

ESI-CIL Nuclear Governance Project

Topic: The Governance of Nuclear Energy: Perspectives for Non-nuclear Countries

The Soft Power of International Insight in and Leverage on National Nuclear Programmes.

Energy policies and nuclear programmes are essentially national responsibilities. Other countries have, in principle, little possibility to interfere. Yet they often have a legitimate interest or concern in the nuclear activities of other countries, in particular to be assured that they will not be exposed to any detrimental effects. Amidst these diverging interests, the governance of nuclear energy has assumed an increasingly international dimension and various cooperative schemes have been developed, which allow, to some extent, States to be informed of, to influence or to get involved in foreign nuclear programmes.

Managing Nuclear Accidents and Dealing with Radioactive Contamination.

Managing nuclear crisis situations, both during and after accidents or incidents, is essentially a national responsibility, and national reactions to similar situations have often been disparate, if not inconsistent. However, potential transnational consequences of nuclear events make crisis management an international issue. Various international mechanisms have been implemented to aim at better international coherence and cooperation, but they remain limited in scope and their effectiveness is far from ensured. One of the key factors is the difficulty to assess risks in a comprehensive and balanced perspective, and to determine optimal measures to deal with radioactive contamination, notably with respect to decisions on the evacuation of people or the decontamination of affected areas.

About the Speaker

Marc-Gérard Albert is currently Director for International Affairs of the French Institute of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (IRSN), in charge of the Institute's international action with respect to institutional matters, international cooperation, and research programmes.

From 2001 to 2010, he was first Deputy Director for International Affairs of the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), then seconded by CEA as Nuclear Counsellor to the Permanent Mission of France to the UN and International Organisations in Vienna. In both positions, he was involved in international nuclear matters in the areas of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, nuclear safety, international security and non-proliferation. From 1996 to 2000, Mr. Albert was a staff member of the IAEA, Head of the Section in charge of information services in the Department of Safeguards. Prior to joining the IAEA, he held various managerial and technical positions in the CEA and COGEMA (now AREVA), where over 20 years he worked in research and in industrial operation in the nuclear fuel cycle, with particular involvement in enrichment technologies.

Speaker: Marc-Gérard Albert, Director for International Affairs, French Institute of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (IRSN)



When: Wednesday
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3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Where:
ESI Conference Room
29 Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Block A #10-01

Free Admission:
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