

Arius/ERDO work presented in Washington DC, USA

On April 6, 2018, Arius was invited to co-sponsor a joint discussion session organised in Washington DC by the Stimson Foundation, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS), and Arius. The title was "Solving the Unsolvable: Nuclear Waste Solutions for the New Millennium". Three Roundtables were included:

- 1: Nuclear Waste Management – Existing Proposals and Levels of Governance
- 2: Factors that might Advance Storage Solutions at the National or Multilateral level: Experiences from around the World
- 3: Challenges and Possibilities Ahead.

In addition, the lunch break included a keynote presentation by Dan Poneman, who has served as Deputy Secretary of Energy in the US government, and incidentally was part of the Pangea project team over 15 years ago. The appended full agenda of the meeting illustrates well the diversity and experience of participants.

Arius/ERDO was involved in Round table 1 with an overview of all current initiatives related to multinational disposal of used nuclear fuel presented by Charles McCombie. In addition, Table 3 included a presentation prepared by Neil Chapman and Charles McCombie on the controversial issue of geological repository costs ("*What are - could - should they be?*").

Other presentations gave valuable insights into recent US proposals for multinational interim storage, the positive progress of the Canadian national siting programme, the current situation with the very topical South Australian proposals for hosting a multinational repository, and the efforts of US organisations including the sponsors and also the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) to encourage multinational cooperation at the back-end of the fuel cycle amongst Asian countries.

Each of the presentations was followed by a lively discussion. The full event was recorded and the resulting video, as well as the individual presentations of all speakers, are available on the Stimson Foundation website at <https://www.stimson.org/content/solving-unsolvable-nuclear-waste-solutions-new-millennium#video-scroll> .

The event itself and the invited participation of Arius/ERDO illustrate the continuing international interest in enhancing cooperation at the back-end of the fuel cycle and, specifically, in the possibilities for multinational disposal of radioactive wastes.

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Solving the Unsolvable: Nuclear Waste Solutions for the New Millennium

April 6, 2018

Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:15** **Opening Remarks by the Stimson Center and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences**
- Speakers:
Cindy Vestergaard, Stimson Center
Francesca Giovannini, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 9:15 – 10:45** **Roundtable: Nuclear Waste Management – Existing Proposals and Levels of Governance**
- Chair: Cindy Vestergaard, Stimson Center
- Speakers:
Putting proposals into the global context
Carlyn Greene, UXC

Towards Regional Solutions to Nuclear Waste Management: Lessons Learned from Institutions around the World
Francesca Giovannini, American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Multilateral Interim Storage
Robert Rosner, University of Chicago

Current Multilateral Repository Initiatives
Charles McCombie, Arius Association
- 10:45 – 11:00** **Coffee Break**