



Hello!

We invite you attend two events at the Eastern Partnership Forum dedicated to the Nuclear Neighborhood in Europe. Participants must register in advance by email to Tanya Novikova <novikova@gmail.com>. Please register as soon as possible but no later than 28, November, as space is limited.

Experts from Belarus, Russia, Ukraine and The Czech Republic will present their views on problems with construction and planning of nuclear power plants (NPPs) and how the Aarhus and Espoo conventions could solve them.

Tatyana Novikova from Belarus and Andrey Ozharovsky from Russia will speak about their anti-nuclear activity in Belarus and Russia – about recent arrests and repression and discuss how the European Community could help the anti-nuclear and environmental movement. Tatyana will also present documents by non-governmental organizations on the issue of NPP construction in Belarus, Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania.

The events are planned 30 November 2012 at 10.50 - 12.20 and 14.05 - 15.35 in the Globen Quality Hotel, Stockholm, Sweden. Please see the attached program and website address below.

Best regards,

Tatyana Novikova and Irina Sukhii from the environmental organization “Ecohome”, Belarus

The official agenda of EaP Civil Society Forum: <http://www.eap-csf.eu/assets/files/Agenda%20CSF12v%2019.pdf>



## Nuclear Neighborhood

### Civil Society Development Workshops

Friday 30 November

Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

Place: Quality Hotel Globen, Stockholm, Sweden

Arenaslingan 7, 121 26 Stockholm

*For pre-registration call, mail, please your name and organization to [novikova@gmail.com](mailto:novikova@gmail.com) no later than 28, November 2012*

### Workshop 1 (30, Nov. 2012, 10.50 - 12.20)

#### **Nuclear Neighborhood: Transboundary Issues in European Union and Eastern Partnership Countries**

##### **Aims**

- to inform about transboundary effects of the Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) projects in EU and Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries and about related international problems;
- to inform about how Espoo convention (UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context) mechanisms could help to solve international problems in EU and EaP countries related to NPP projects;
- to raise the issue of transboundary effects of planned NPP in EU and EaP countries and discuss possible joint action.

##### **Speakers and Topics**

1. Andrey Ozharovskiy (Nuclear scientist and journalist with Bellona.ru) – transboundary effects of NPP projects in EU and EaP countries.
2. Jan Haverkamp (Greenpeace) – international problems related to transboundary effects of NPP in EU and EaP countries (Slovenia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Lithuania).
3. Nataliya Andrusevych – Application of the Espoo Convention to Nuclear Projects: outlook of the EaP region.
4. Tatyana Novikova (Ecohome, Belarusian antinuclear campaign) – the cases of Belarusian, Lithuanian, Hmelnitskaya NPP and Espoo convention implementation.

**Suggested outcomes:** Statement and ideas of joint activities within Eastern Partnership.

As an example of a transboundary conflict (between Lithuania and Belarus) the issue of the Belarus nuclear power plant (NPP) will be presented. June 2011 Lithuania filed a complaint with the Espoo Convention Implementation Committee regarding the Belarus NPP. In September 2012 the Espoo Convention Implementation Committee took a draft decision about violations by Belarus the Espoo Convention in regard to its NPP project. Nevertheless, Belarus continues construction of its NPP, violating legislation and regulations.

Consequences of a severe accident at a Belarus NPP could harm not only Vilnius, but Copenhagen, Stockholm, and Helsinki.

Another example is the harassment of Belarusian antinuclear activists by the government of Lithuania before the Lithuanian referendum 14 October 2012 on construction of a NPP.

The transboundary impacts and problems of NPP in Slovenia, Poland, and Lithuania will also be presented.

## **Workshop 2 (30, Nov. 2012, 14.05 - 15.35)**

### **Nuclear Power and Democracy in European Union and Eastern Countries**

#### **Aims**

- To draw attention to the recent conflicts and problems related to nuclear projects (Belarus, Lithuania, Ukraine, etc.)
- To inform about mechanisms of The UNECE Convention on Public participation in environmental decision making (Aarhus Convention) related to democratic procedures in decision-making on the nuclear issues;
- To discuss possible joint activities within the Eastern Partnership.

**Suggested outcomes:** Statement and ideas of joint activities within Eastern Partnership.

#### **Speakers and Topics**

1. Nataliya Andrusevych – Aarhus convention mechanisms and decision-making related to nuclear issues in EU and EaP countries.
2. Jan Haverkamp (Greenpeace) – democracy and NPP projects in EU and EaP countries.
3. Tatiana Novikova (Belarus Antinuclear Campaign) and Andrey Ozharovskiy (Bellona.ru). Tatiana was arrested in Minsk in the summer of 2012 to prevent delivery of an antinuclear petition). Andrey was arrested in Belarus twice in the summer of 2012 and was expelled and prohibited re-entry for 10 years - NPP construction and problems with public participation in decision-making in Belarus.

As an example of a conflict related to NPP construction, the case of Belarus will be presented. The nuclear lobby in Belarus avoids dialogue with opponents and prefers repression against opponents. Activists who criticize the nuclear power plant (NPP) construction have been searched, arrested and expelled from Belarus. Information about the arrests in Minsk the few month ago will be presented. Some of the workshop speakers experience repressions and will share their stories.

In 2011 the Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention officially noted violations by Belarus in the NPP project and made recommendations. Belarus continues violation of the Aarhus Convention.