

Invitation to Press Conference

Presentation of a new report on health and environmental effects of the Chernobyl disaster that estimates a significantly high number of casualties

Dear Sir or Madam,
dear colleagues,

The explosion of the Ukrainian Nuclear Power Plant in Chernobyl in the early hours of April 26, 1986 marked the starting point of the worst nuclear disaster worldwide. Until today, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reports only admit up to 4,000 possible deaths as a consequence of radiation exposure from the accident. A new report by a team of British experts, commissioned by the green MEP Rebecca Harms now provides an independent analysis of the IAEA/WHO reports and estimates a notably higher number of casualties worldwide. Additionally, the paper reveals the ongoing extensive social and economic damage to Ukraine.

At our press conference, MEP Rebecca Harms will present the results of this new report and the political conclusions. Besides, we want to give you an introduction to the international conference "Chernobyl+20: Remembrance for the Future", which will be held in Kiev from April 23 to 25 on invitation of the Heinrich-Boell-Foundation (Berlin), The Greens/EFA in the European Parliament, the parliamentary group of the German Green party Buendnis 90/DIE GRUENEN, Ecoclub (Rivne, Ukraine), the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (Washington, DC), the World Information Service on Energy (Amsterdam) and IPPNW (Germany)

We cordially invite all media to this joint briefing:

Tuesday, 11 April 2006 at 11.00 am

Interfax News Agency

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Participants:

- Rebecca Harms, MEP, Spokeswoman of the German Green MEPs
- Agnieszka Rochon, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Warsaw
- Tanya Murza, Ecoclub, Ukraine

For questions, please contact Tanya Murza: +380-44-4832-961