

# Integration of social sciences and humanities into radiation protection research in the Belgian Nuclear Research Centre

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## PISA: Programme on Integration of Social Aspects into nuclear research



Programme started at the end of the 90's

 To better understand normative concepts such as precaution, sustainable development or safety culture



Multi- and transdisciplinary insights from social sciences and humanities

- Reflecting on these issues from within a technical research institute provides
  - Insight in the particularities of nuclear +
  - Structured methodological approach to aspects typically pertaining to social sciences and humanities

#### Objectives of the PISA programme

Unfold social, cultural, ethical and political aspects related to applications of IR

Increase awareness of non-technical issues in the nuclear field and guide related policy

Integrate social science and humanities in radiation protection and nuclear research R&D

- How do technology and society interact?
- How can research practices be made more responsive to societal concerns?

#### Research questions & research tracks



- What is the justification of IR risks?
- What is people's **perception** of radiation risks?
- What is the normative basis for participation?
- How can participation be in practice successfully?
- How and what do we communicate?
- What are the ethical implications of problem framing / solving?
- How is science policy made?



#### Some research tracks

- An 'Ethics of reflexivity' for nuclear technology assessment
- Risk perception
- Risk communication
- Ethics in risk communication

#### If you would like to:

- Discuss about the "why" and the "how" of integrating social sciences and humanities into radiation protection research,
- Know more about the mentioned research tracks,
- Debate on the added value and the challenges of a multidisciplinary programme within a nuclear research institute,



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