## **Restoring People's Confidence**

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Paris School of International Affairs

- B. Barré PSIA 2011 – 2012 Miscellaneous

## Support for nuclear power in France

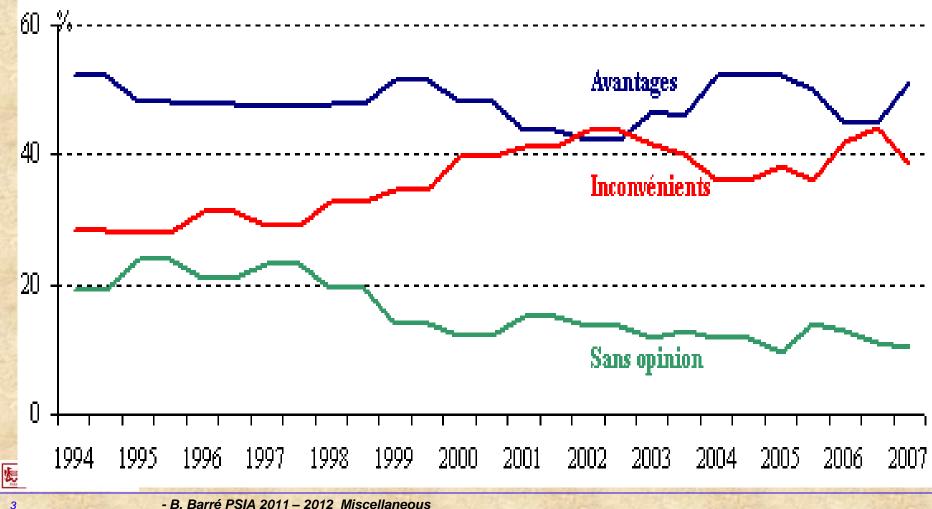
- Before 1973 : From enthusiasm to ignorance
- 1974-1977 : Strong opposition (Erdeven, Plogoff, Creys-Malville, La Hague, Le Pellerin), decreasing
- 1978-1985 : 2/3 in favour Little impact of TMI No impact of the majority change in 1981 (except Plogoff)
- 1986 : Chernobyl + « Excess capacity » from public officials Support collapses to 1/3 in favour

1987-1997 : Slow recovery

- 1997-2002 : Very slow decrease (« Majorité plurielle ») with 9-11 shock
- 2002-2010 : Stability (30% pro, 20% anti, 50% rather pro but...)

2011 : Fukushima... 2013 : Back to 2010 SciencesPo.

« All things considered, producing three quarters of the French electricity from Nuclear Power has more advantages than drawbacks, or the reverse ? »



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# **IFOP Poll June 2013**

What is your opinion about Nuclear Power in France ?

	July 2011	Nov. 2011	June 2013
In Favor	32 %	33 %	36 %
Hesitates	37 %	40 %	34 %
Against	20 %	17 %	14 %
D.K.	11 %	10 %	13 %
TOTAL	100	100	100

#### Which Share of Electricity from Nuclear Power?

	March 2002	July 2008	March 2013	June 2013
Maintain share for energy independance	52 %	67 %	54 %	59 %
Reduce share because nuclear dangerous	47 %	33 %	46 %	41 %
D.K.	1 %	-	-	-

#### 🛃 SciencesPo.

# No significant loss of confidence after TMI 2

Strong public perception of need after 2 Oil Shocks Strong public support from the French Government No contamination Over the years, active communication on implementation of lessons learned



## TMI "Lessons Learned"

Human Factor **Unambiguous Instrumentation Control Room Ergonomy Best Practices (INPO, then WANO)** Full Size Simulators – Periodic re-training **Sessions Components (water level measurement, valves, ...)** "Ultimate" Procedures

Sand filters, H<sub>2</sub> Recombiners

## **Backlash after Chernobyl**

- Until may 1st, the wind blows the « cloud » toward Sweden, then it changes direction toward Italy, Germany then France
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> : Health Authority announces that radioactivity is increasing all over the French Territory, but without need for protective measures
- Extreme anxiety develops in Italy and Germany, with some precautionnary measures (milk, salads)
- May 15th : Backlash. « They lied to us, the « cloud » did cross the border !!! »
- **Brutal loss of confidence**, boosted by the media, to Government, EDF, Safety & Health Authoritiés. Call for « independent » expertise, Suits (up to 2012 !)

😻 SciencesPo.

# **Combination of Factors**

#### Chernobyl

#### No longer perception of need :

- 1985-86 Oil Countershock (Oil prices lower than in 1974)
- Official statement of « Nuclear Overcapacity » (Demand lower than anticipated and NPP availability better than expected)



# **Chernobyl « Lessons Learned »**

Importance of the Containment

 Protect it against agressions (from the accident and from outside)

Safety Culture

Generation 3

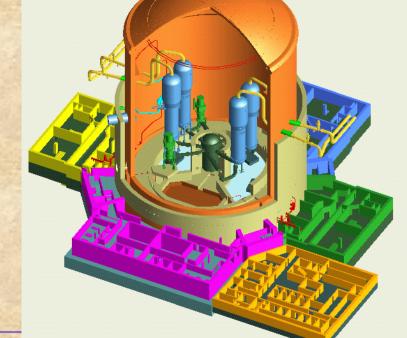
Harmonize Safety & Radiation Protection Norms
& Standards

 Improve Transparency & Communication (Local Commissions, High Committee on Transparency & Safety, Public Debates, 2002 Law, 2006 Law) Since Tchernobyl, philosophy itself changed

Design Basis Accident should be full core meltdown

Preventing is not enough
One must mitigate consequences
Hence Generation 3





## First lessons learned from Fukushima

Gen 3 reactors are safer but 450 Gen 2 reactors still operating.

Reinforce their robustness against aggressions

**Preserve water & power supply** 

**Prepare Crisis Management** 



### **International Reactions**

Shut down operating NPPs:

Germany

**Cancel firm Projects:** 

Japan, Italy, Taiwan, Switzerland ?

**Proceed with Nuclear Power:** 

 USA, Russia, China, India, UK, Finland, France, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Brazil, South Africa, South Korea, Argentina, UAE, Ukraine, Belarus...

Intend to start Nuclear:

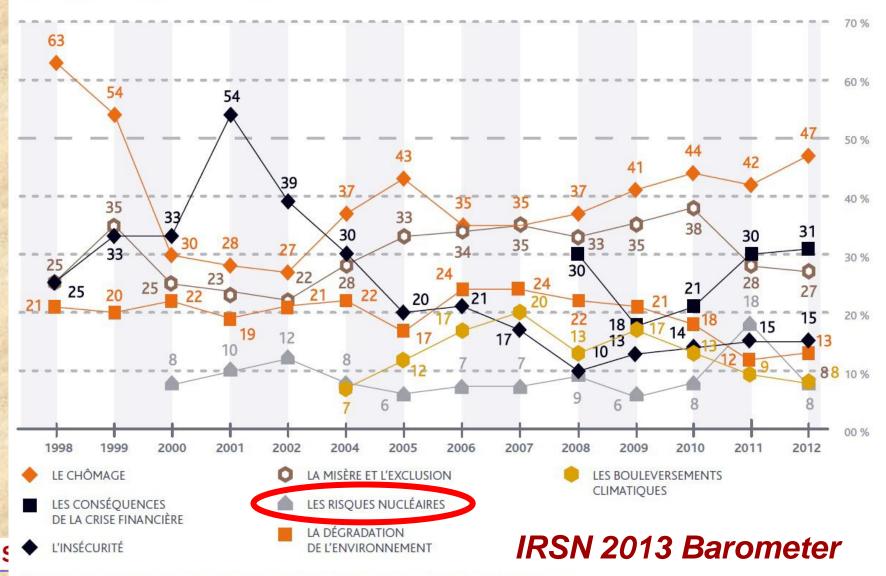
Poland, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Vietnam, Bangladesh...

ALL : Additional Safety Analysis (Stress Tests)

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À la question « En France, parmi les problèmes actuels suivants, lequel est pour vous le plus préoccupant ? », la personne interrogée choisit deux problèmes parmi une liste de préoccupations. Le graphique ci-dessous présente les résultats cumulés correspondant à la somme des premier et second choix.

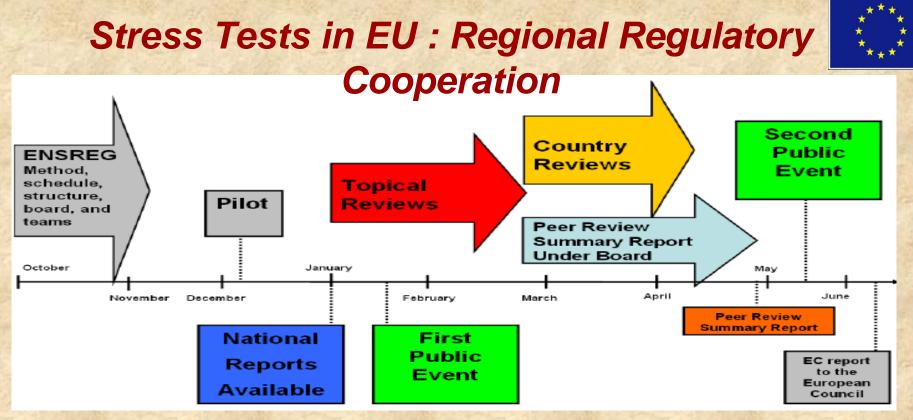
Évolution des préoccupations ayant enregistré les taux de réponse les plus importants depuis 1998. Ne figurent pas sur ce graphique « les risques alimentaires », « les risques chimiques », « les toxicomanies » (drogue, alcoolisme, tabagisme), qui récoltent de manière constante environ 5 % de réponses cumulées pour les deux premiers et autour de 10 % pour le dernier.



1. Somme des réponses citées pour le chômage, les conséquences de la crise financière et l'exclusion.

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- Peer reviews were launched in Jan. 2012, they include representatives of other countries, plus the European Commission. Peer reviews aim at evaluating the country reports
- These reviews support the EC at getting input for further improvements and harmonizing safety level within EU
- Their conclusions form the basis of the EC consolidated report presented to the European Council in June 2012 SciencesPo.

# Main Actions from Stess Tests (in France)

- Reinforce NPP protection against external aggressions (seism, flood,...)
- Reinforce electricity and water supply sources
- Limit releases in case of severe accidents (no significant and longlasting contamination of outside lands)
- **Reinforce local and national Crisis Management**

« Hard Kernel » of water and emergency power supply reinforced beyond intial dimensionning. Plug & Play inlets. Reinforced crisis building.

Rapid Nuclear Action Force (FARN), able to help the operators anywhere in France within 24 hours : ~300 trained specialists with materials & airlift capability.

~10 billion Euros for 58 French units.

SciencesPo.

# **Evolution of public support to Nuclear Power** from April 2011 to September 2012

#### More Support :

USA, China, S. Arabia, France, India, UK, Italy, S. Korea, Turkey, Australia, Indonesia, Mexico, Hungary, Belgium, Canada, Brazil, Germany, Russia

- Little Change :
- S. Africa, Argentina
- Less Support :

Spain, Poland, Japan

**IPSOS-Mori Poll, 24 countries, October 2012** 

#### 😻 SciencesPo.

# Germany : Off, On and Off again...

« No Nukes » from Weapons to Plants : strong Grassroot Opposition

1998 : SPD – Grünen Coalition starts negociatin phaseout with German Utilities

- 2001 : Phaseout Law (by 2021). Renewables Development
- September 2010 : CDU & Angela Merkel manage to pass in Bundestag a 12 years delay to Phaseout
- March 2011, just after Fukushima, « temporary » shutdown of 7 old NPPs. Nevertheless CDU loses some Länder

May 2011 : Back to Phaseout in 2022, with immediate termination of 8 NPPs.

2012 – 2013 : Increase of Coal imports and Lignite Open-pit Mining !

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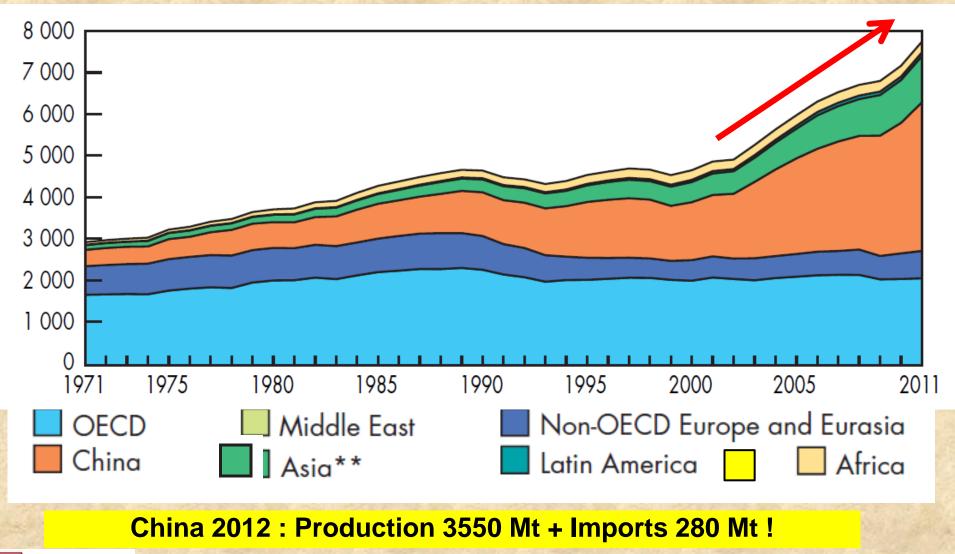


# « Energiewende » in Germany



#### 😾 SciencesPo.

## World Coal Production1971-2011 (Mt) (add 910 Mt of lignite)



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