European SAfeguards Research and Development Association

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ESARDA, the European Safeguards Research and Development Association, is comprised of European organisations actively involved in the research and development (R&D) of nuclear safeguards.



Working Groups ESARDA has established standing Working Groups

The control of civil nuclear material is mandatory within the EU territory in line with the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community ("Euratom Treaty", 1958) and the Treaty on the Non Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1970).

ESARDA was formed in 1969 with the purpose of facilitating collaboration in R&D in the field of safeguards and in the application of such R&D to the safeguarding of source and special fissile materials. ESARDA is an association established by an Agreement, which has legal force according to the Belgian law.In 2015, there are 29 Parties, 5 Associate Members and 8 Individual Member to this agreement.

ESARDA includes regulatory authorities, operators of nuclear facilities, research centres and universities. ESARDA aims to bring together all those involved in safeguards, so that progress and continuous improvement in international safeguards can be achieved efficiently and to a professional standard. dealing with various technical subjects. They are the key bodies of ESARDA and are of two basic types:

Discipline-oriented WGs:

- Containment and Surveillance (C&S)
- Novel Approaches / Novel Technologies (NA/NT)
- Techniques and Standards for Destructive Analysis (DA)
- Techniques and Standards for Non Destructive Analysis (NDA)

Horizontal Issues WGs:

- Implementation of Safeguards (IS)
- Verification Technologies and Methodologies (VTM)
- Export Control (EXP)
- Training and Knowledge Management (TKM)
- Young Generation (YG)
- Editorial Committee (ED-CTEE)

The principal issues are co-ordination of research, exchange of information and joint execution of R&D programmes. ESARDA also strives to fulfil an educational role and to reach the general public.

Annual Meetings

The Annual Meetings provide an opportunity for collaboration and the exchange of scientific information. The latest developments and different perspectives on tackling the challenges in the field are presented and debated at the meetings, which traditionally take place in May.

Typically, about 150-250 specialists attend the biennial open "Symposium on Safeguards and Nuclear Material Management". Approximately 100-150 papers are presented at each symposium. These are later published in the symposium proceedings, which are made available to the general public.





ESARDA Course

The Institute for Transuranium Elements of the JRC and ESARDA organise the academic course on Nuclear Safeguards and Non-Proliferation, which is recognised by the European Nuclear higher Education Network.

This compact one -week course is open to masters degree students, in particular nuclear engineering students, but also to young professionals and International Relations/ law students. It aims at complementing nuclear engineering studies by including nuclear safeguards in the academic curriculum.

Technical Publications

ESARDA publishes a Bulletin containing scientific and technical articles related to safeguards and verification as well as news related to the ESARDA activities. The Bulletin includes a dedicated section for peer reviewed papers, in addition to more general information and news on ESARDA and ist members. This publication appears twice a year. In addition, thematic special issues are published as proposed by the ESARDA community.



Alternating with open symposia, a biennial internal meeting takes place where all ESARDA working groups convene and have the opportunity to discuss issues of common interest in joint meetings.

Please contact ESARDA at

esarda@jrc.ec.europa.eu

ESARDA Website

The website features the latest issues of the Bulletin, as well as scientific and practical information about the working groups and symposia. It also contains general information and reference materials relating to safeguards (Treaties, etc.). Please visit ESARDA at

http://esarda.eu