


**Anschalt**  
KONFERENZ

Speaker

**Peppi Seppälä**  
*Stadträtin (Grüner Bund, Finnland)*



# ROLE MODEL FINLAND

How the Finnish green party came to love nuclear, and  
Finland's calm path to a deep geological storage

# Peppi Seppälä

Green City councillor in Espoo,  
second largest city in Finland

Former chair of Young Greens

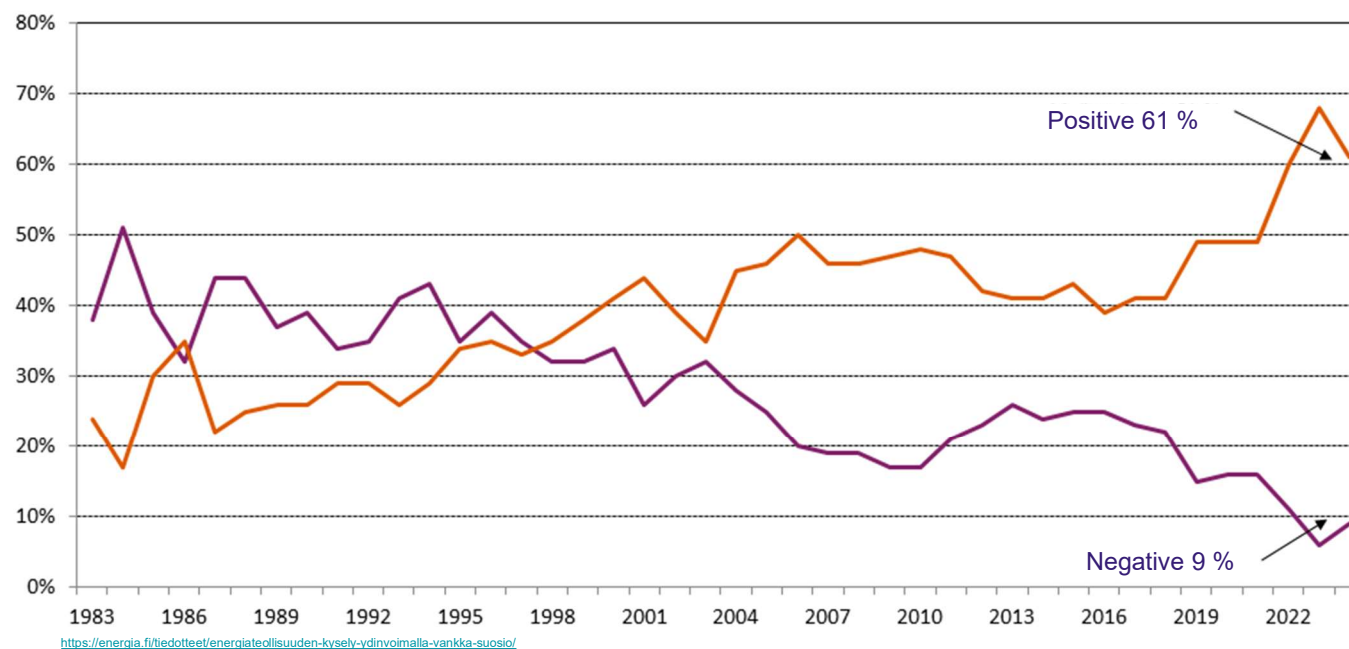
Master student in Aalto university  
Advanced energy systems

Public Affairs Specialist in Steady  
Energy



# Finnish people really like nuclear energy

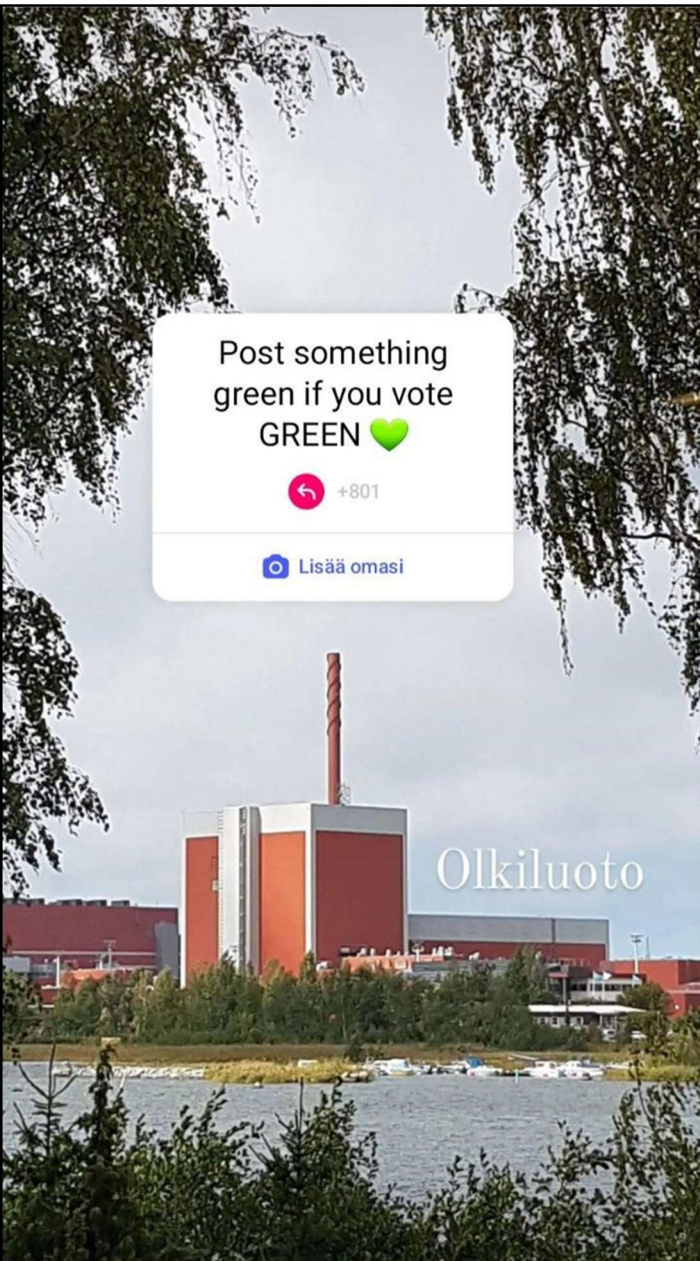
## Development of Support for Nuclear Power 1983–2024 General Attitude Towards Nuclear Power as an Energy Source





## Why Finnish greens are pro-nuclear?

- People inside the party were advocating for energy neutral position
- A lot of discussions and trying to find the common ground
- Took years
- Pronuclear members getting elected
- There was never strong movement to shutdown existing plants



## Why Finnish greens are pro-nuclear?

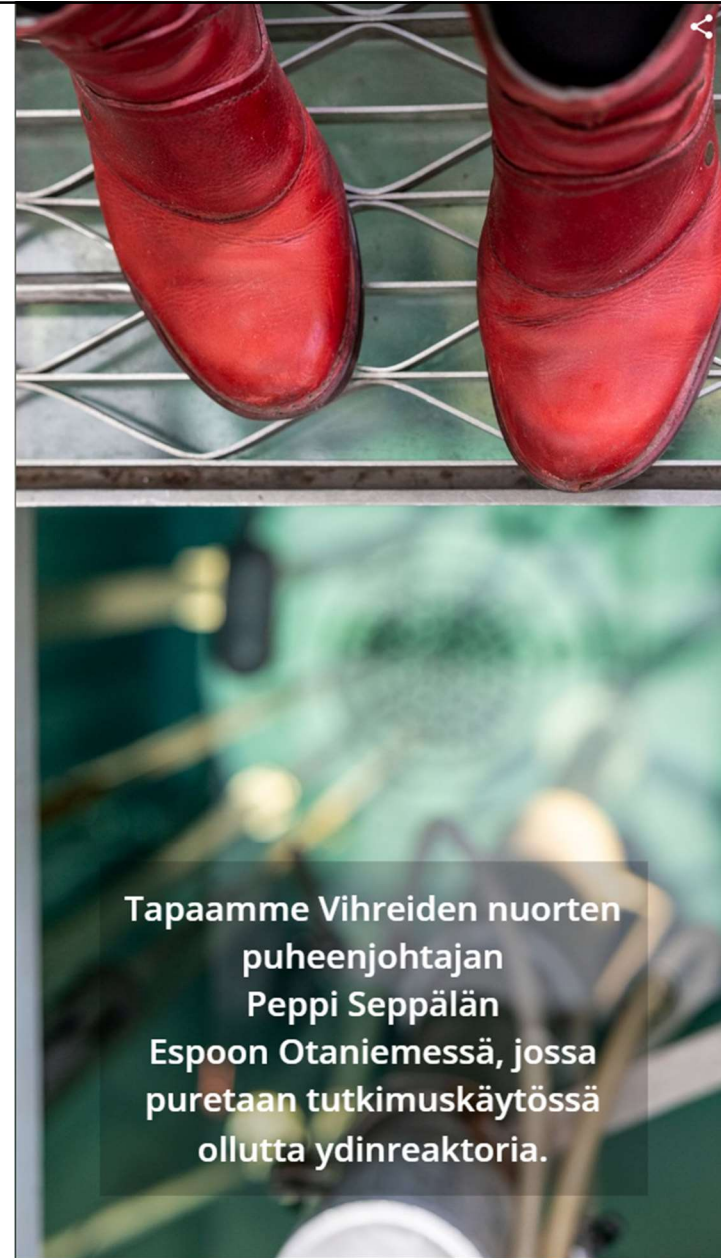
- No more time to be picky – urgent energy decisions are needed
- Nuclear waste storage solutions exist
- Saying no to Russian energy, including Russian nuclear energy
- New plant construction is financed by companies - no subsidies from government

# Nuclear companies and public affairs

Nuclear energy companies in Finland have really strong focus in public affairs

They invite people to visit nuclear power plants and have visitor centers

Very open communication when anything happens, even very small things - like fire in the cafeteria



Tapaamme Vihreiden nuorten  
puheenjohtajan  
Peppi Seppälän  
Espoon Otaniemessä, jossa  
puretaan tutkimuskäytössä  
ollutta ydinreaktoria.



How did Finland become world leader in nuclear waste solutions?



How did Finland become world leader in nuclear waste solutions?

By coincidence

# How Finland stores nuclear waste

- **Final disposal facility:** *Onkalo*, located 450 meters deep in stable bedrock
- **Fuel cooling:** Used nuclear fuel is stored in water pools for 30–40 years
- **Encapsulation:** Fuel rods are sealed in cast iron canisters with copper shells
- **Underground storage:** Canisters are lowered into vertical boreholes
- **Bentonite clay barrier:** Clay swells when moist, sealing the tunnels from water
- **Longevity:** Designed to isolate waste safely for **hundreds of thousands of years**
- **Tamper-proof:** Access after sealing would require **years of excavation**



“If you want to learn  
more let's keep the  
conversation going”



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/peppi-seppälä>



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