



# *RIGHT TO ACCURATE INFORMATION IN NUCLEAR EVENTS – DO WE NEED A NEW CODEX?*

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# Overview



## Key problems:

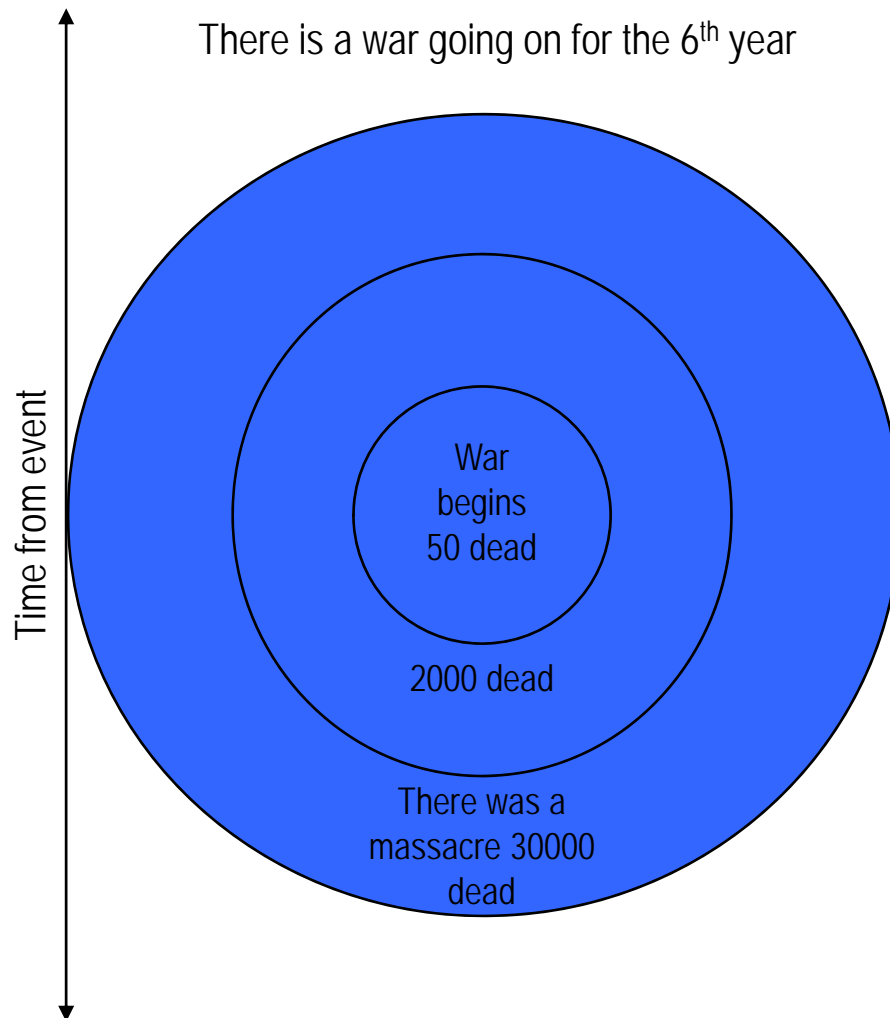
- Timely and proper information in case of nuclear event
- Stakeholders in nuclear industry, their interests and responsibilities
- Technical problems vs. nuclear events
- Self-regulation vs. state regulation
- Technoethics vs. professional standards

# *Timely and proper information*



- What's timely information?
- Timely information depends of the information's nature: is it mere informative (about what happened) or warning (to prepare crowd for certain actions)
- What's proper information?
- Nuclear events history shows that it takes some time to find out what's going on; only proper information – there has been an nuclear event and the data of radiation doses

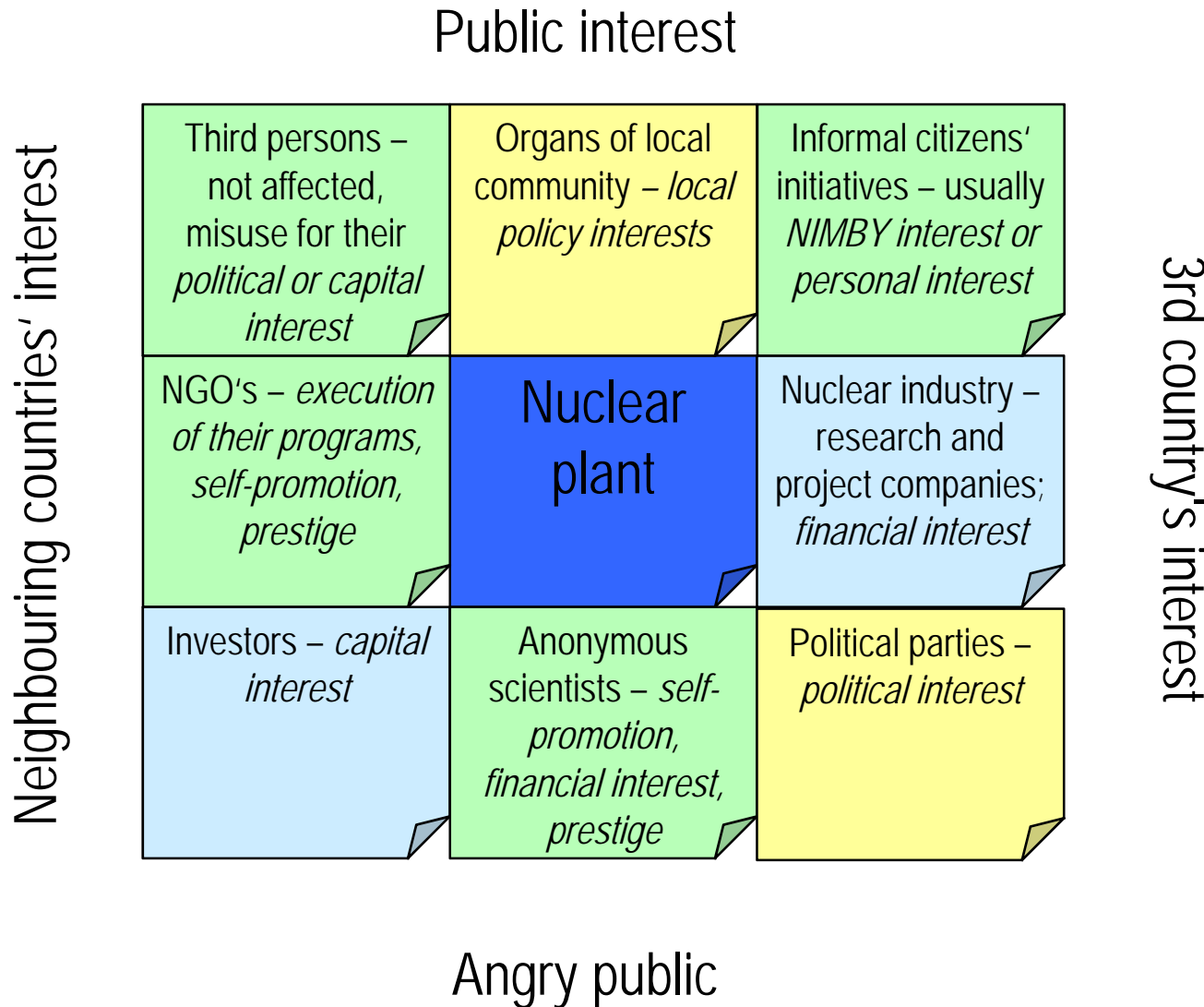
# Proper information



- Properness is in the hand of each media and depends:
  - on the time of the year;
  - of the passed time from the event;
  - of other news.
- To whom the information is proper:
  - crowd;
  - media;
  - politicians;
  - scientific audience.

# Stakeholders in nuclear sector

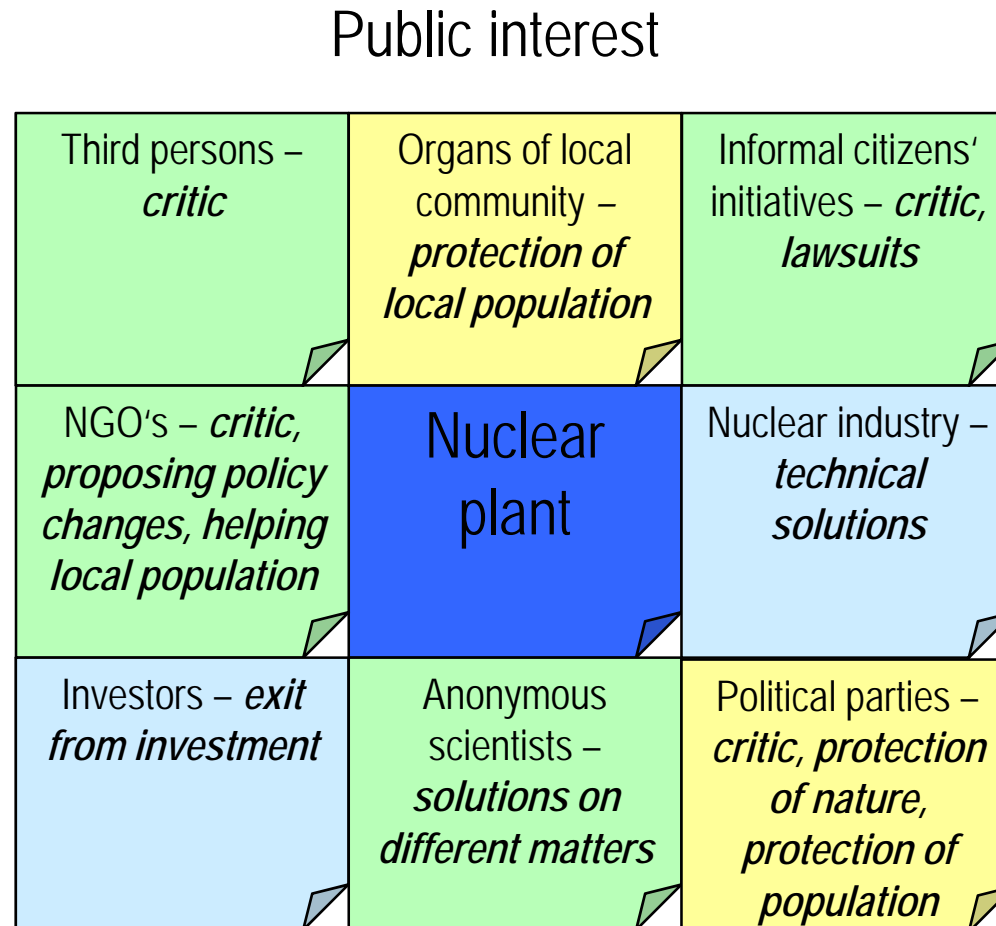
- Civil society
- Industry
- Political system



# Reaction in nuclear event

- Civil society
- Industry
- Political system

Neighbouring countries' interest



3rd country's interest

Angry public

# Technical problem vs. Nuclear event

- Problem in applied arts and sciences;
  - It could be solved with technical solutions (upgrading or changing the technology)
  - Solutions can often be implemented quickly
  - NB don't exchange it with adaptive challenges (require experiments and new discoveries)
  - It could be seen and explainable
  - Sometimes it could be expected
- Nuclear event is defined as any *unintended occurrence*, including operating error, equipment failure or other mishap, the consequences or potential *consequences* of which *are not negligible* from the point of view of protection or safety.

# *Convention on early notification...*



- Convention establishes a notification system for nuclear accidents which have the potential for international transboundary release that could be of radiological safety significance for another State. It requires States to report *the accident's time, location, radiation releases, and other data essential for assessing the situation*. Notification is to be made to affected States directly or through the IAEA, and to the IAEA itself.
- Convention needs two conditions to come into operation:
  - the actual or probable release of radioactive materials; and
  - the actual or possible crossing of frontiers by the materials actually or probably released;
- Problem – conflict between nuclear conventions and Aarhus convention



# *Self-regulation*



- It has old tradition
- It's voluntary
- It solves state laziness
- It gives an impression of legal order
- Protect exclusively members of self-regulatory organization
- It's cheap
- It's vivid

# *Self-regulation vs. State regulation*

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ■ Protection of private interest | ■ Protection of public interest |
| ■ Flexible                       | ■ Rigid                         |
| ■ Cheap implementation           | ■ Expensive implementation      |
| ■ Indefinite and open standards  | ■ Definite norms and standards  |
| ■ Moral sanctions                | ■ Material sanctions            |
| ■ Soft regulation                | ■ Hard regulation               |

# *Need for tecnoethics*



- no clear definition of journalist and journalism
- rapid development of technology
- new actors in the field (host operators, web moderators,...)
- lack of knowledge on certain questions
- quasi-scientists or urbi-et-orbi scientists
- legislator's laziness or incompetence
- openness to new partners
- quick sanctions for non-acceptable activity

# Conclusion



- We need a new codex for whole technical sector
- Soft regulation should be preferred over state regulation
- Information in nuclear events should be timely and accurate due to knowledge and nature of information
- People dealing with nuclear event information should have proper knowledge about the nuclear science
- Different stages of nuclear event require different approach to the right to information
- We should distinguish between media and self-publishing

A scenic view of a turquoise river flowing through a deep, rocky canyon. The river is the central focus, with a vibrant blue-green hue. The canyon walls are steep and rugged, covered in patches of green moss and lichen. The lighting is bright, highlighting the textures of the rock and the clarity of the water. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Thank you!