



# IRPA Bulletin

*For RP professionals, by RP Professionals*



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**IRPA President Bernard Le Guen Honored by Spain. Find out more in the President's Blog!**

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Your IRPA Commission on Publications:

IRPA Communications Officer: Andrew Karam; Bulletin Editors: Andrew Karam & Dave Niven; Associate Societies Liaison: Adelene Gaw; Website: Managers Andrew Karam & Chris Malcolmson; Social Media Managers: Sven Nagels & Chris Malcolmson; Media Reviewers: Sven Nagels, Young-Khi Lim & Hattori Takatoshi; Proceedings Advisor: Haruyuki Ogino



# PRESIDENT'S BLOG

DR. BERNARD LE GUEN

If you ask most children what they want to be when they grow up most of them are going to say that they want to be a firefighter, an astronaut, a professional athlete, a doctor, or any of a number of other jobs – what these all have in common is that they're jobs or careers kids have heard of, that they've seen on television, and that they have reason to respect. Not many children grow up dreaming of a career in radiation protection...in fact, vanishingly few adults have ever heard of our profession. As a result, our numbers are dwindling and an increasing amount of the world's work in radiation protection is being done as a secondary job responsibility by laboratory technicians, safety professionals, and others who see their radiation protection work as secondary to their primary interests.



I've said before that what we do is important, and it is. While much of our work can be done by laboratory and medical technicians, safety professionals, physicians, and the like, there is a large amount that must be done by dedicated professionals who have chosen to make radiation protection a career – who have studied, worked to earn certification and other credentials, who have spent years or decades learning and developing an appreciation for the nuances of the field in which they have chosen to develop this expertise. We need professors who can share their knowledge and their passion with their students, we need regulators who can see past forms and checklists to understand what's important and what isn't, we need radiation protection officers who are able to bring their experience to bear on difficult questions and novel situations, we need people to do the work of maintaining our profession and our professional societies, and so much more. And as things stand today, as they have been for the last few decades, we do not have the people that we – that our profession – needs if it is to remain vital now and in the years to come.

This is the main reason for the new RP Careers page on the IRPA website – to help those who are interested in our profession to understand what it is that we do, perhaps to see it as a fulfilling career for themselves, and to help new RP professionals to learn more about how to turn their job into an interesting career in which they can grow both personally and professionally over the years or decades. I urge you to spend some time reading what we have – and to help us to make it better. Do you know of an academic program in radiation protection? Tell us about it! Send us the URL, write a paragraph about it, and we'll add it to the web page. Does your nation (or your Associate Society) have a professional credentialing program? Tell us about that too – email us ([cop@irpa.net](mailto:cop@irpa.net)) a link to the website describing the credentialing process in your nation and tell your colleagues how the process works. And so on. This is how you can help us to build our profession – and we do need your help.



# PRESIDENT'S BLOG

DR. BERNARD LE GUEN



In other news, I'm pleased to announce that IRPA has signed a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) with the [International Society of Radiology \(ISR\)](#) to enhance cooperation between our two organizations in the field of radiation protection.

As a part of the agreement, both parties recognize that we can complement each other in promoting our respective objectives. Specifically, both IRPA and the ISR will:

- organize joint events or sessions
- provide each other the link to FORO and IRPA website on their own webpage
- inform on and possibly invite a designated representative of the other organisation to participate in respective events and venues
- send an official letter of invitation for attendance of meetings.
- explore possibilities of cooperation in projects

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## IRPA President Bernard Le Guen Honored by Spain

On November 25, 2020 IRPA President Bernard Le Guen was honored by Spain's Royal Academy of Medicine of Zaragoza, being received as a Corresponding Academician by the Royal Academy and presented with a medal and diploma by the Academy's president, Dr. Luis Miguel Tobajas Asensio on behalf of His Majesty, the King of Spain. The Spanish Society for Radiation Protection was represented by Professor Eduardo Gallego.

Following his induction, Dr. Le Guen gave a lecture titled "Exposition de l'homme aux rayonnements ionisants et effets sur la santé in cas d'expositions accidentelles aux fortes doses. Exemples de prises en charge médicales d'accidents d'irradiations localisées." (Human exposure to ionizing radiation and the effects on health in the event of accidental exposure to high doses. Examples of medical management of localized radiation accidents).

Please join us in congratulating Bernard for this honor.





# NORM X - 10TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON NORM

JEROEN WELBERGEN

The Dutch Society for Radiation Protection (NVS) has established the Dutch Foundation “Radiation Protection Symposium North-West Europe” to organize the 10th International Symposium on NORM. NORM X is organized in cooperation with IAEA, EC, ILO, ICRP, IRPA, UNSCEAR, USEPA, ARPANSA, CRCPD, ENA, SHARE, ANVS and NVS. The targeted audience of this symposium is a variety of stakeholders, including various sectors of industries with NORM residues, disposal facilities, (inter)national transport, as well as regulators, researchers and service providers.



NORM X should lead to increased harmonization of operational aspects and wider application of international guidance and regulations, including the EU BSS and the IAEA GSR Part 3 (IAEA BSS), which has already achieved considerable mutual harmonisation. The program of NORM X reflects progress in international philosophy on closing material circuits and consists of:

- Plenary and parallel sessions about specific NORM topics, with international experts as invited speakers for each session:
  - 25 years of NORM Regulations, with Peter Görts (ANVS, The Netherlands)
  - Fundamental and practical implementation aspects of regulations, with Jelena Mrdakovic-Popic (DSA, Norway), Philip Egidi (US EPA) and Miroslav Pinak (IAEA)
  - Current and future challenges – NORM tailings and residues in a Circular Economy, with Julian Hilton (Aleff Group, UK) and Analia Canoba (ARN, Argentina)
  - Environmental Aspects of NORM, with Horst Monken-Fernandes (IAEA)
  - NORM impacted Industries, with Ulric Schwela (Ta-Nb Int. Study Centre, UK)
  - NORM Sampling & Metrology, with Luis Ernesto Matta (IRD, Brasil)
  - Stakeholder engagement and public communication, with David Allard (NJDEP, US) and Yevgeniya Tomkiv (NMBU, Norway)
  - Research and Development, with Wouter Schoeyers (University of Hasselt, Belgium)
  - Transportation of NORM classified materials, with Eric H. Weber (IAEA)



- Sub-specialities of these topics:
  - Protection of workers, public and environment
  - Legislation and regulations
  - Education & Training (capacity building)
  - Radon / Thoron
  - Mining of ores including U and Th
  - Rare earths, Niobium, Tantalum industry
  - Zircon and zirconia, Titanium-dioxide industry
  - Phosphate industry and phosphogypsum
  - Oil and Gas production and geothermal industry incl. liquid NORM
  - Coal combustion, cement, building and construction materials industry
  - Decommissioning and Environmental remediation
  - NORM Residue and Waste management
  - Miscellaneous
- Refresher courses (free participation and accreditation will be sought by ANVS and AAHP):
  - Regulatory Framework for the Safe Management of NORM - from Regulations to implementation, international recommendations and European requirements. Lecturers: Burçin Okyar (IAEA), Stefan Mundigl (EC)
  - From fundamental safety principles to operational radiation protection programs. Lecturer: Konstatinos Karfopoulos (AEC, Greece)
  - Assessing public exposure from NORM-discharges - key parameters and simple approaches to dose estimates. Lecturer: Christian Kunze (IAF-Radioökologie, Germany)
  - A regulators perspective on the assessment of environmental NORM risk (experiences with risk models from a user's perspective). Lecturer Cameron Lawrence (ARPANSA, Australia)
  - NORM metrology and sampling. Lecturer: Rafael García-Tenorio (CAN, Univ of Sevilla. Spain) (Organized in cooperation with ENA)
  - Risk and Health communication about NORM: from theory to practice. Lecturer: Tanja Perko (SCK-CEN, Belgium) (Organized in cooperation with SHARE / RICOMET)
  - Workshop on the safe management of NORM residues. Lecturer: Zhiwen Fan (IAEA)
  - The application of the ICRP system to NORM in industrial processes: from PUB 103 to 142. Lecturers: Analia Canoba (ARN, Argentina) and Jean-François Lecomte (IRSN, France)
  - Decommissioning of NORM sites (two case studies). Lecturers: Mette Nilsen (DSA, Norway) and James McCullough (NJDEP, US)
- Technical visits (provisional)
  - Geothermal site (The Netherlands)
  - Pipe cleaning installation (The Netherlands)
  - NORM repository (The Netherlands)
  - NORM measuring devices at Customs (Belgium)
  - Gypsum depony (Belgium)
- Associate events, organized by ENA and SHARE / RICOMET



# NORM X - 10TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON NORM

JEROEN WELBERGEN

Deadline for sending in an abstract is February 1, 2022 and you will be informed about the acceptance on February 15, 2022. Upon acceptance you should send in a full paper by April 1, 2022. You can apply for an oral presentation or for a poster presentation. Each oral presentation is scheduled for 25 min (20 min presentation, 5 min Q & A). In case that your registration depends on the acceptance of your abstract, the registration fee for the date that the abstract was submitted applies.

The Board of the Dutch Foundation likes to invite you to participate in this symposium: May 9 - 13, 2022 at Utrecht, The Netherlands. You should look at [www.NORMX2022.com](http://www.NORMX2022.com) for more information, registration, the venue etc.



**The conference centre in Utrecht, Jaarbeurs**





# THE MONTREAL FUND NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

SIGURDUR M MAGNUSSON

The Montreal Fund (MF) is used to enhance radiation protection worldwide by supporting the attendance of students and young professionals at regional and international IRPA Congresses. Support is preferentially provided to those from developing countries and countries that do not have IRPA Associate Societies.

The Fund is typically supported by contributions from Associate Societies and other stakeholders. However, recently contributions have been decreasing, which is a matter of serious concern. There are several regional Congresses next year which have expectations for MF funding. In addition, IRPA 16 in Orlando in 2024 is just around the corner and will require significant funding from the MF. Generous contributions from our Associate Societies are needed for the MF to fulfil its important role. Even small contributions of a few hundred or a thousand USD add up and enable generous MF support in the future.

## History of the Montreal Fund

The Montreal Fund was created in 1995 by the Canadian Radiation Protection Association with the proceeds of the IRPA-8 International Congress held in Montreal, Canada, in 1992. The Fund was transferred to IRPA in 2005 with a total amount of \$75 000 CAD. Since then, it has been managed by the IRPA [Montreal Fund Committee](#) which consists of the President, Vice-President, Executive Officer, and Treasurer of IRPA. The Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Council regarding the amount available each year for distribution and the amounts to be distributed based on the requests received.

Distributions are normally made directly to the selected individuals or through the Congress Support Committees. Individuals are selected in accord with the [Terms of Reference](#) for the Montreal Fund Committee. Congress Support Committees are expected to provide an accounting of funds distributed (including names of recipients) to the Treasurer in due course following the closing of a Congress.

The most recent distributions from the Montreal fund include are highlighted below (in USD):

- 2008-2012: \$16 000 to support attendees at regional Congresses in Nairobi, Kenya and Medellin, Colombia, and \$21 800 to the IRPA-13 (Glasgow) Bursary fund
- 2012-2016: \$6 000 to support attendees at the regional Congress in Rabat, Morocco, and \$26 000 to support attendees at IRPA-14 in Cape Town
- 2016-2020: \$8 429.50 to support attendees at the regional Congress in Africa and \$ 30 000 to support attendees at IRPA-15 in Seoul.

In January 2021 the Montreal Fund balance was about \$30 500. The IRPA 15 Congress, which was held virtually in January 2021 due to the pandemic, returned about \$15 000 of the original \$30 000 that had been budgeted along with an additional contribution of \$10 000. Further contributions from the Dutch and the Nordic Societies have been received in 2021. IRPA is most grateful for these generous contributions.



# IRPA WEBSITE UPDATES

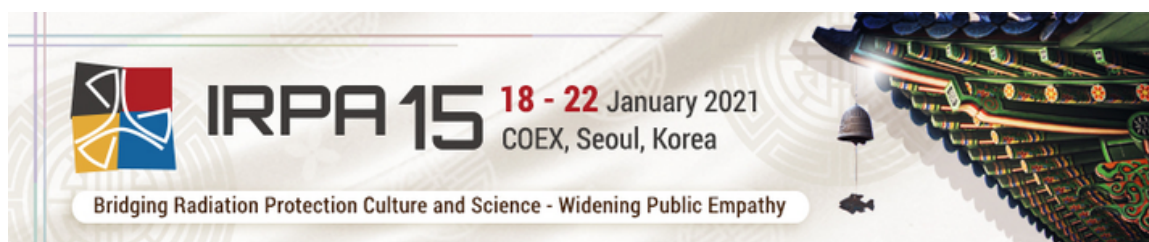
## Careers in Radiation Protection

IRPA is pleased to announce the new [Careers in Radiation Protection](#) web page on the IRPA website. At present the RP Careers page includes a description of the profession of Radiation Protection and links to information specific to some of our Associate Societies. As this page continues to evolve we plan to also include links to RP academic degree programs, job listings (where possible) and any additional career-related information that will help the reader to better understand what our profession does, how to begin a career in Radiation Protection, and how to build a career.

Our profession is important – every nation has hospitals and any variety of industries that make use of radiation and radioactivity – yet there are very few who are even aware of us or the work that we do, and those who do know of us are not always certain how to start and build a career. It is our hope that the RP Careers web page will help to address this lack of information...but it's only the first step in what will have to be a prolonged and multi-faceted effort. To that end, we urge you to send information (including links to web pages) on academic programs, certification programs, professional and academic societies, and other career-related information to us at [COP@irpa.net](mailto:COP@irpa.net)

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## IRPA 15 Proceedings



The [Proceedings of the 15th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association](#) are also now available on the IRPA website. This includes all abstracts, published in a single volume, as well as over 100 individual papers published from the congress presentations. Video links to the recorded presentations will be added in the future to this page as well.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, including resheduling the congress dates, the organizing committee put on a fantastic event full of interesting, informative topics and discussions. Be sure to check out the proceedings page to see what you've missed, and start thinking about your presentations for IRPA 16 in 2024!





# NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CROATIAN RADIATION PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

INES KRAJCAR BRONIĆ & IVANA COHA

The Croatian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA) holds meetings of the General Assembly (GA) with election of executive board members in 4-year intervals. The GA typically occurs during regular CRPA symposia; however, like so many other events the symposium scheduled for April 2021 was cancelled due to the pandemic. Slightly better conditions during the summer period enabled a live in-person meeting of the Assembly on October 6, 2021.

The CRPA speaker, president, and treasurer gave presentations to the membership summarizing the activities performed during the 2017 – 2021 term. Due to pandemic restrictions and partial lockdown, there have been few activities during last two years; most Executive Board activities were performed in the first half of the term, with the most important being the organization of the 12th CRPA symposium, held in Varaždin (Croatia) in April 2019. The Section of young CRPA members was also quite active during this term and organized two section meetings, once each in 2018 and 2020, where the members were able to network and share information on their scientific and professional activities. The Section also held a more informal meeting during the 2019 Symposium where young members from neighboring societies were also invited. Lastly, In October 2019 CRPA organized the 16th meeting in Zagreb which included 25 participants from 15 European countries; this turned out to be the last live meeting of this kind.

Calls for best thesis or publication by young scientists or professionals were announced in 2017, 2019 and 2021. Unfortunately, there were no candidates for the 2017 and 2021 calls; therefore, CRPA did not have a representative for the Young Scientists and Professionals Award (YSPA) at the European IRPA congresses in 2018 and 2022. Marko Gerić received a national award in 2019 and represented CRPA at the YSPA competition at the 15th IRPA Congress in Seoul, South Korea, held in January 2021.

CRPA had fruitful cooperation with the radiation protection societies in the region, especially with the Radiation Protection Society of Serbia and Montenegro, the Radiation Protection Society of Slovenia, and the Hungarian Roland Eötvös Physical Society's Health Physics Section. Their representatives have regularly participated in the national symposia of CRPA, and CRPA sent representatives to their national meetings. The CRPA representative also participated regularly at the annual meetings of the European IRPA Associate Societies.

Finally, the new Executive Board of CRPA for the 2021 – 2025 term was elected. The new president is Ivana Coha (Ruđer Bošković Institute), the vice-president is Branko Petrinec (Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health) and the secretary is Renata Ban (Ekoteh, Zagreb).

Information about CRPA can be found on our web page [www.hdzz.hr](http://www.hdzz.hr) where the content in English is currently under development.



# THE 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ROMANIAN SOCIETY OF RADIATION PROTECTION

The Romanian Society of Radiation Protection (SRRp), led by President Dr. Fiz. Constantin Milu, is a professional association of Romanian radiation protection specialists with 70 active members as of January 1, 2021. SRRp was founded on May 30, 1990 and has been a member of the International Association for Radiological Protection (IRPA) since 1992.

The SRRp has been an active participant in international conferences, organizing (in collaboration with IRPA) "IRPA REGIONAL CONGRESS FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE" in Brasov (September 24-27, 2007), and, most recently, participating in the May 2018 IRPA 5 European Congress IRPA 5 in The Hague, the IAEA International Conference on Radiological Safety (November 9-20, 2020), and the IAEA online Workshop on Education and Training in Radiological Protection of Health Professionals (March 8-10). Most recently the SRRp held a national online conference on October 22, 2021 with the theme Current Practices and New Concepts, Regulations, and Evaluations in Radiation Protection (a copy of the Proceedings can be found by clicking on the image below).



## SOCIETATEA ROMÂNĂ DE RADIOPROTECȚIE

### CONFERINȚA NAȚIONALĂ A SOCIETĂȚII ROMÂNE DE RADIOPROTECȚIE (SRRp\_2021) cu tema:

*Noi concepte, reglementări și evaluări în domeniul  
protecției radiologice în practicile actuale*

*Masa Rotundă: Planificarea și pregătirea răspunsului  
la urgența nucleară în România, după accidentul de la  
Fukushima*

- PROGRAM -  
- LUCRĂRI SELECTATE -

Vineri 22 octombrie 2021, on – line , orele 09:00 - 17:00

Editura ETNA  
SRRp