Why Has Türkiye Not Allocated Funds for Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) in the Last 50 Years?

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1. **Chronic Budget Deficit & Economic Issues**
   - Persistent budget deficits, high inflation, and low foreign exchange reserves.
   - High levels of domestic and foreign debt.
2. **Government Priorities & Financial Constraints**
   - Ministries demand more funds, but the government prioritizes other areas.
   - Insufficient funding even for health, education, and pensions.
3. **Alternative Energy Sources Are Available**
   - Electricity is already supplied through various means, including imported coal, natural gas (mainly from Russia), hydro, wind, and solar energy.
4. **High Cost, Low Contribution**
   - A single 1,200 MW reactor contributes only about **2.5%** of total electricity.
   - At least **10 reactors** are needed for a significant impact (around **20%** of total electricity).
5. **Extremely Expensive Investment**
   - A modern **fourth-generation 1,200 MW reactor** costs around **$10 billion**.
   - **10 reactors** would cost about **$100 billion**, an amount no government is willing to commit.
6. **The "Build-Operate-Sell Electricity" Model**
   - NPPs can only be built under this model without direct budget allocation.
   - Only **Russia** has shown interest in investing under this model (e.g., Akkuyu NPP).
   - Potential **economic and military** interests of Russia must be considered.
7. **Limited Future Expansion**
   - Russia may build **four more reactors in Sinop**, but **10-15 reactors are unrealistic**.
8. **Delays in Nuclear Reactor Construction**
   - In the **1970s**, an NPP took **4-5 years** to build.
   - Modern projects (e.g., **Finland, France, USA**) took **15+ years** due to evolving safety regulations and financial disputes.
9. **Slow Progress in Akkuyu NPP**
   - Despite **approval in 2010**, even the **first reactor** is not yet operational after **15 years**.
10. **Comparison with Bulgaria**

- **Bulgaria (a smaller country)** recently ordered **two 1,000 MW Westinghouse reactors** (~$20 billion).
- This highlights their **long-term strategy for nuclear technology and R&D**, which Türkiye lacks.

Conclusion:
This analysis does not argue against nuclear power but explains why governments have not allocated funds for it. Beyond electricity generation, nuclear technology can drive **technological advancements**, as seen in Bulgaria. Investing in NPPs could help Türkiye develop related technologies.