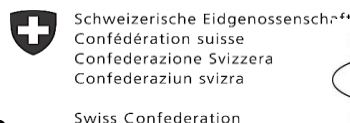


# PARTICIPATION IN RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

## COMPARING AND CONTRASTING THREE EXPOSURE CONTEXTS

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Swiss Confederation  
Federal Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Office of Public Health FOPH



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΑΤΟΜΙΚΗΣ ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΣ  
GREEK ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

RICOMET, 1-3 July 2019, Barcelona, Spain



This project has received funding from the Euratom research and training programme 2014-2018 under grant agreement No 662287.

## NEA Workshop on Stakeholder Involvement in Nuclear Decision Making

### Summary Report

public confidence, not least because citizens expect to voice their concerns and preferences, and to be able to influence decisions of significance to the environment and to community well-being. Stakeholder involvement is not only about what decision is made. It is also about achieving decisions that visibly and transparently reflect stakeholder concerns and input.



### Areas of Research to Support the System of Radiological Protection

- Effects of protracted exposures and low dose rates
- Mechanisms of low-dose effects and dose-response models that take account of them
- Organ-specific, and age and sex differences in, sensitivity to cancer induction
- The role of genetic differences in determining individual sensitivity
- Effects other than cancer and genetic effects and their contribution to detriment
- Relating exposures, doses, and effects on population viability for non-human biota
- Reliability of dose assessments
- Dosimetry and protection methods in medicine
- Ethical and social dimensions of the system of radiological protection
- Mechanisms for interaction with stakeholders



### Activities related to Bonn Call for Action

#### Resources

- RPOP Home
- International Safety Standards
- Publications

Several international organizations  
actions to support 10 proposed

World Health Organization  
The International Conference on

The aims of the Bonn Call-for-Action are to a) strengthen the radiation protection of patient workers overall; b) attain the highest benefit with the least possible risk to all patients; c) appropriate use of ionizing radiation in medicine; d) aid the full integration of radiological health care systems; e) help improve the benefit/risk-dialogue with patients and enhance the safety and quality of radiological procedures in medicine.

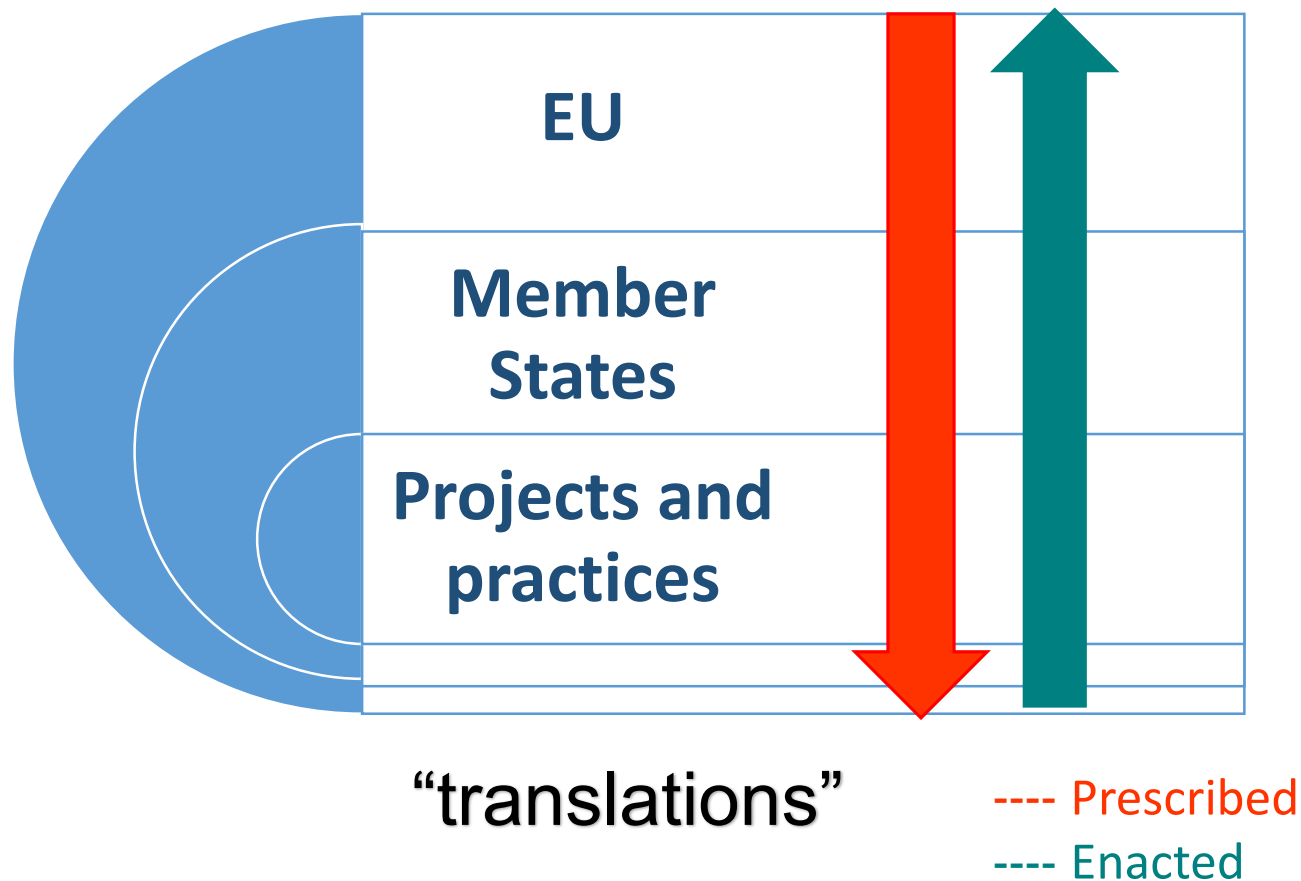
How do we engage?  
Who engages?  
What is engagement for?  
Who benefits and why? Who doesn't?  
Why engage?  
When engage?  
What is the role of radiation protection culture?

...

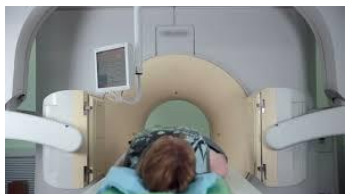
*ENGAGE: H2020 CONCERT on “ENhancinG stAkeholder participation in the GovernancE of radiological risks”*

**November 2017 - November 2019**

## Levels of analysis



# Specificities of exposure situations



**MEDICAL EXPOSURE**



**EMERGENCY &  
RECOVERY  
PREP. & RESPONSE**



**INDOOR RADON**

- Justification of exposure
- Risk / benefits of exposure
- Risk characteristics
- Exposure characteristics
- Main stakeholders concerned by the situation
- Influence of different actors on radiation protection
- Objectives of stakeholder engagement processes

# What we talk about when we talk about .. stakeholder engagement

## EU Legal framework for radiation protection for EP&R

- In general, no precise definitions
  - Who defines?
- Mainly **instrumental motivations**, e.g. “establish living conditions that can be considered as normal”.
- Involvement mostly as **provision of information**
  - Few exceptions: e.g. existing exposure situations, involvement “as appropriate”

**Aarhus convention:** broader frame for public participation

## International guidance and discourse (e.g. IAEA, OECD) for EP&R

- Stakeholders / interested parties: those who “feel impacted”, have an interest, support or not the process, involved or not, have an influence...
- **Broader motivations:** e.g. normative considerations, “**better**, more acceptable **choices** from the environmental, economic and technical points of view”
- **Various levels of involvement** depending on context: information, communication, dialogue, co-expertise...



# Participation practices & RP culture

## National case studies



## 3 exposure contexts



## Mapping formal and informal participation (EP&R in BE)

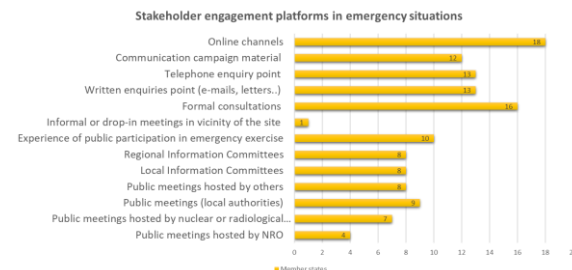
## Round tables, experiments, workshops, interviews ....



## Cross-national analysis



## Radon websites in 8 EU Member States

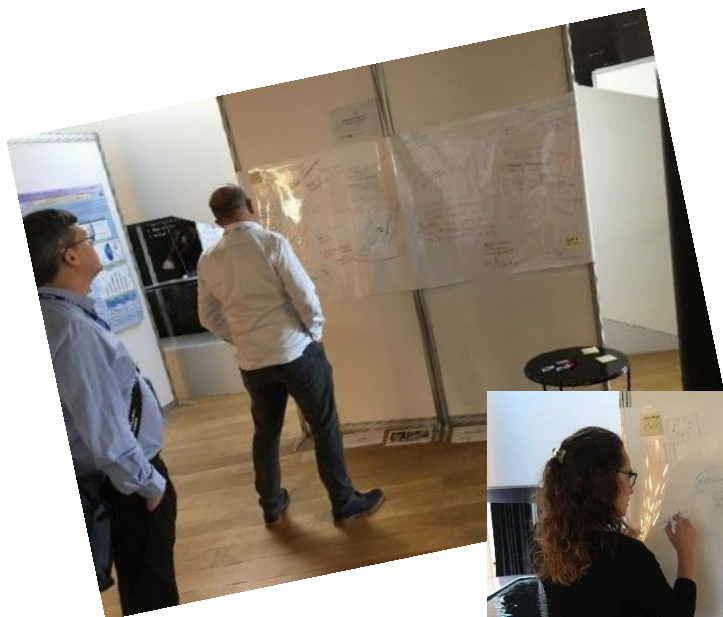


## Survey in EU countries (EP&R)

# Engaging, but how ?

## Within the radiation protection community

- shared **recognition** of the importance of stakeholder engagement,
- joint **acknowledgment** that no stakeholder can be willfully excluded, but..
- shared **unease or uncertainty** about how to organize engagement



“Imagining engagement”  
at the RP Week 2018



## Engaging, but how ?



“Imagining engagement”  
at the RP Week 2018



- ➔ Often linked to awareness raising and communication
- ➔ Gradual institutional shift from public deficit to dialogue
- ➔ Practices often uncorrelated with prescriptions
- ➔ Minimal requirements placed on stakeholder engagement in regulations

## Broadening the scope of 'participation' (new actors, new forms)

- Integration of radiation protection in broader frameworks

- Radon:
  - indoor air quality
  - energy performance
  - National Environmental Health Action Plan
- EP&R:
  - multi-hazard approaches
- Medical:
  - patient-centred healthcare
  - radiological risk as part of professional medical skill and decision-making processes



# Broadening the scope of 'participation' (new actors, new forms)

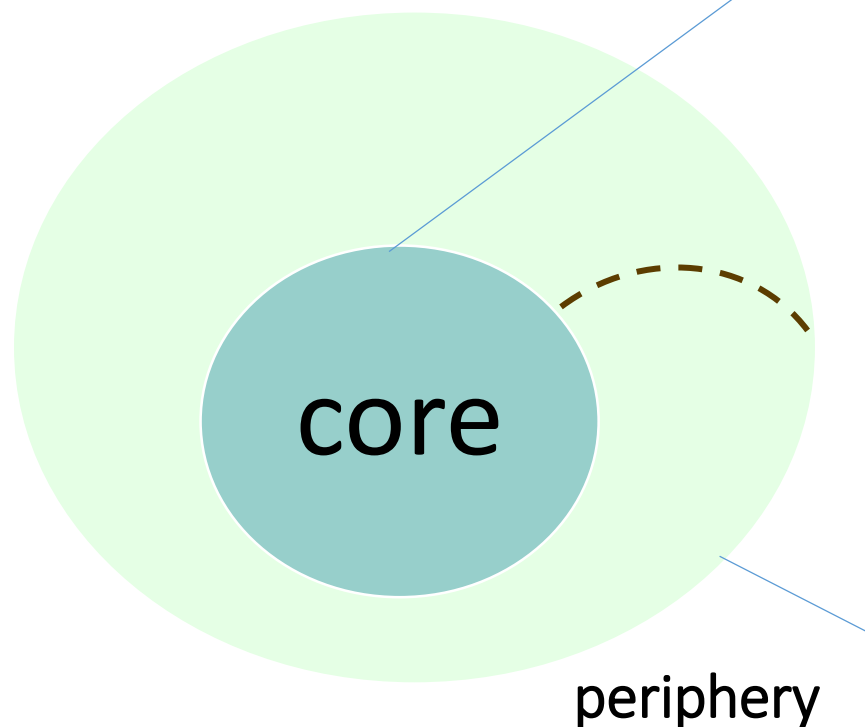
## ● Engagement and disengagement

- (Potential) role of professional associations & other collectives
- Articulation of different risk governance levels
  - Radon: national (risk assessment), regional (resources) and local (mitigation)
  - Medical: health care system (radiation protection policy) and patient (individual care)
  - EP&R: preparedness and recovery; emergency and post-accident
- Actors previously not been considered (e.g. building professionals, GP's, local communities, parents, nurses, care givers, patients committees, etc.)
- Non-existing networks, e.g. relay actors at local level for radon
- Non-participating actors
- Disengagement



# Broadening the scope of 'participation' (new actors, new forms)

Emergency preparedness and  
response (Belgium)

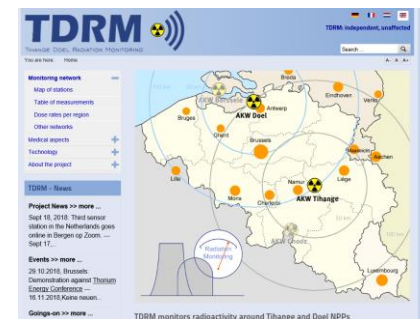


**Formal processes,  
actors,  
institutions:**

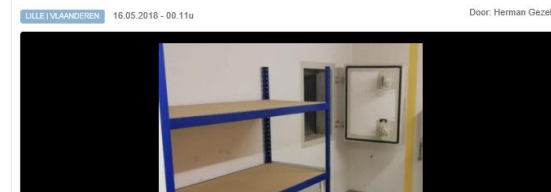
information  
campaign by federal  
authorities, actions  
by NGO's, research  
projects, questions  
in parliament

**Informal  
processes, actors:**

citizen monitoring  
network, private  
business in the field  
of nuclear safety



Kelder wordt schuilkelder voor 'maar' €15.000: "Niet te veel voor verschil tussen leven en dood"



# Transversal and specific issues

- Transversal issues, such as:
  - Resources, mechanisms for engagement
  - Bottom-up vs. top-down initiation of participation
  - Radiation protection culture(s)
- Specific issues, such as:
  - EP&R
    - Formal vs. informal engagement;
    - Consensus vs. dissensus, dialogue vs. debate, communication vs. participation
    - Continuity and reflexive learning
  - Radon
    - Evaluation of action plans
    - Transversality
  - Medical
    - Individual (informed consent) vs. systemic approach
    - Supportive role of professional and patient associations





## *Enhancing stakeholder participation in the governance of radiological risks for improved radiation protection and informed decision making*

**DATE & PLACE: 11-13 SEPTEMBER 2019, Bratislava, Slovak Republic**

[www.engage-concert.eu](http://www.engage-concert.eu)

- Conditions for meaningful participation and commitment of institutional and non-institutional stakeholders
- Broadening the scope of 'participation' in radiation protection
- Alignment of different decision levels: local, regional, national and international
- Bridging risk assessment, risk management and risk communication approaches and stakeholders
- Informed decision-making (role of communication, access to information, informed consent)
- Ethical aspects
- Radiation protection culture

# What next for ENGAGE(MENT)?