



*International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection:
Enhancing the Protection of Workers – Gaps, Challenges and
Developments (IAEA-CN-223)
Vienna/Austria, 1 – 5 December 2014*

Radiation Protection in Practice IRPA's view and challenge

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Status of IRPA

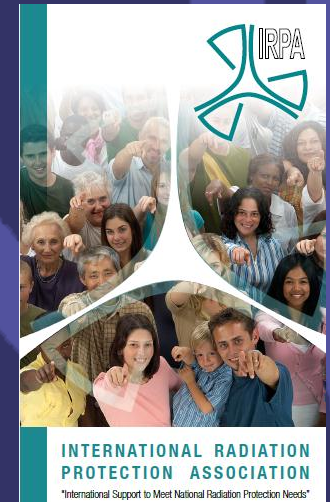


IRPA is the international association of radiation protection practitioners joining through national or regional societies.

- 50 Associate Societies
- Representing 63 Countries
- **Almost 18,000 individual members**

Value and strength of IRPA:

*Enormous resources of **practical knowledge and experience** in radiation protection : **scientists, operators, regulators, medical practitioners, government advisers***





Vision of IRPA

IRPA is recognized by its members, stakeholders and the public as the ***international voice of the radiation protection profession*** in the enhancement of radiation protection culture and practice worldwide.



IRPA's Key Challenge



IRPA's Mission



IRPA strives to ensure that

the highest standards of professional conduct, skills and knowledge in radiation protection are applied for the benefit of society.

Radiation Protection in a changing society

Increasing globalization

Importance of economic cross linking

global transmission of new and complex technologies

Innovations e.g. in transport

Revolution in communication

Emerging diseases

Factors related to terrorism

A black rectangular box containing white text arranged in four lines: 'CHANGING PLACE', 'CHANGING TIME', 'CHANGING THOUGHTS', and 'CHANGING FUTURE®'. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font.

- ✓ **Society is changing and this also poses new challenges for the implementation of an effective protection system.**
- ✓ **Clear understanding of radiation risks is an increasing emerging concern – people are more concerned on the same level of risk!**

IRPA's current programme of activities focuses mainly on two thematic areas:

- Effective and focussed engagement with other international organizations e.g. ICRP, IAEA, ILO, UNSCEAR, NEA, EC, WHO, IOMP.....**to provide feedback on the system of protection between practitioners and international organizations**
- **Sharing and embedding of good practice and professionalism** in Associate Societies and individual members through the development of Guiding Principles, the support and coordination of education and training and the convening of effective Congresses



Topical issues in IRPA's activities

Elements of IRPA's recent programme with particular relevance to practical radiation protection include the following:

- Radiation Protection Culture
- Ethical Dimensions of Radiation Protection
- Implementation of the System of Protection
- Public understanding of Radiation Risks



Radiation Protection Culture

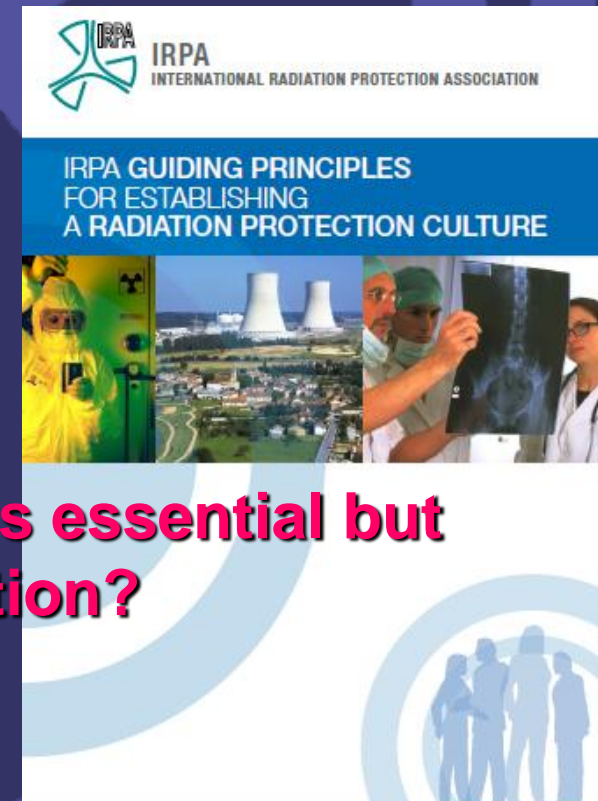
„Radiation Protection Culture is a learned way of life.“

IRPA and IAEA congresses are an ideal platform for exchanges on this topic in the next years or even decades

IRPA is exploring the possibilities of developing more practical guidance in different fields

**Implementation on practical level is essential but
What are the tools for implementation?**

**New initiative in collaboration with
IOMP and WHO**





Ethical Dimensions of Radiation Protection

Ethics of Radiological Protection (2nd phase)

Upcoming Second European Workshop in Madrid 4-6 Feb 2015
(SEPR, SFRP, SRP, AIRP, IRPA, ICRP)

targeted to the application of ethics for specific topics of implementation:

- *occupational exposure*
- *medical exposure*
- *public exposure associated with legacy and radioactive waste.*

IRPA will prepare a document particularly with the views from practitioners for further consideration by ICRP TG94

Implementation of the System of Protection



Task Group on **Eye Lens Dose Limit** Phase 2 being established

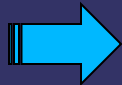
- *implications for dosimetry*
- *implications for methods of protection*
- *wider implications while implementing the revised limits*

Target: a basic protocol, which will be presenting in an schematic way the following points:

- *Which workers have potential exposure to eye lens ?*
- *When the monitoring is necessary?*
- *Which protective methods can be suggested, when applying the limit of 20 mSv/a for eye lens?*

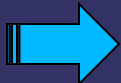


Implementation of the System of Protection



Early involvement of practitioners in development, review and revision of standards

- ✓ *Engaged in the development of the IAEA Safety Guides e.g Occupational RP, Medical Exposure through review of drafts and participation in consultancies*
- ✓ *Transposition of the EU Basic Safety Standards – **implementation** issues*
Voice of practitioners is seen as essential in this process –
- ✓ *RP for mobile high activity sealed sources*
Participation in the drafting of ToR for an ICRP publication



Involving the practitioners can add a different dimension



Public understanding of radiation risks

is a key issue for all practitioners in securing the safe use of radiological practices for the benefit of mankind.

IRPA Task Group to coordinate and share lessons, good practices etc.

IRPA Associate Societies have many experiences in public information and education, e.g. by successful schools programmes (IRPA13), information leaflets, public Q&A opportunities, evaluation after Fukushima

IRPA and its Associate Societies are independent - of governments, industries, regulators - and have a high potential to be trusted as a credible source of information also by the wider public.



Main challenge

Ensuring that the system of protection is fit for purpose, credible and able to be presented to, and understood by, all those impacted by radiation.

Partnerships and collaboration



IRPA and the International RP Community



IRPA invites you to work with us to address radiation protection challenges world wide.

IRPA provides a platform for wider discussion and enhancing awareness through our International and Regional Congresses:

**14th IRPA International Congress
Cape Town, May 2016**

IRPA's 50th Anniversary!

