

Joint Project – Nuclear Risk & Public Control

Webinar

Nuclear Power in the Age of New Threats

December 07, 2022

Report

In this webinar, 50 participants from 16 countries registered, and 29 took part.

Olga Kosharna has worked for the Ukrainian nuclear regulator SNRIU, until 2020 she was key public relations Director at the Ukrainian Nuclear Forum Association, now she works freelance as an independent nuclear power and safety expert. Olga informed about the chronicles of events, the role of the IAEA in Ukraine in the war conditions. She presented ideas how to force Russia to comply with international conventions and the UN Chapter.

Nikolaus Müllner, Institute of Safety and Risk Sciences of the University of Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria, informed about results of a project together with the Austrian CBRN defence centre in which they examined how the Zaporishe (ZNPP) VVER-1000 designs against external events such as earthquake and aircraft crashes offer protection in the current situation and whether the plant's robustness could be strengthened against acts of war.

Andrey Ozharovsky, Russian nuclear physicist and expert of Radioactive Waste Safety Program, reflected on how the attacks were perceived in the Russian public and on the wider implications of those events, and possible consequences of a severe accident at a VVER-1000 unit by using the flexRISK tool (<http://flexrisk.boku.ac.at/en/index.html>). Even a military journal in Russia published the flexRISK results for a possible severe accident in ZNPP and showed that Russia can also be contaminated. Andrey is being threatened by legal action because he publicly quoted an IAEA resolution on the situation in Ukraine

Oda Becker, independent German expert on nuclear safety and security, explained in detail security hazards of nuclear installations. Her presentation analysed sabotage or attack scenarios which already took place, such as the cyber-attack on Iran's Busher NPP and possible or conceivable attacks on nuclear facilities.

Patricia Lorenz, campaigner at Friends of the Earth Europe/GLOBAL 2000, presented her updated study Russian grip on EU nuclear industry and made an outlook on EU sanctions against Rosatom. The report and information from a press conference of 4 May 2022 can be found here: <https://www.dont-nuke-the-taxonomy.eu/>.

The **presentations** can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.joint-project.org/>.

The webinar **recording** is available on our YouTube channel (<https://youtu.be/MMmGijmx0t8>)

Discussion

Sanctions in the EU against Rosatom:

Olga's suggestions for sanctions: see her presentation

Already in 2014, Rosatom was discussed both in EU and US as a target for sanctions.

In March 2022, the European Parliament's first resolution said that Rosatom should be on the sanction list, but this was not followed up by the member states.

Diversification of fuel

The EURATOM Supply Agency told SK and HU and other countries that they are fully dependent on RU and should ensure other fuel suppliers, but they did nothing.

Finland also did not do anything until recently, they have a contract for fuel for Loviisa until 2027; Finland cancelled only the new build project in Hanhikivi (VVER-1200, like in Paks).

CZ tests already fuels from Westinghouse for VVER1000, also FI for Loviisa VVER-440.

A transition period of about 4-5 years is needed to replace fuel with fuel from other sources

IAEA

There is a need to limit Russia's participation in the IAEA: Russia should not be excluded, but its influence should be lowered

Uranium

Uranium supply: US is highly dependent on cheap uranium from Russia, but this is a long-term project, will take years to increase domestic uranium mining.

This event was organized by the Joint Project – Nuclear Risk & Public Control (<http://www.joint-project.org/>)



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