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Workshop:

The changing role of economics and economists in nuclear policy and politics: cross-country and cross-temporal comparisons

Organisers: GSPR, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris

IPAG Business School, France

Venue: IPAG Business School, 184 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75006 Paris

Date: 6 July 2015, 9am-6pm

In association with the conference *Our Common Future Under Climate Change*, Paris, 7-10 July 2015, and the 21st Session of the *Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21/CMP11)*. Workshop partly financed by the programme NEEDS/CNRS, Projet fédérateur NEEDS-Nucléaire, Risques et Société.

Purpose: This one-day workshop intends to bring together experts from the industry, academia, NGOs and the government in order to present and discuss changes in the substance of economic argumentation on nuclear energy, as well as in the roles of economics and various economic experts in policymaking and political debate. Drawing primarily but not exclusively on examples from France and the UK, the workshop will focus on three main themes:

1. Which are the key factors and controversies in debates over the economics of nuclear energy? Which controversies and underlying hypotheses are the most crucial? Are there hidden costs and country-specificities?
2. The weight of economic experts and arguments in policymaking on nuclear power: whose word counts? Who are the credible and legitimate experts? How has the weight of economics and economic experts changed over time? How does the weight of economics/economists differ across countries?
3. Factors shaping the credibility, legitimacy and salience of economic experts and arguments in policymaking on nuclear power: why is an expert credible and legitimate while another is not? Which contexts enhance/reduce the weight of economics/economists?

Programme

8.45 – 9.15 Arrival, registration and morning coffee

9.15 – 9.30 Welcome and introduction to the workshop (Ingmar Schumacher and Markku Lehtonen)

9.30 – 11.00: Fundamentals of nuclear economics: assumptions, hypotheses, electricity markets

- **Laurent Joudon:** Some insights into the role of economics and economists in nuclear policy
- **Nicolas Bocard:** Fundamental drivers behind the evolution of nuclear power: from the origins until the current renaissance
- **Thomas Reverdy:** How to reduce uncertainties in electricity pricing through market redesign

11.30 – 13.00: UK and the political economy of nuclear: from liberalism to state aid

- **Gordon MacKerron:** Economics and nuclear power in the UK
- **William Nuttall:** British Nuclear Renaissance 2005-2015 – UK market reforms, technology choices and the EU context
- **Paul Dorfman:** Implementing EC economic energy policy: Legal Challenge to the EC decision to allow UK fiscal support mechanisms for new nuclear

14.00 – 15.30: Economics and economists of risk, crisis and fear

- **Patrick Momal:** Elaborating a cost figure for nuclear accidents in France
- **Steve Kidd:** Nuclear opportunity, economics and the paradigm of fear
- **Yves Marignac:** The role of biased economics in the nuclear crisis, and the role of economists in letting it happen: insights from the French case

16.00 – 18.00: Panel discussion (chair: Rob Broomby)

- All speakers except Reverdy

Convenors:

Francis **Chateauraynaud** and Markku Lehtonen (GSPR/EHESS), Ingmar **Schumacher** (IPAG Business School, France), and Eric **Strobl** (Ecole Polytechnique Paris, France)