

# Let us build a star on earth\*

\*Actually, let us confine one.

David van Walderveen, 9 February 2026



# DIFFER at a Glance

## Dutch Institute for Fundamental Energy Research (DIFFER)

- **200** employees
  - 1/3 scientific
  - 1/3 technical
  - 1/3 support
- **M€ 17** annual budget
  - 2/3 base funding
  - 1/3 project funding
- Founded in **1959**



To perform **leading fundamental research** on **materials, processes, and systems** for a global **sustainable energy** infrastructure, in close partnership with (inter)national **academia** and **industry**.



### Mission

### Departments

Fusion Energy

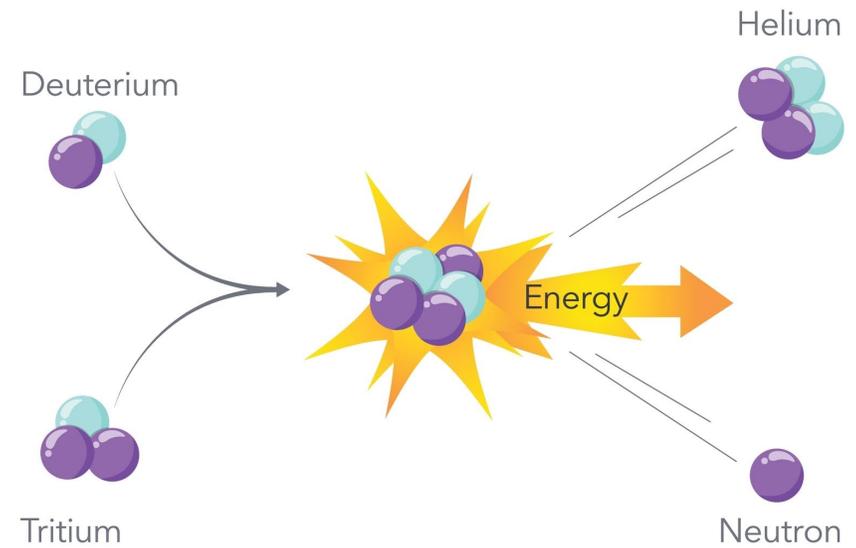
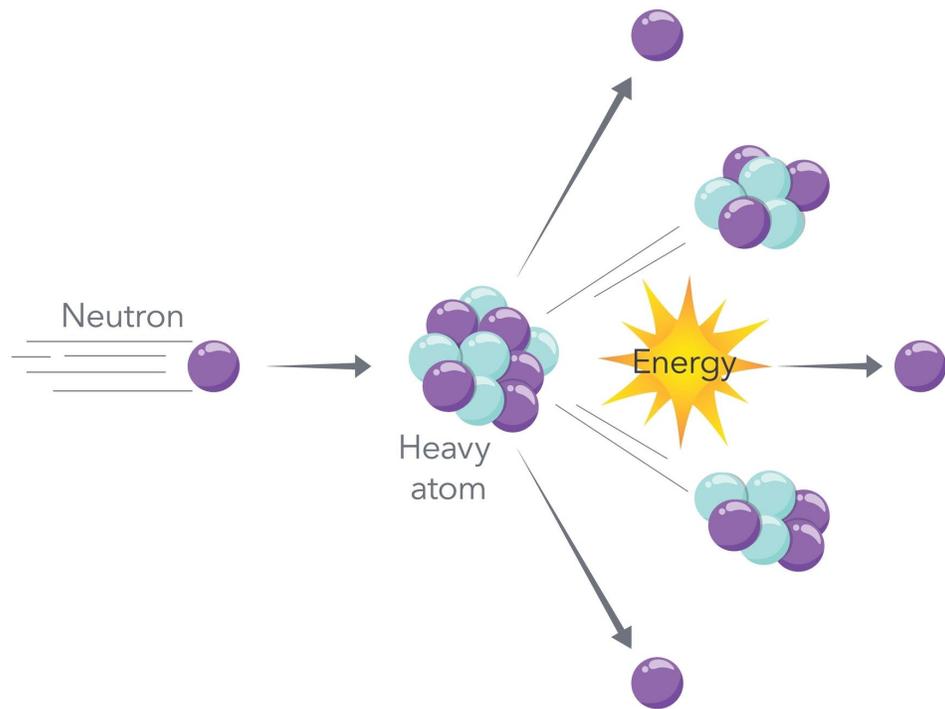
Chemical Energy

Facilities & Instrumentation

Support Facilities

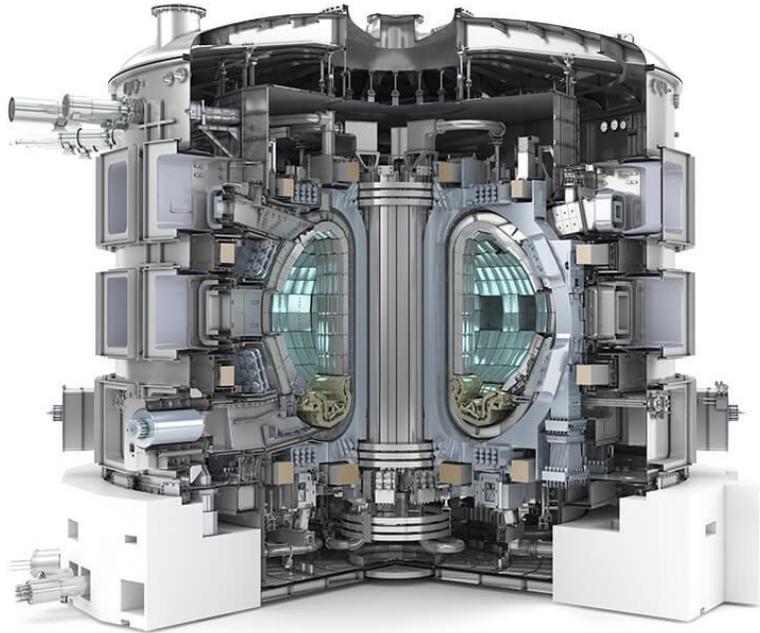
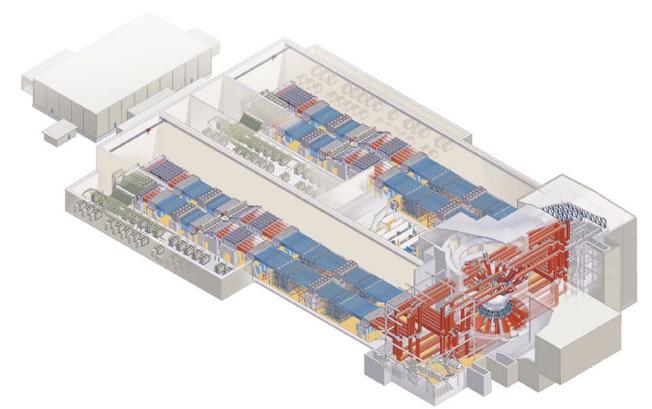


# What is Fusion?

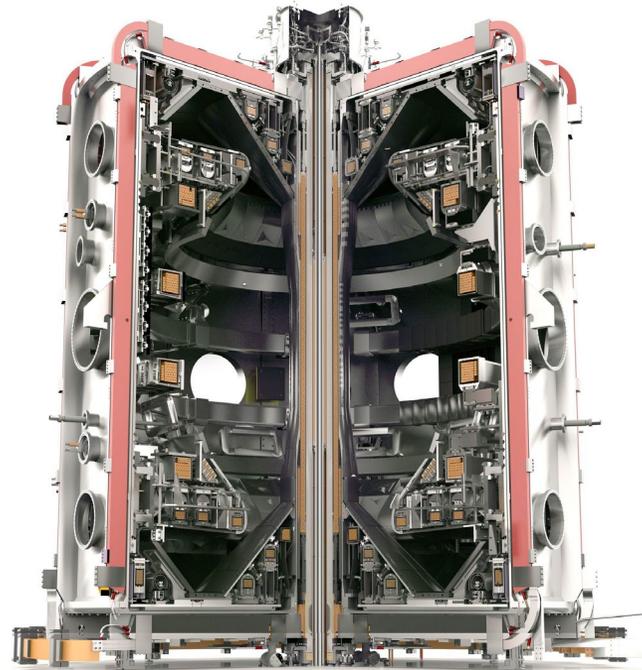


# What is a Fusion Reactor?

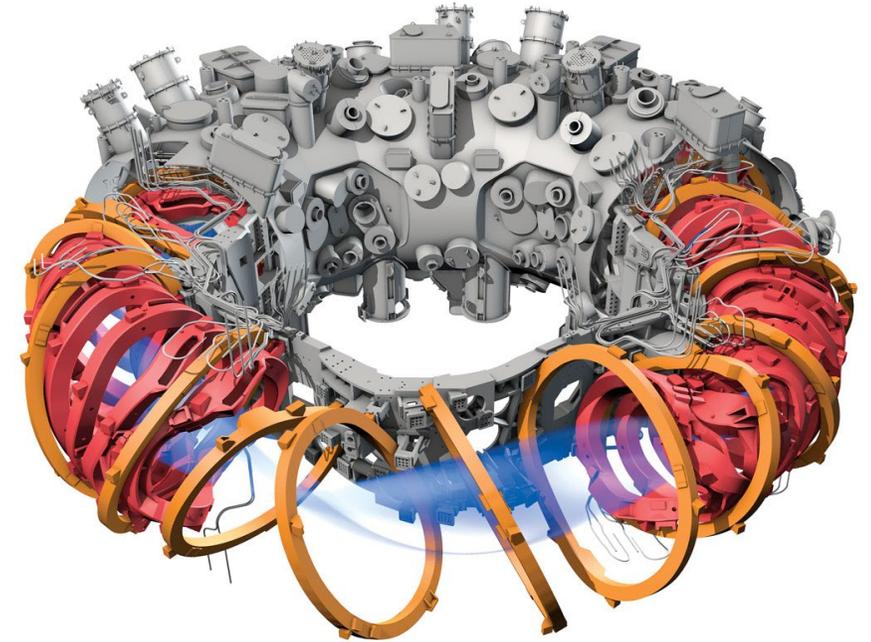
Bonus Design:  
Lasers!



**Original Tokamak**  
Donut



**Spherical Tokamak**  
Onion



**Stellerator**  
Crunshed Donut



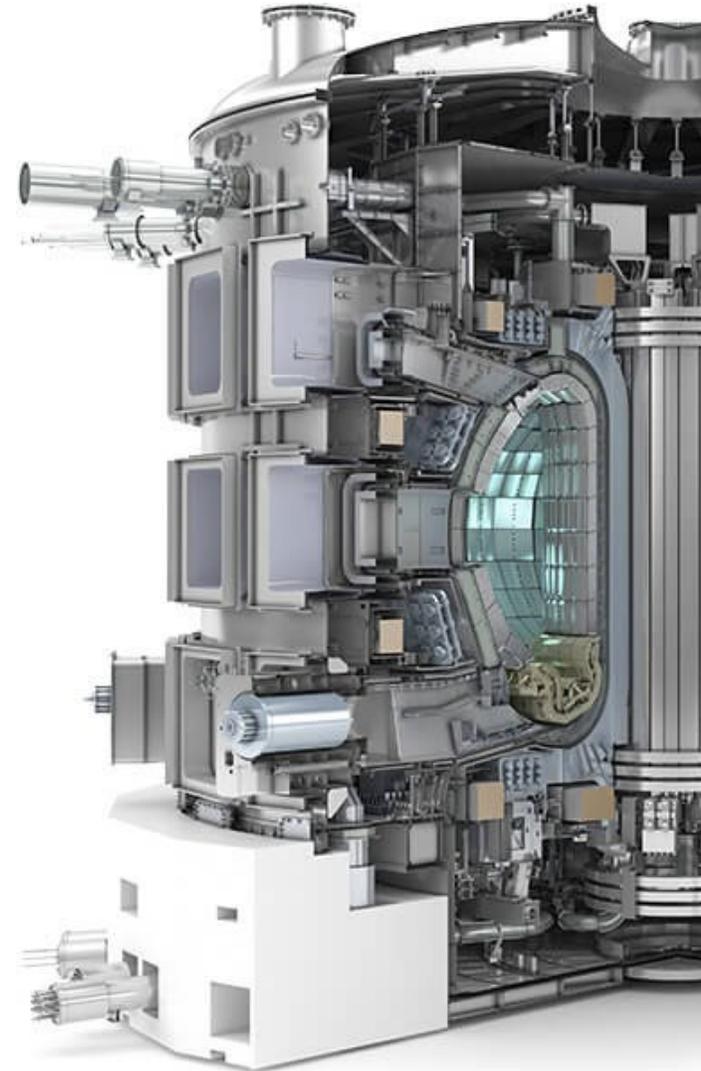
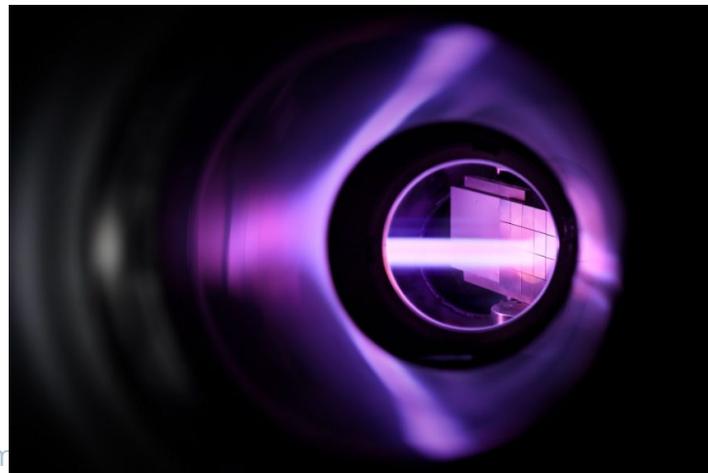


# Fusion Energy Research at DIFFER

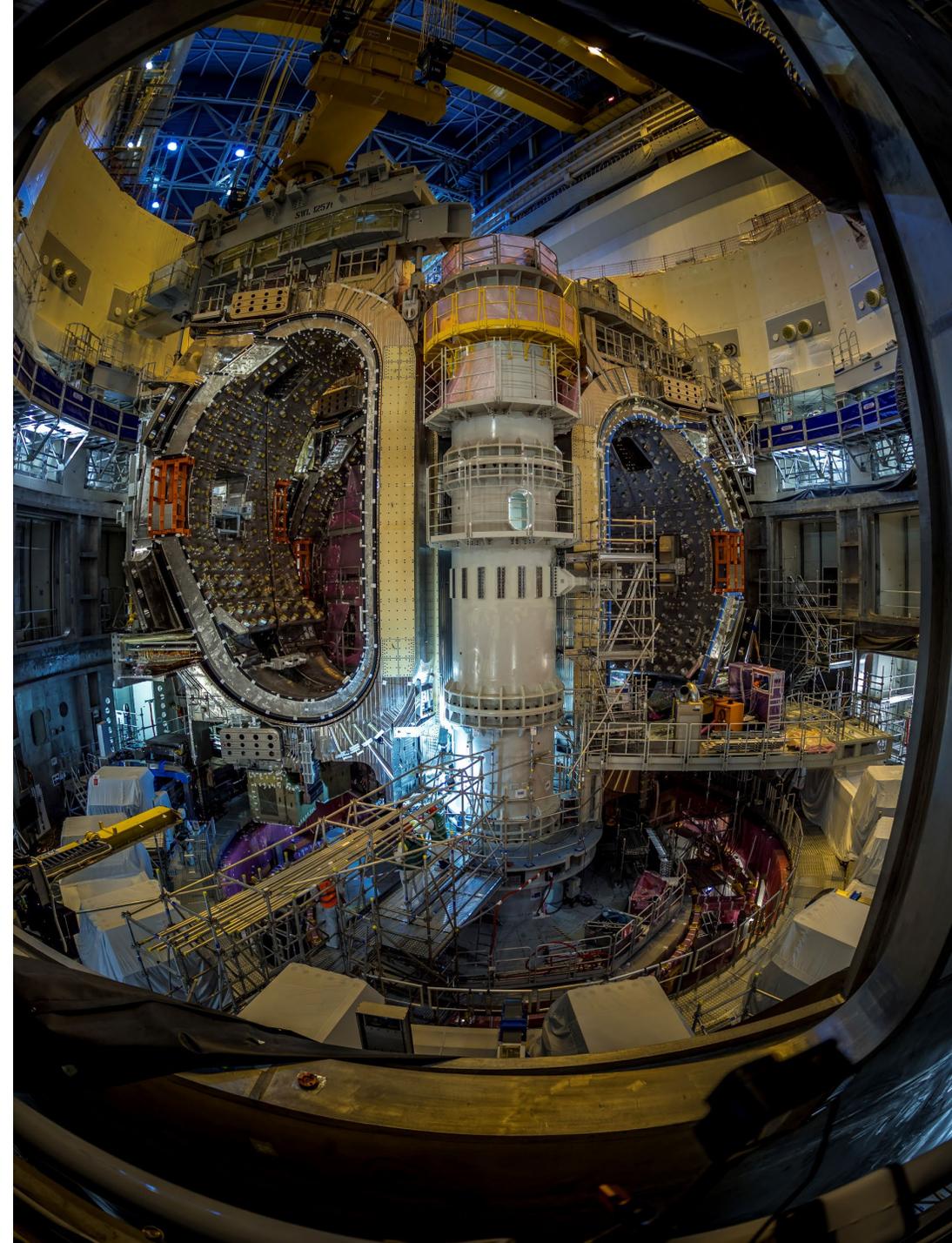
Materials

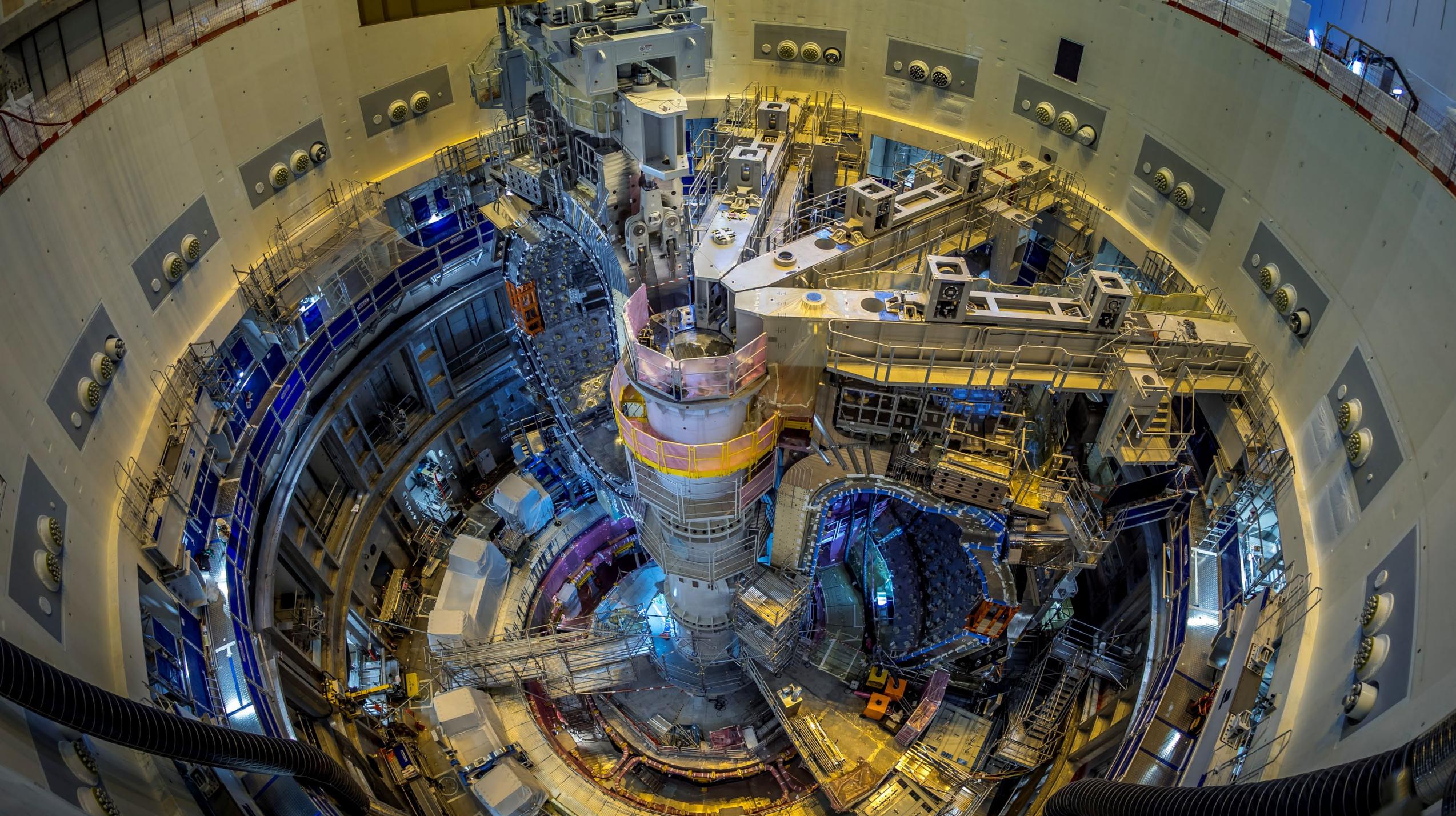
Control

Modelling









# The European Public Fusion Landscape

Used to be focused on tenders

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**Navigation**  
ilo@diffier.nl



# The European Public Fusion Landscape

## Moves towards public private partnerships



**EU Fusion Strategy**  
*expected soon*



**FUSION  
FOR  
ENERGY**

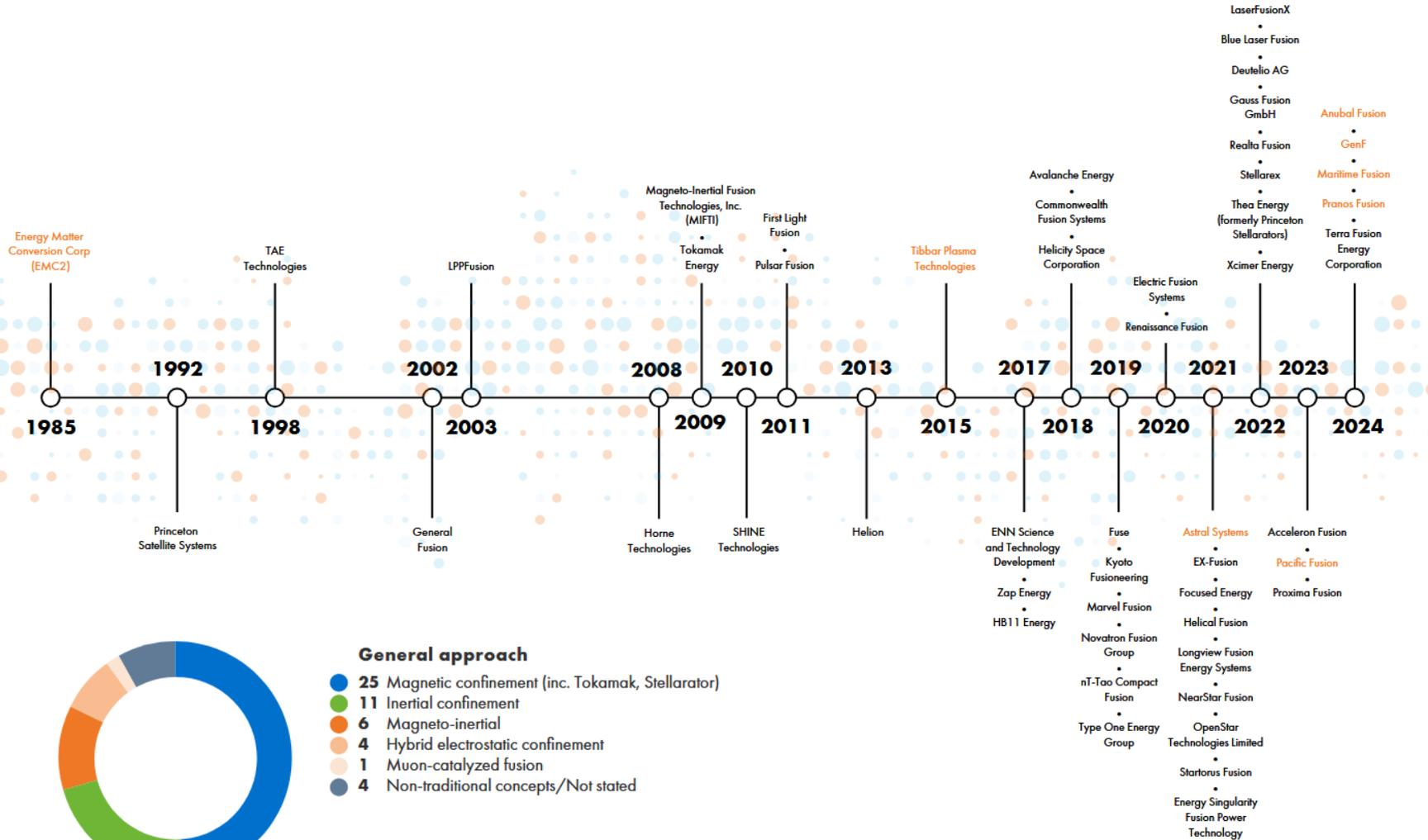


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**STEP**



# The Private Fusion Landscape



# Events

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**BSBF ITER Visit**  
18 February 2025  
Aix-en-Provence (FR)  
**Register today!**



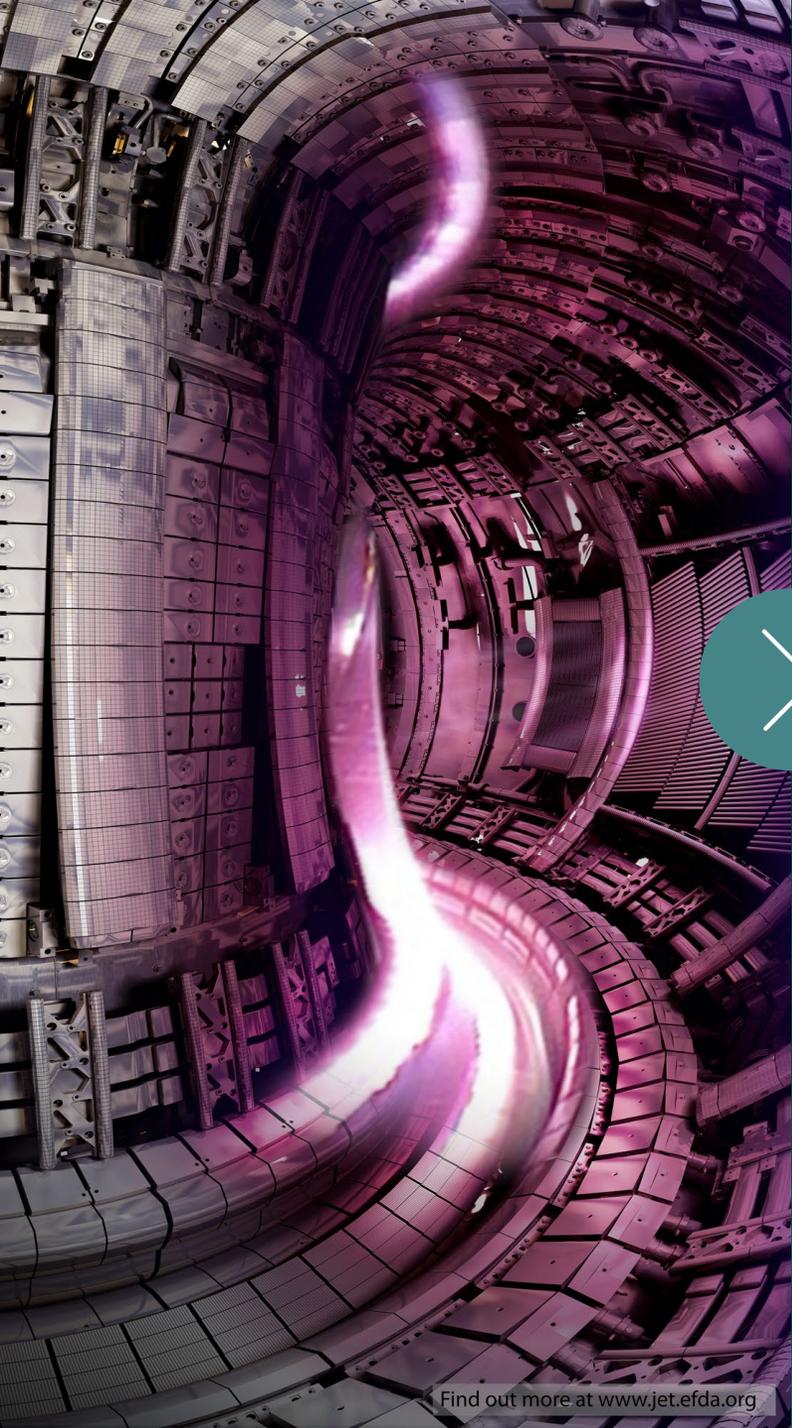
**Dutch Fusion Day**  
8 May 2025  
Eindhoven (NL)



**F4E Roundtable**  
11-12 May  
Barcelona (ES)

Mail to [ilo@differ.nl](mailto:ilo@differ.nl) for more information





# Thank you

Industry meeting at Mikrocentrum  
Monday 9 February 2026

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