

http://www.news.ippnw.de/commonFiles/pdfs/Anzeigen/IPPNW_fukukushim_anzeige_sz.pdf

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), *founded in 1980, is a non-partisan federation of national medical groups in 63 countries. This is the text of their full page ad signed by 2,328 doctors and supporters of IPPNW in weekend edition of Süddeutsche Zeitung.*

The Energy Change: think globally, act locally

The accelerated change to renewable energies is an ecological, economic and social question of existence with a peaceful policy dimension. No more time can be squandered."
(Hermann Scheer, 1944–2010)

27 years after Chernobyl:

Thyroid cancers and leukemia have been omnipresent in children and adults since the fourth year after the catastrophe. According to careful calculations, 1.6 million people have died across Europe from the effects of radiation from Chernobyl.

Of the 800,000 clean-up workers more than 125,000 have died.

Hundreds of thousands of people are severely ill. The infant mortality rate is up. Birth defects increase with each generation.

2 years after Fukushima:

Thyroid cysts and nodules have been found in over 35% of children in the prefecture of Fukushima. These are usually very rare in this age group.

Thyroid cancers are to be feared from 2014/15, leukemia somewhat later. In December 2011, nine months after the catastrophe, the infant mortality increased, and the number of births clearly decreased.

Worldwide since Fukushima around 430 nuclear plants are still operating. They are the door handle for atomic weapons. Another catastrophic meltdown is a question of time. The population cannot be protected.

Catastrophe planning is a patchwork. Medical help and medicines against radiation do not exist. Only prevention is possible. In Germany Fukushima led to a rethinking: 8 nuclear plants were immediately closed. The remaining 9 must now quickly follow!

The people are taking production of energy with renewable energy sources in their own hands. Citizens, municipal utilities, energy cooperatives, building trades and mid-sized companies can achieve the energy change with

decentralized electricity production from renewable sources in just a few years. To 100 percent. They won't let themselves be stopped by the big energy companies and their lobbyists in the parties.

The key to reaching the goal of "regional energy autonomy" is a net of decentralized means of energy storage, which will make wind and solar energy independent of the weather. The parties have to finally recognize this and do something for it. It is high time to promote local and regional energy storage through the Renewable Energy Law, instead of wasting huge amounts for unnecessary "electricity highways" (*large transmission lines*) that benefit the big companies.

Regional energy autonomy eliminates the need for expensive imported energy, promotes prosperity throughout the county and helps prevent wars over resources and commercial routes -- that is the "peace policy dimension" of the energy change.

*Translated from the German by Anna Gyorgy
Women and Life on Earth internet project, 11 March 2013*