Nuclear Physics in Central Europe

NuPECC/EPS Nuclear Physics Board task force
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The task:

How can one improve the conditions for research work in Central European countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia).

Background: Representations on the situation in these countries. Main problems: Generation gap. Low number of scientists from the above countries among project leaders. Industry competes successfully. No support from EU – may be used as a tool by local governments.

Build (or develop from an existing facility) a middle/large scale NP facility in this region?

If yes: What type of facility; basic research vs applications. Coordinated effort of all countries.

These countries have just joined the EU. Is this a good time to ask for support from Brussels?

The EU will require a large (40%) national commitment. This is problematic.

N.B. The same problem exists in almost all countries, which lack a sound infrastructure in NP.