



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace and Development

First International Conference on Nuclear Law: The Global Debate

IAEA Headquarters

Vienna, Austria

25-29 April 2022

(postponed from 7-11 February 2022)

Organized by the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Announcement and Call for Papers

A. Introduction

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA's) is organizing its First International Conference on Nuclear Law: The Global Debate (ICNL 2022) at its Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, from 25 to 29 April 2022.

Nuclear law is an essential prerequisite for realising the many benefits of the safe, secure, and peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology. A basic feature of this body of law is its dual focus on benefits and risks. It provides a legal framework for conducting activities such as the use of irradiation sources in medicine and industry, the operation of facilities, the transport of radioactive material and the management of radioactive waste, in a manner which adequately protects individuals, property and the environment from harmful effects of ionizing radiation, now and in the future. This highly specialized body of law, which permeates the entire nuclear sector, must encompass all stakeholders and be responsive to developments in the peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology.

The four branches of nuclear law are nuclear safety, security, safeguards and civil liability for nuclear damage. However, operating within a larger legal context, nuclear law also interacts with other fields of law at the national, regional, and international level.

The IAEA plays a multi-faceted role in the development and implementation of nuclear law. Through its Legislative Assistance Programme, the IAEA assists countries in adhering to and effectively implementing the relevant international instruments.

B. Purpose and Objectives

The IAEA's First International Conference on Nuclear Law will provide a unique global forum for representatives from governments, international and non-governmental organizations, the industry, the legal and insurance sectors, academia, and civil society, to discuss current topical issues.

The conference will:

- Examine nuclear law in the context of current and emerging peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology, with a view to identifying areas for possible further development.
- Examine the role of nuclear law in the broader context of other areas of law, including, energy law, environmental law, maritime law, and Law of the Sea.
- Promote the exchange of expertise in nuclear law and share good practices in the implementation of the international legal instruments in this field.
- Share experiences in establishing comprehensive national nuclear legal frameworks.

- Raise awareness about the opportunities and challenges for the next generation of nuclear lawyers, whether in government bodies or private nuclear and legal sectors; and identify approaches to encourage and support the next generation of nuclear lawyers.
- Exchange information on the range of assistance and capacity-building programmes including the IAEA Legislative Assistance Programme.
- Facilitate cooperation in this field among stakeholders at the national, regional, and international levels, as applicable.

Participants are encouraged not to discuss any sensitive information.

C. Structure, Themes, and Topics

The conference will consist of plenary and topical sessions:

- The **opening session** will include welcome addresses from the IAEA and keynote speeches from leading global experts in nuclear law. Keynote speakers will be announced well in advance of the commencement of the conference.
- **High-level panels and round-table discussions** will provide the opportunity for facilitated discourse on the main themes of the conference.
- A series of **topical sessions** will consist of presentations on selected papers relating to topical areas identified through the submission of synopses.
- During the **closing session**, the IAEA will provide a summary of the main conclusions of the Conference and closing remarks.

Consistent with the objectives set out above, the tentative list of topics is set out in the Annex. Authors can submit papers on a topic not listed in the Annex; the IAEA will take the final decision on which papers will be accepted and whether additional topics will be added to the programme.

The final determination of the number, themes, and scope of the high-level panels, round-table discussions, and topical sessions will be based on the nature and number of synopses received. Guidance on the submission of synopses is provided in Section E.

D. Target Audience

The conference is aimed at and will be of interest to 1) representatives from governments, including regulators, policy-makers and law-makers; 2) international organizations; 3) non-governmental organizations; 4) operators and nuclear industry; 5) legal and insurance sectors; and 6) academia and civil society. The IAEA welcomes and encourages the participation of women, early career professionals and individuals from developing countries.

E. Synopses, Papers, Proceedings

Contributions on the topics listed in the Annex are welcome as oral presentations. All submissions, apart from invited papers, must present original work, which has not been published elsewhere.

E.1. Submission of Synopses

Anyone wishing to present a paper at the conference must submit a synopsis of between 400 and 800 words in electronic format through the conference's web browser-based file submission system (IAEA-INDICO), which is accessible from the conference web page (see Section O). The synopses must be submitted through this system between **1 April 2021 and 30 July 2021**. No other form of submission will be accepted. Specifications for the layout will be available on IAEA-INDICO.

In addition, authors must submit the following two forms to their appropriate governmental authority using the InTouch+ platform (see Section F) for transmission to the IAEA. These forms must be received by the IAEA no later than **30 July 2021**:

- Participation Form (Form A)
- Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B)

IMPORTANT: The electronically received synopses will be considered by the IAEA only if these two forms have been received by IAEA through the established official channels (see Section E).

E.2. Acceptance of Synopses

The IAEA reserves the right to exclude synopses that do not comply with its technical or scientific quality standards. The number of contributions that can be accepted for topical sessions is limited. Authors will be notified by **30 September 2021** as to whether their submission has been accepted for oral presentation at the conference.

E.3. Proceedings

Following the conference, the IAEA will publish a report containing summaries of the plenary and topical sessions, as well as selected synopses. The proceedings will be made free to read online and print copies can be ordered, at a special discounted price.

F. Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the conference must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be member of an organization that has been invited to attend. The list of IAEA Member States and invited organizations is available on the conference web page (see Section O).

Registration through the InTouch+ platform:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):

- Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can [sign in here](#) with their username and password;
- Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can [register here](#).

2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

- Complete or update their personal details under ‘Basic Profile’ (if no financial support is requested) or under ‘Complete Profile’ (if financial support is requested) and upload the relevant supporting documents;
- Search for the relevant event (EVT2005402) under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
- Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
- If applicable, indicate whether a paper is being submitted and complete the relevant information;
- If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
- Based on the data input, InTouch+ will automatically generate Participation Form (Form A), Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) and/or Grant Application Form (Form C);
- Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application will be transmitted automatically to the required authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority). If approved, the application will automatically be sent to the IAEA.

NOTE: Should prospective participants wish to submit a paper or request financial support, the application needs to be submitted by the specified deadlines (see section L).

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help](#) page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

If it is not possible to submit the application through the InTouch+ platform, prospective participants are requested to contact the IAEA’s Conference Services Section via email: Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

G. Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the conference. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help cover the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA’s view, the participant will make an important contribution to the conference.

If participants wish to apply for a grant, they should submit applications to their official authority using the InTouch+ platform (see Section F) for onward transmission to the IAEA. Participants should ensure that applications for grants are:

1. Submitted by **30 July 2021**;
2. Accompanied by Grant Application Form (Form C); and
3. Accompanied by Participation Form (Form A).

Above forms are automatically generated by the InTouch+ platform. Applications that do not comply with the above conditions cannot be considered.

Approved grants will be issued in the form of a lump sum payment that usually covers **only part of the cost of attendance**.

The IAEA will set aside some of the available funding to support young professionals under the age of 35 who are expected to make an important contribution to the conference.

H. Distribution of Documents

A preliminary and final programme will be made available on the conference web page (see Section O) prior to the start of the conference. The electronic compilation of synopses will be accessible free of charge to participants registered for the conference.

I. Working Language

The working language of the conference will be English. All communications must be sent to the IAEA in English.

J. Venue and Accommodation

The conference will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC two hours before the start of the conference on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hotels offering a reduced rate for participants are listed on <https://www.iaea.org/events>. Please note that the IAEA is not in a position to assist participants with hotel bookings, nor can the IAEA assume responsibility for paying fees for cancellations, re-bookings and no-shows.

K. Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria as early as 3 months but not later than

four weeks before their travel. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

For more information, please see the Austria Visa Information on <https://www.iaea.org/events>.

L. Key Deadlines and Dates

Submission of synopses through IAEA-INDICO	30 July 2021
Submission of Form B (together with Form A) through the InTouch+ platform	30 July 2021
Submission of Form C (together with Form A) through the InTouch+ platform	30 July 2021
Notification of acceptance of papers	30 September 2021
Submission of Form A only (no paper submission, no grant request) through the InTouch+ platform	No deadline

M. Exhibits

A limited amount of space will be available for commercial vendors' displays/exhibits during the conference. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by email to ICNL2022@iaea.org before **30 July 2021**.

N. Conference Secretariat

General postal address and contact details of the IAEA:

International Atomic Energy Agency
 Vienna International Centre
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Administration and organization:

Ms Martina Khaelss

Conference Services Section

Division of Conference and Document Services

Department of Management

IAEA-CN-299; EVT2005402

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on administrative matters to the IAEA's Conference Services Section.

O. Conference Web Page

Please visit the IAEA conference web page regularly for new information regarding this conference: [International Conference on Nuclear Law: The Global Debate | IAEA](#)

Annex: Tentative List of Topics

A. Four Branches of Nuclear Law:

Nuclear Safety

- Steps to strengthen the international nuclear safety framework and how to overcome obstacles to achieving them.
- Translating the safety culture concept into legal requirements.
- Moving from a Code of Conduct to a Treaty.
- Legal implications of the long-term operation of nuclear power plants.
- Radiopharmaceuticals – gaps, denial of shipments, nuclear liability.
- International licensing and alternative approaches - legal issues.
- Legal aspects of multilateral cooperation on the back-end of the fuel cycle - potential for multinational approaches to the management of used nuclear fuel and nuclear waste.
- Regional cooperation on radioactive waste and used fuel final disposal – the required legal frameworks.
- Measures to bolster security of supply of radioactive material.
- Post-Fukushima Legal Developments.
- Emergency preparedness and response legal considerations for new technologies.

Nuclear Security

- Overview of the international legal framework for nuclear security and its implementation through national nuclear security regimes - progress, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.
- Computer security - applicability of the current international nuclear legal framework.
- Is the amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material adequate to its task and can review conferences strengthen the debate?
- New technologies such as drones, artificial intelligence, 3D printing - the adequacy of existing legal frameworks and synergies with other areas of law.
- Nuclear security and safeguards legal framework – extent of synergies.

Nuclear Liability

- Towards a global nuclear liability regime – progress made and what next?
- The need for a special regime in particular with respect to fusion reactors, radioactive sources, and low risk facilities.
- Challenges with the implementation of the nuclear liability principles such as to the long-term management of radioactive waste.
- Nuclear liability and the transport of nuclear material.
- Heads of damage - clarifying the scope of damage covered.
- Limited or unlimited liability of operators.
- Adequate compensation, financial security, delivery of compensation and the role of Governments.
- Insurance of nuclear risks.
- Claims processing – the need for advance clarification of procedures and standards and expeditious delivery of compensation through judicial and non-judicial means.

Safeguards, Other Verification Activities and Export Controls

- Safeguards required under various legal instruments/arrangements such as the NPT and the NWFZ treaties.
- IAEA and State responsibilities in the implementation of safeguards: increasing cooperation to facilitate verification of the correctness and completeness of States safeguards declarations.

- At what point should States that have been found to be in non-compliance with their safeguards agreement be treated again like other States?
- IAEA verification and monitoring in connection with ad hoc arrangements such as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the “Agreed Framework between the United States and the DPRK” and the “Six Party Talks”.
- How the IAEA pursues issues that relate to States’ nuclear weapons design, fabrication, component testing and related dual use items which do not involve nuclear material?
- National and international approaches to export controls and their synergies with the nuclear non-proliferation objectives of the IAEA safeguards system (e.g. the work of the Nuclear Suppliers’ Group, national approaches to export controls, as well as current challenges with respect to new technology and equipment).

B. Cross-cutting Themes:

Nuclear Law – Interactions and Contradictions

- Nuclear power and climate change.
- Nuclear law, Maritime Law and Law of the Sea, Energy Law, National Security Law, Insolvency Law and Competition Law.

Nuclear Law and Neighbouring States

- Management of transboundary nuclear risks - rights, duties and obligations; and mechanisms for neighbouring States to ensure that their interests are taken into account; and civil liability for nuclear damage.

Nuclear New Build

- Responsibilities of recipients and suppliers.
- Legal framework for regional cooperation on research reactors.
- Contractual Approaches - long-term involvement of Supplier States in project construction and operation.
- Foreign technology and contractor selection.
- Newcomer countries – beyond the Milestones Approach.
- Legal aspects of economics and financing of nuclear power plants.

National Legal Frameworks

- Legislative frameworks and the role, functions, and independence of regulatory bodies.
- National nuclear legislative frameworks tested by the pandemic crisis - lessons learned.
- Synergies between national nuclear laws and other laws in the country.
- The concept of nuclear governance integrating legal aspects of 3S+EP+L (Safety, Security, Safeguards, Emergency Preparedness and Nuclear Liability).

Non-power Applications

- Non-power nuclear technology applications - legal issues.

Legal Framework for New Nuclear Technologies

- Fusion, small modular reactors and transportable nuclear power plants, Micro-reactors employed in space for propulsion or fixed energy generation.

Stakeholder Involvement, Public Participation and Transparency

- What is state of the art and what more can be done?

Legislative Assistance

- Capacity-building programmes in nuclear law.
- National Experiences.
- Professional development and training.