



# REVISITING THE NUCLEAR ORDER

## Technopolitical Landscapes and Timescapes

**11-12 June 2018**

**Institut d'études avancées**

17 Quai d'Anjou, 75004 Paris

**Organization:**

**Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent (Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne),  
Soraya Boudia (Université Paris Descartes),  
Kyoko Sato (Stanford University)**



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**PRESENTATION:**

This second workshop is dedicated to exploring the spatial and temporal dimensions of nuclear order. It is a part of a bilateral France/United States research project funded by the Partner University Fund for a period of 3 years (2016-2019). The first workshop, "Making the World Nuclear After Hiroshima", took place at Stanford on May 22-23, 2017 (<http://hiroshimaconference.weebly.com>).

The final conference will be held in Japan in 2019, and the project will conclude with an edited volume.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki have been widely perceived as the dawn of a new era, the Nuclear Age that Gunther Anders described as "the age in which at any given moment we have the power to transform any given place on our planet, and even our planet itself, into a Hiroshima." It was quickly realized that nuclear technology changed the scale of the problems to face with planetary challenges that required a global mode of governance. As a marker of the power of states and national sovereignty, nuclear power played a key role in the Cold War and influenced international politics in the following decades. With nuclear technology the world became a laboratory to address a variety of issues, ranging from energy independence to deterrence, from safety and security to the management of waste and disasters. Nuclear power has also profoundly shaped cultural productions (e.g., cinema, literature, art), as an icon of power and means of massive destruction. Since the Cold War period, in turn, nuclear energy has reconfigured our societies, through persistent geopolitical tensions and symbolic representations associated with it, in particular through museums and memorials.

At the time of global environmental changes and their irreversible consequences, nuclear technology instantiates the profound influence of mankind on the planet to the point that the first atomic test is proposed by many scientists as the beginning of Anthropocene.

While there is much scholarship about the emergence of the nuclear order, this international workshop, bringing together researchers from different disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, will revisit the nuclear order in a long-term perspective by traversing between past and present, between different global and local scales and geographical areas, particularly in the United States, France and Japan. To do so, the workshop will focus on the material and symbolic traces of nuclear technologies, specifically asking two sets of key research questions:

- How did nuclear technology shape our visions of the past and of the future? As doomsday clock, end of humanity, and nuclear winter became familiar tropes, nuclear technology reconfigured our visions of the future and the past. What regimes of temporality characterize the nuclear order?
- The nuclear continue to order our imaginaries, societies and environments. How are we to live with the legacy of nuclear bombs, tests, and disasters? How do we cope with nuclear power plants and waste?

**Due to limited space, registration is required via the link below:**

[https://webquest.fr/?m=44204\\_conference-revisiting-the-nuclear-order-technopolitical-landscapes-and-timescapes](https://webquest.fr/?m=44204_conference-revisiting-the-nuclear-order-technopolitical-landscapes-and-timescapes)

**PROGRAM**  
**June 11, 2018**

9:00 am

**Welcome**

9:15 am - 10:15am

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER :**

**Lisa Yoneyama (University of Toronto)**

*Hiroshima Re/Traces: Radiontology and the Strategies of Co-Conjuring*

10:15 am - 10:45 am

Coffee Break

10:45 am - 12:45 pm

**SESSION 1:**

***Regimes of Temporality. Memory and Future***

**Ran Zwigenberg (Penn State)**

*Nuclear Dreams and Capitalist Visions: The Peaceful Atom and the idea of Hiroshima*

**Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent (Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne)**

*French Visions of the Nuclear Future: From History to a New Regime of Temporality*

**Martin Denoun (EHESS)**

*From Futures to Make to Futures to Wait for. A Historical Perspective of the Nuclear Fast Breeder Technology*

**Commentator: François Hartog (EHESS)**

12:45 pm - 2:00 pm

Lunch

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**SESSION 2:**

***The Nuclear Legacy***

**Hiroko Takahashi (International Peace Research Institute, Meiji Gakuin University)**

*Continuing Nuclear Tests and Ending Tuna Inspections: Politics, Science, and the Lucky Dragon Incident in 1954*

**Laura Barbier (Université Paris Descartes)**

*Politics of Knowledge on Cancer around Nuclear Installations*

Coffee Break

**Tania Navarro (Université Paris Descartes)**

*Governing Nuclear Waste by Nature and Technology*

**Sophie Poirot-Delpech and Laurence Raineau (Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne)**

*The Paradox of the Future Geological Nuclear Waste Disposal in France*

**Commentator: Jean-Pierre Dupuy (Stanford University)**



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### PROGRAM

June 12, 2018

9:15 am - 10:15am

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

**Joseph Masco (University of Chicago)**  
*Nuclear Optics: The Politics of Exposure*

10:15 am - 10:45 am

Coffee Break

10:45 am - 12:45 pm

#### SESSION 3: *Nuclear Anthropocene*

**Toshihiro Higuchi (Georgetown University)**  
*Carbon-14: Global Conflicts and the Contested Meanings of Long-Lived Radionuclides in the Nuclear Anthropocene*

**Nestor Herran (Sorbonne Université, Paris)**  
*From Military Surveillance to European Integration: The Onset of Radiation Monitoring in Western Europe*

**Pierre de Jouvancourt (Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne)**  
*Tracing the Global Environment: Elements for a Nuclear Archeology of the Anthropocene*

**Commentator: Angela Creager (Princeton University)**

12:45 pm - 2:00 pm

Lunch

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

#### SESSION 4: *Nuclear Governance in a Long-Term Perspective*

**Kyoko Sato (Stanford University)**  
*Surviving the Bomb: Divergent Visions and Japan's Nuclear Governance*

**Soraya Boudia (Université Paris Descartes)**  
*Nuclear Governance: on the Limits of Containment and Anticipation*

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

#### WRAP UP AND PERSPECTIVES:

**Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent (Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne),  
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