



Mediterranean No Nuclear Neighbourhood

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PRESS RELEASE

*Ignoring reactions, Turkey insists on building the NPP in Akkuyu
Offers submitted on September 24th*

Yesterday, the delegation of MN3 – Network returned from Turkey to Greece, after participating to three-day events held in Mersin by environmental and anti-nuclear NGOs, as Mersin is the closest major city near Akkuyu, the site where Turkey's first NPP is programmed to be built. During their stay, the member of MN3 – Network Executive Secretariat and President of the Board of the Mediterranean Anti Nuclear Watch (MANW), Thanasis Anapolitanos and the Secretary General of the Board of MANW, Paris Papatheodorou, had the opportunity to get informed for recent developments and exchange views on the matter with many people. On Thursday, August 7th, at the Municipal Theatre of Mersin a lecture was held with speakers: the Professor of the University of Istanbul on Energy, Mr. Tanay Sidki Uyar, the co-chairperson of Turkish Greens, Mrs Bilge Jontepe and, Thanasis Anapolitanos, as member of the executive secretariat of MN3 Network, representing 20 NGOs and networks from 8 countries of the region. On Friday, August 8th, a debate was held on SUN TV, which lasted more than two hours and included many representatives of political, social and scientific groups, including Mr. Anapolitanos and Mr. Papatheodorou. Highlight of the events, was the gathering in Akkuyu, on August 9th, with representatives from groups and NGOs from Mersin, Adana, Istanbul, Antalya, Ankara, Bodrum, a.o.

Ignoring the reactions, the Turkish government seems to proceed with its plan to build this first NPP in Akkuyu. According to safe information the date for offers to be submitted is September 24th.

Mr. Anapolitanos and Mr. Papatheodorou, upon their return to Rhodes, made the following statement:

«It was a tiresome but constructive journey. We had the opportunity to meet old and new friends and gain new experiences. During all conversations we had, we insisted on expressing the worries of region's citizens on Turkey's effort to install its first NPP in Akkuyu. We pointed out the general problems of NPPs (high costs, risk of accidents, waste disposal) and the specific problems of the region (geopolitical uncertainty,



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lack of substantial financial and technical capability, fragile economy based on tourism, seismicity). We directly expressed our solidarity to the opposing citizens and organizations.

Having in mind the latest developments in Georgia, and its non-predictable effects on the region, we urge once more all governments of the region to ask Turkey to cancel its nuclear program. The responsibility lies not only to those deciding to play with fire, but also to those unwilling to prevent it. There are many ways and solutions to the problem; political initiative is all needed».