# Nuclear Medicine as a Strategic Opportunity for Europe, Brussels 18 November 2025

**Schuttelaar & Partners**

Nuclear medicine represents a strategic opportunity for Europe to lead the way in personalized healthcare and precision oncology. To fully harness its potential, we need bold action to create a unified regulatory framework, foster innovation through public-private partnerships, and ensure equal access for all patients.

The time to act is now, let's position The Netherlands and Europe as a global leader in this transformative field.

Nuclear Medicine offers more personalised care with fewer side effects putting "quality back into life" for patients compared to other treatments.

New uses are rapidly emerging, offering the potential to treat a wider range of cancers and rare diseases.

Two radioisotopes approved in Europe - more to come - in different disease area's new innovative therapeutic and diagnostic radioisotope products are in development.

## Ensuring Europe's strategic autonomy requires:

- Regulation that supports innovation
- Expanded talent pipelines
- Fair access to nuclear medicines

## Main challenges

Fragmented and outdated regulation and lacking financing hinder progress in clinical trials and market access for new treatments.

Uneven reimbursement systems and barriers across academia–industry–government which leads to slow patient access.

Talent shortages risk limiting long-term capacity.

## Looking ahead

Expected increases in Horizon and Euratom funding, plus upcoming EU Biotech Act creates opportunities.

Call for creative and diversified funding mechanisms and stronger coordination across Europe.

The Dutch government invested 2.4 billion in PALLAS, which will contribute to the availability of RLTs for patients worldwide, within Europe, however also a domestic market is needed.

*"We want health to be European, and it will only be better if we use European mechanisms to make it stronger"*

– MEP Baljeu (VVD / Renew Europe)

## Key takeaways

**1** Bold EU-level guidance is necessary, despite health being a national competence, and should include a trust-based, innovation-friendly model, with Australia as a positive example.

**2** Strong public-private partnerships and clearer policies, including reimbursements, are essential to remain competitive and maintain global leadership.

**3** Support beyond clinical trials is required to bring promising therapies to patients and overcome the 'valley of death'.

**4** Overhauling the ecosystem to ensure all stakeholders benefit equally is critical, fostering collaboration and eliminating barriers to create fair opportunities across the healthcare value chain.

**5** Harmonisation of EU rules should avoid defaulting to the most restrictive standards, ensuring that regulations remain flexible while promoting innovation and accessibility.

**6** Addressing regional inequalities across Europe, particularly the West–East and North–South divide in access gaps, is key.