

## the Aarhus Convention in the nuclear sector

### **CURRENT ISSUES** Maastricht – 2 July 2014

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### Ageing nuclear reactors the Espoo Convention



- The June 2014 MoP: endorsed findings on noncompliance Ukraine in life-time extension Rivne 1,2
- Result:
  - EIA for life-time extension
  - Also when no physical changes
  - Transboundary EIA
  - Periodic safety review is decision moment for EIA
- Upcoming for: [regulators, resp. auth. Aarhus]
  BE, CH, CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, HU, NL, SE, SK, SI, UK

### New build and transboundary Hinkley Point C



- Espoo and Aarhus investigating lack of transboundary EIA and public participation
- UK court accepted appeal hearing July 2014
- Likely result:
  - Each new build nuclear reactor needs a long-range transboundary EIA
  - Recent examples of better practice: HU, FI, PL

Nat. nuclear waste programmes EU Directive 2011/70/Euratom



- To the Commission: August 2015
- Programmes under art. 7 Aarhus, Kiev Protocol to the Espoo Convention and SEA Directive 2001/42/EC
- transboundary: near-border storage / disposal, regional storage / disposal, (re)processing abroad, international or near-border transports

# Emergency preparedness and response



- Post-Fukushima NTW Round tables: existing plans and implementation inadequate
- Access to information and public participation need to improve
- Transboundary action required
- European Commission communication under preparation

### **Current SEA and EIA practice**



- Energy policies  $\rightarrow$  SEA!
  - Good procedural practice: PL nuclear energy plan
- Wide notification (see Hinkley Point C case)
- Content issues in SEA and EIA practice:
  - inclusion of viable alternatives
  - inclusion of beyond design accidents
  - inclusion of the entire fuel chain including waste
- Access to justice
  - standing, timing, costs





- <u>Ageing reactors</u>: Espoo  $\rightarrow$  EIA for life-time extension
- <u>New build projects</u>  $\rightarrow$  transboundary SEA / EIA
- National nuclear waste programmes  $\rightarrow$  SEA 2015
- Emergency preparedness and response  $\rightarrow$  attention
- <u>Current SEA / EIA practice</u> → improvement of content and access to justice



### NUCLEAR TRANSPARENCY WATCH

Prevent and anticipate through transparency and participation



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