

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen!

Thank you for this unique possibility to give you today my position about nuclear energy and nuclear weapons in our contemporary world.

My name is Nadezhda Kutepova, I am from Russia, I was born in 1972 in the nuclear city of Ozersk in heart of Russia. Ozersk was a secret city, a closed city. In Ozersk the Soviet Union created the first plutonium for the first Soviet nuclear bomb. As an answer to the first American nuclear bomb. My grandmother was a chemical engineer working at the nuclear plant Mayak, she made plutonium with her own hands and died from cancer before my birth. My father was a liquidator of the first nuclear accident which happened in our town in 1957. After that he got a job as engineer on the nuclear reprocessing plant and died from cancer when I was 13.

When growing up, I have never known about nuclear energy and nuclear materials, I was a normal soviet girl, I only saw how many people around me in my family died or became disabled. And I thought it is normal! NOT one question – why this happened came to my mind. The horrible things were normal for me !

Many years later only, I found out in what a dangerous town I lived and what exactly is being produced in our nuclear plant called Mayak. But such horrible things still are normal for people who work for nuclear industry in places as the one where I live and work. And not only in Ozersk city, but in many places around the world where people dependent from the nuclear lobby.

Today I am head of NGO The Planet of Hopes in Ozersk and I am a lawyer. My mission is to defend people who suffered or are still suffering from nuclear contamination in my region, who still are living near the nuclear contaminated Techa river or who are first or second generation victims, ill because their parents or grandparents were irradiated many years ago.

From my place and my point of view nuclear industry looks like a monster, because I can't work quietly, they try to stop my job, they try to threaten me, they tried to close my NGO. Because I see the insides of the nuclear monster.

I say – and continue to say, that the nuclear lobby is lying. They won't stop me.

The nuclear money needs continuously more and more new money for old problems which they can't solve. The only solution to the problems of nuclear industry is to stop them forever.

They lie to us when they tell us about «new» and «clean » nuclear technologies and at the same time they can't answer to our question – please show us – how and where you keep safety nuclear waste, what you will be do with them in future?

I see– nuclear waste is spilling into open rivers (as in Russia) or into the sea (as in France) or put underground in “temporary” storage (as in many countries).

They lie to us when they tell us there there are no consequences for health and environment of using of nuclear energy–

But what we see after the accidents in Chernobyl, Mayak and Fukushima are the many victims, we see illness and cancers also from socalled ‘normal’ activity of NPP.

There is no “safe” dose of radiation. Nuclear victims in Russia still can't receive compensation for a nuclear accident which happened 55 years ago. The Russian government prefers to wait till all the victims have die, than they might decided to pay compensation – but since they will be all dead, finally the state will pay nothing at all.

The nuclear lobby lies to us when they tell us that Nuclear Power Plants and nuclear energy are the solution for climate change. They only want to receive money from climate funding mechanisms as another subsidy to fill their own pockets. They know it will not contribute to solving the climate change problem.

They lie to us when they say that we can't live any more without nuclear energy in the energy sector. They make fun about us – and say that the Greens want to send us back to ancient times, в пещеры. But Germany, Switzerland and Japan closed their nuclear program and we see - life there continues.

They lie to us when they tell us that we can use peaceful plutonium for military goals. And they lie when they say that they can obtain energy from spent military uranium and plutonium. What we do see is that now any country can create its own nuclear or dirty bomb and nuclear military technologies more and more easily available on the black market!

At the same time we see that the source of nuclear energy are extremely expensive. It creates huge, inflexible and unsafe systems, which can lead to the collapse of nature or human beings.

Each time, after every nuclear accident, much more money was spent trying to reduce the long-term damage of and compensate victims than were earned from using the nuclear energy.

Only the Nuclear lobby earns money. But for nuclear waste and consequences of accidents it is the tax payers that pay!

Another tendency which we see today is that the nuclear lobby are leaving markets in developed countries because people there no longer want to have such expensive and unsafe energy. So the nuclear lobby tries to conquer markets in poorer countries, where people are less aware about all the consequences, risks and costs of nuclear energy. It is dishonest, but it is so.

So, my conclusion for Rio 20 is nuclear world lobby and nuclear world corporations try to solve their own problems, not ours. We must phase out nuclear energy as the only acceptable global way for future generations. It will be hard, and demand strong political decisions from us. But we must, we have no other way if we want to keep life on this Planet. At the same time as alternatives, we must develop clean, cheap and sustainable sources which can work in case of any natural or technological disaster, and can be available for all the people still living in poverty and without energy today.

Thank you so much for your attention.