



**Second European Workshop  
on the Ethical Dimensions of the  
Radiological Protection System**  
Madrid, 4-5-6 February 2015



# Ethical Dimension of the Radiological Protection System Processes in Europe



*Marie Claire Cantone, Italy*



**1<sup>st</sup> European Workshop  
on the Ethical Dimensions  
of the Radiological  
Protection System**

*Preliminary Programme and Registration*



**16-18 December 2013**  
Sala Napoleonica  
Via S. Antonio 4, Milan, Italy  
*Hosted by the University of Milan*

ORGANISED JOINTLY BY

Associazione Italiana  
di Radioprotezione  
(AIRP)

Société Française  
de Radioprotection  
(SFRP)

IN COOPERATION WITH



**16 – 18 December 2013**

**AIRP and SFRP, in cooperation with  
ICRP and IRPA have organized the**

***1<sup>st</sup> European Workshop on the  
Ethical Dimension of the  
Radiological Protection System***



## *Main points discussed in the WGs*

- The main key ethical values founding the system: **dignity and autonomy, beneficence and non-maleficence, justice, prudence and precaution, transparency and accountability.**
- It was acknowledged that the system **has evolved** to take into account the concerns and values of the society, among them **stakeholder involvement, protection of the environment, focus on the protection of the individuals.**

## *Summary of the general discussion*

### *Justification*

- It was recognized the **crucial role of ethical considerations** in justification process .
- **The RP system cannot and should not be stretched to provide the full rationale for societal justification, but it can and should create critical considerations on how our methods of knowledge generation and decision making should foster autonomy and involvement of potentially affected persons and promote vigilance and fairness in justifying radiation risks.**

## *Summary of the general discussion*

### *Dignity*

- **Dignity was largely discussed in the aspects of implementation of RP system** in specific situation (e.g. in case of protection of people living in contaminated areas).
- From the ethical point of view, Justification, Optimization and Limitation are seen in the sense of Beneficence, Autonomy and Justice; **in addition dignity** was suggested referring to more general questions .

## *Summary of the general discussion*

### *Ethical values in implementing the system*

- The participants **called for further developments in the implementation of the ethical values** within the RP system.
- The distinction between **ethical values, procedural ethics** (i.e. stakeholder involvement...) and **behavioural ethics** (i.e. honesty, open-mindedness...) as an essential point.
- **Transparency and accountability** related to procedure, while **honesty** related to behavior.

## *Summary of the general discussion*

### *Deliberation and democratic process*

- **Procedural values** for the implementation of the system are to be considered carefully: e.g. **rational of limits is not only in science and also referred to prudence.**
- Prudence is related to uncertainty at low dose exposure and, if there is no clear evidence, deliberation is needed with **stakeholder involvement.**

## *Main Outcomes from the Workshop*

- **The interest to take into account the social values** to better explain the ethical considerations and the ethical values for the system application.
- The interest to address the **values**, the **procedures** and the **behavioural aspects**, with the final aim to discuss and to better understand the application of the ethical values, rather than focussing on the theoretical meaning.
- The need to diffuse the key **ethical values** together with the considerations on **their implementation to the radiation protection professionals for their day-to-day practice.**



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**Final report, slides and photos are available**

[http://www.airp-asso.it/?post\\_type=convegni&p=950](http://www.airp-asso.it/?post_type=convegni&p=950)

<http://www.sfrp.asso.fr/spip.php?article457>



**UK Workshop on the Ethical  
Dimensions of the Radiological  
Protection System**

**Wednesday 11 June 2014**

British Dental Association,  
64 Wimpole Street  
London W1G 8YS



**UK Workshop on the  
Ethical Dimensions of the Radiological Protection System**

**11 June 2014, London, United Kingdom**

# Structure of the UK Workshop

**J. Lochard**

*'The Ethical Foundations of the Radiological Protection System – Work in Progress at ICRP'*

**R. Coates**

*'Reflecting further on the ethics of radiological protection'*

**J. Thurston**

*'Radiation Protection and Professional Ethics'*



## Working Groups

**A) Ethics within the System of Protection**

**B) Ethics in the application of the System**

**C) Challenges to Communication and Understanding of Radiation and Risk**

<https://www.srp-uk.org/news/article/64/uk-workshop-on-ethics>



**ISEEH**

**2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Ethics of Environmental Health**

**15-19 June 2014, Budweis, Czech Republic**



**ISEEH2014** was held in conjunction with the **OPERRA** Workshop on Ethics of Radiation Protection and with a panel discussion organized by **EAGLE**.



The purpose of the symposium was to create and discuss an agenda for research on ethical questions of radiation protection for the coming years.



**Topics for future research on ethics of radiation protection**

[www.iseeh2014.org](http://www.iseeh2014.org)