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Abstract:

Risk Assessment on nuclear power and its impact on climate change

The political strategy in Germany of phasing out nuclear power and the surprising announcement of the Japanese Prime minister to leave nuclear power as well are hopeful signs to stop the growing radioactive burden for our posterity. Regardless of these developments we are faced by still existing and growing radioactive pollution and a general lack of knowledge and underestimation in the puplic and in politics of the health risks of ionising radiation. Some examples will demonstrate this existing danger.

The accumulation of radioactivity is progressing by

- > the general use of phosphate fertilizers which is commonly enriched by Uranium,
- > the continuous release of radioactive material in the Pacific Ocean through the Fukushima ruins.
- the pollution of the polar seas by abandoned militairy facilities and submarines,
- ➤ the pollution of the Atlantic Ocean by 114 726 tons of high radioactive garbage (containing a lot of Plutonium) in rusting barrels which had been intentionally disposed until the year 1982,
- > the increasing use of depleted uranium ammunition in former Yugoslavia and more and more islamic countries,
- ➤ the unintentional release by the civilian and military atomic application and the unsolved problem of the disposal of the growing nuclear waste through nuclear facilities still in function,
- ➤ last but not least the hazardous relics caused by atomic bomb experiments over three decades and the Chernobyl disaster.

The using of nuclear energy has not proved to have a relevant impact on the progress of climate change as was propagated nor will its end considerably help against this century challenge. Progress in renewable energy production did not lead to a reduction of carbondioxide exhaust through rebound effects in industrial production.

What we really need is a reactivation of the Kyoto Protocol but now with strict binding regulations of the carbondioxide release for every country or alternatively restricted allocations of amounts of energy use.

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