

International Symposium

Nuclear Power After Tschernobyl (1986) and Fukushima (2011)

Wednesday, 13 April 2011

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Beletage, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin-Mitte

25 years after a worst-case scenario nuclear accident became reality in Ukrainian Chernobyl, the recent catastrophe in Fukushima, Japan, will have incalculable consequences for people in Japan and elsewhere. Similar to what happened 25 years ago, the Japan disaster has once again highlighted the risks of nuclear power – at a time when the Chernobyl incident had almost disappeared from public consciousness. Many had held that nuclear power presented a manageable, reliable, and inexpensive alternative to oil and coal, and a number of governments had recently announced the construction of new nuclear power stations. Proponents of nuclear power extol it as a climate-friendly, cheap “clean technology” that should be used on a broad scale to solve the problem of climate change.

Meanwhile, opponents of nuclear power caution against the “renaissance” of a life-threatening and in fact costly source of power; they argue that the future lies in the development of renewable energies.

In light of these two defining events, Chernobyl and Fukushima, we have invited international experts to debate the varying perspectives on nuclear power and the future of our energy supply. Proponents and opponents from different parts of the world will debate key questions, including: What are the implications of Chernobyl and Fukushima for the international development of nuclear power? What consequences will the Fukushima incident have on the operation of nuclear power stations and the storage of nuclear waste? How can binding standards be established – and who will supervise compliance? Is nuclear power necessary in the fight against climate change? What obstacles impede a rapid switch to renewable energies? Is it feasible to replace coal and nuclear power with alternative energies – and what has to be done to achieve this?

Registration

Please register by filling out the electronic registration form at

<http://www.boell.de/calendar/VA-viewevt-de.aspx?evtid=9566&crtpage=4>.

Conference Languages

English/German with simultaneous translation

Information

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Agenda

International Symposium on Nuclear Power **After Chernobyl (1986) and Fukushima (2011)** – 13 April .2011

Program**Wednesday, 13 April 2011**

- 8.30** *Registration*
- 9.00** Opening Remarks
Ralf Fücks, Chairman of Heinrich Böll Foundation Berlin

— Nuclear Power After Fukushima

- 9.15** Keynote
Tetsunari Iida, Director, Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP), Japan
- Panel Discussion
Li Bo, Director, Friends of Nature, China
Tetsunari Iida, Director, Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP), Japan
Praful Bidwai, Journalist and peace activist, Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace (CNDP), India
Mykle Schneider, International consultant on energy and nuclear policy, Paris
Moderation: **Ralf Fücks**, Chairman of Heinrich Böll Foundation Berlin
- 11.00** *Coffee Break*
- 11.30 – 13.00** **Parallel Workshops / Round 1**

Großer Saal 2**1a Proliferation – A Manageable Risk?**

Technically, the military and civilian uses of nuclear technologies are closely intertwined. Civilian use of nuclear technology provides knowledge, materials, and technologies that may be used militarily. This workshop will discuss the risks of proliferation associated with the civilian use of nuclear power. Are existing non-proliferation efforts effective? What are the weaknesses, what the limits of such measures? Particular focus will be on whether a renaissance of nuclear power is possible without increasing the risk of proliferation

Otfried Nassauer, Director of BITS, Proliferation Expert
Sharon Squassoni, Director and Senior Fellow, Proliferation Prevention Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies, USA
Henning Riecke, Research Institute of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)
Moderation: **Sebastian Gräfe**, Program Director for Foreign & Security Policy, Transatlantic Relations, Heinrich Böll Foundation North America

Kleiner Saal 1/2**1b How Safe is Safe?**

The Fukushima disaster has demonstrated that serious nuclear accidents may occur in a highly developed, democratic country such as Japan. What, based on recent events, do we understand as “safe”? What risks are involved? How safe are nuclear power stations around the world? What lessons can we learn from the Fukushima and Chernobyl incidents?

Linda Gunter, Founder and international expert of Beyond Nuclear, USA

Gerd Rosenkranz, Policy Director, German Environmental Aid, Berlin Office

Wolfgang Liebert, Interdisciplinary Working Group on Natural Science, Technology and Safety, IANUS, Technical University of Darmstadt

Moderation: **Camilla Bausch**, Ecologic Institute

Großer Saal 1**1c The Economic Viability of Nuclear Power**

Nuclear power is considered a source of energy that is unmatched in its cost-effectiveness – yet, is this completely true? The workshop will delve into the diverse cost factors of nuclear energy relative to the cost of renewable energies.

Stephen Thomas, Professor of Energy Policy, University of Greenwich, Business School, Great Britain

Samai Jai-In, Energy Specialist, Sustainability Watch; Energy Standing Committee, Thailand

Pradeep Kumar Dadhich, Head of the Centre for Policy and Regulatory Studies, TERI University, India

Moderation: **Arne Jungjohann**, Program Director Environment and Global Dialogue, Heinrich Böll Foundation North America

13.00 *Lunch Break*

14.00 – 15.30 **Parallel Workshops / Round 2**

Kleiner Saal 1/2**2a Uranium – A Clean And Unlimited Source of Energy?**

Uranium mining causes substantial damages to the environment and produces large amounts of radioactive waste. Contaminated soil and drinking water are health risks for those living near mines, and the quantity of uranium that can be mined is limited.

This workshop will highlight the consequences uranium mining has on the environment and on development in the global South and will showcase examples of communities that have successfully opposed mining projects.

Ute Koczy, MoP, Spokesperson on Development Policy of the Parliamentary Group of Alliance 90/The Greens

Fleur Scheele, World Information Service on Energy (WISE), Uranium from Africa Project, Amsterdam

Praful Bidwai, Journalist und peace activist, Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace (CNDP), India

Moderation: **Lili Fuhr**, Department Head Ecology and Sustainable Development, Heinrich Böll Foundation Berlin

Großer Saal 1

2b What to do With Nuclear Waste?

Internationally, the disposal of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel remains unsolved. This workshop will discuss lessons learned on the disposal and reprocessing of nuclear fuels. What are the implications for the future of nuclear power? What should be done with the waste that already exists?

Dorothea Steiner, MoP, Spokesperson on Environmental Policy of the Parliamentary Group of Alliance/The Greens

Gordon MacKerron, Director of the Sussex Energy Group, University of Sussex, UK

Vladimir Sliviyak, Co-Chairman, Ecodefense, Russia

Moderation: **Maximilian Steinbeis**, Journalist

Großer Saal 2

2c Nuclear Fusion – Unlimited, Clean and Achievable?

Nuclear fusion is considered a “clean and safe” source of energy. Many consider it to be the key to a future with a virtually unlimited supply of fuel and little to no waste. The industrialised nations spend a lot of money on this hope. In 2010, in Germany alone, about 135 million Euros – one-third of the budget for energy research – was spent on nuclear fusion. Yet, it is thought that by just 2075 nuclear fusion reactors will supply a considerable portion of our energy needs.

Are such investments justified? Will a fusion reactor be able to fulfil its proponents' promises? Would research budgets be better spent on renewable technologies? In this workshop, a proponent and an opponent of nuclear fusion will discuss the prospects of this technology.

Günther Hasinger, Scientific Director, Max-Planck-Institute for Plasmaphysics (IPP), Garching

Wolfgang Liebert, Interdisciplinary Working Group on Natural Science, Technology and Safety, IANUS, Technical University of Darmstadt

Moderation: **Marcel Viëtor**, Program Officer for Energy and Climate, Alfred von Oppenheim Center for European Policy Studies, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

15.30

Coffee Break

— Where is the Exit? Climate Friendly Energy Solutions Without Nuclear Power

16.00

Panel Discussion

Rebecca Harms, MoEP, Co-President of The Greens /EFA Group in the European Parliament, Brussels

Tobias Münchmeyer, Greenpeace Germany

Pradeep Kumar Dadhich, Head of the Centre for Policy and Regulatory Studies, TERI University, India

Martin Bursík, Director of Eco Consulting, Former Minister for the Environment of the Czech Republic

Moderation: **Dorothee Landgrebe**, Heinrich Böll Foundation

18.00

Hors d'oeuvres and Networking

19.00

Film Screening

„**Chernobyl Forever**“ (57 Min.), Documentary (English)

France / Belgium 2011, Direction: Alain de Halleux

In cooperation with the Green European Foundation

20.00

Film Discussion

Alain de Halleux*, Director, Belgium

Volodymyr Usatenko, Liquidator, Ukraine

Tatsiana Novikava, Environmental journalist, Belarus

Moderation: **Walter Kaufmann**, Heinrich Böll Foundation

**confirmation pending*



Programm
Europa für Bürgerinnen und Bürger

Information

Time and Location:

Wednesday, 13 April 2011 (9.00 – 20.30 Uhr)

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Beletage, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin-Mitte

Public Transportation: Take the S- or U-Bahn to *Friedrichstraße Station*. Exit toward *Albrechtstraße*, walk along *Albrechtstraße*, cross *Reinhardtstraße* and turn left at the end of the street on Schumannstraße. The Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung ist the first building on the left.