



Germany decided to close down all its nuclear power and coal power plants by the end of 2022.

The plan was that by 2040, all the energy would come from renewable resources, such as wind and sunlight. Now it seems that it'll happen even sooner, and by 2030, 80% of Germany's electricity will come from renewable resources. Officials say that **solar** energy will triple, and the country's wind energy will be the power of 10 nuclear power plants.

Some European countries **criticize** Germany that it uses too much oil from Russia. The country wants to be independent from Russia. A German official called the renewable resources the energy of **freedom**.

Difficult words: **solar** (coming from the sun), **criticize** (to speak about someone's faults), **freedom** (when someone or something is free, and it doesn't depend on anybody or anything else).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *solar*, *criticize* and *freedom*
2. What major decision did Germany make by the end of 2022?
3. What was Germany's plan by 2040?
4. How much of Germany's electricity will come from renewable resources by 2030?
5. Why do some European countries criticize Germany?
6. Why did a German official call the renewable resources the energy of freedom?

Express Your Thoughts

1. What energy resources does your country use?
2. How much of the energy used in your country comes from nuclear energy?
2. Do you think it's possible for your country to completely use renewable energy resources such as solar and wind power in the future?
3. Does your country depend mostly on other countries for oil?