

Marica De Natale from Potenza in Italy presents opinions from representatives of policy, church and public life. You find quotes from the Berlusconi Party "Pdl", from the opposition left party "Seantors" and from the Democratic Party "Pd". Marica also quotes Pope Benedetto XVI and to other high priests of the Catholic Church. Finally we hear about the opinion of an medical expert and we get information about an governmental organization, which promotes a positive attitude towards the nuclear energy.

OPINION ON "NUCLEAR ENERGY" AND "ENERGY SUPPLY" IN ITALIAN PUBLIC

OPINION IN FAVOUR OF NUCLEAR ENERGY –politicians-

- ***Silvio Berlusconi (Italian Prime Minister, Pdl Right Party).***



"We must wake up from our sleep and adapt ourselves because the future is inside renewable resources and inside the nuclear. We will collaborate to build other nuclear power plants in France and in other countries , we will also provide to build new centrals in Italy, with France by our side which will offer us its 'know-how'. This will contribute to save several years and start building new centrals in a short time "

"..we were the protagonists in the nuclear field during the '70 but, because of ideological fanaticism of a political side, we stopped the construction of two centrals which were quite complete . Now France, with big generosity, is opening us its collaboration. We have to remember that they have the possibility to produce the 80% of their needs thanks to the nuclear , a clean energy source with a security

system which allows French people to pay the energy consumption half than how Italian people pay"

"We talked a lot about the future of energy in the Worldan agreement for the progress of nuclear has been signed...a project which will change the scenery of energy production for the future generations...but before start building new nuclear power plants, it is necessary to change the public opinion in Italy. We have to convince Italian people about the security of the new nuclear centrals. In France people show their strong will to build new centrals: the centrals bring much work and everyone wants to have them"

OPINIONS AGAINST NUCLEAR ENERGY

- ***Roberto Della Seta and Francesco Ferrante (Seantors , Left Party -opposition-)***

"The words of Berlusconi clearly demonstrate the choices of the Government against the removable sourcesthere are many things that shows his precise intentions to support the nuclear and the business classes."

"In Italy no one wants to build nuclear power plants in his region and the most of people from every political party are against the return of the nuclear."



- ***Pier Luigi Bersani (Secretary of the Left Democratic Party -Pd- , opposition)***

"We are against nuclear energy and in favor of efficiency and energy saving. These are the main points of our party. The 'Green Economy' is the key to pass the economic and employment crisis of our country. My concept is the opposite

of the Right Government policies, obsessed by the paradigm 'more crisis , less environment'. We say that the answer to our crisis is inside the 'Green Economy'. We must say to the Government that this is not the correct way to operate; we have demonstrated to be a 'party of the alternatives'."

"We don't want to return to the nuclear...but we also need more clarity from the Government about its decisions ..."

- **Fabrizio Vigni (secretary of 'Democratic Ecologists', -opposition -)**

"There's nothing ideological in our position. We are against nuclear energy because there are clear economic problems linked to the high prices and the incompatibilities with the logical ideas of the free energy market also because we can't forget all the problems connected to the administration and the security of the radioactive waste"

"Citizens need more clarity and good choices which consider their interests also because, in a moment of crisis, it is necessary to adopt measures which can show its results in a short time ,in order to make the economy more competitive. For our country this would be contribute to aim at efficiency and removable sources"

THE CHURCH AND THE NUCLEAR

The Vatican is in favor of a peaceful use of nuclear energy.

- **Cardinal Renato Martino , president of the 'Papal Council of Justice and Peace'**

"We don't have to see nuclear energy with the eyes of ideological prejudice, but with the eyes of intelligence, with human and scientific reason, linked to the sapient exercise and with prudence, in order to guarantee a complete and united progress of all mankind. The Holy See has always been careful towards the nuclear as a peaceful energy source, especially to promote the development of countries and also for an equal distribution of the resources all over the World. Also the Pope Benedetto XVI agrees to a peaceful use of the nuclear technology for the effective achievement of security and development"

"...The Church wants to invite everyone , religious believers and non-believers, to overcome old prejudices without 'ethical' evaluations in a field which is neither good or bad, but that needs to be valued with ' technical tools'.....this is not a political question of 'right ' or 'left' parties , but it is simply a question of good sense."

- **The Pope Benedetto XVI**

"We must preserve the environment.... The human being has a primacy in all creation. Respecting the environment doesn't mean to consider ' material or animal nature' more important than man...the International Communities have to take their responsibilities with prudence , with a collective engagement and without 'rushed conclusions' . It has to be done with dialogue and unilateral decisions"

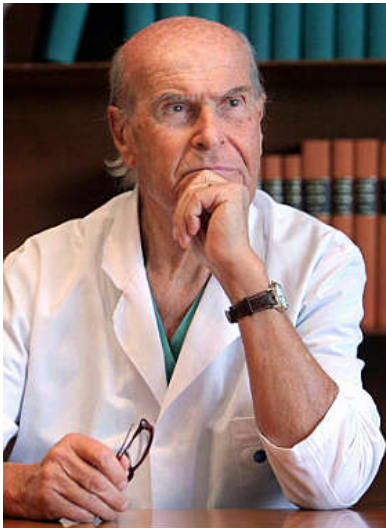


- **Giampaolo Crepaldi, (Archbishop of Trieste, interview during the SOGIN congress- Society for the Management of Nuclear Plants-)**

“Nuclear energy is an important right for the economic and social development...in order to guarantee the ‘common good’ ...with a common responsibility to build our future progress respecting the right of all mankind of every generation, especially for poor and underdeveloped countries”

“...We give importance to the human progress but, at the same time, we invite everyone to pay attention ...this doesn’t mean to be unsure, to renounce, to be stuck towards decisions, to think about the past and to be pessimistic for the future....prudence means going on with a good and strong decision, in order to promote the respect of God’s Original Plan for all mankind ...and in this contest we can put the problem of nuclear energy “

“The fear of possible mistakes sometimes could paradoxically be an error for the mankind. Let’s think about the referendum in 1987: Italy renounced to the production of nuclear energy ; but now this energy is the same that Italy imports from France....the conquest of the human intelligence should be used for whole the ‘human family’ . Technology could be bad only if it is used in a bad way; it is not a bad thing”



OPINION OF A FAMOUS ITALIAN DOCTOR

- ***Umberto Veronesi (famous Italian Doctor, Oncologist , politician and president of the Agency for the Nuclear Security)***

(I’ve recently found an interest article on a newspaper called “*la Stampa*” in which there is an interview to a famous Italian doctor, oncologist and also expert in nuclear field. I’ve chosen the most important part of the article.)

Title: “*Without the nuclear Italy is a died country...I will explain to Italian people that we can use nuclear energy safely, there are no reasons to be afraid*”

“Without nuclear energy, our country will die. Within 50 years the oil will finish, within 80-100 years the coal and the gas will be finished too. The other sources won’t be sufficient to give us all the energy we need. What are the results? We won’t have electricity; we won’t use computers, fridges and also use the train. Can you imagine this situation?”

“...as an oncologist I know the radiations and all the ways to protect citizens. I want to dedicate these next years to reassure people ... there are no risks with the nuclear”

“There are mainly three problems linked to the nuclear reactors: the first one is to guarantee the safety of its ordinary working, and this is not difficult to do. Second there is the question of the radioactive waste and, believe me, no one in the World has never died because of the nuclear waste pollution. Third there is the human factor, the possibility to have experts is deeply important. In fact the most important nuclear accidents (the one in Three Mile Island in USA and the other in Chernobyl) had common causes : they depended by human errors.”

“... I know that Chernobyl is still impressed in our memories....but I’m also convinced that an accident like the one in Chernobyl will not happen again. In Chernobyl everything was wrong. There was an old machines, build for military use, not for civil use. They decided to do an experiment, real madness in a central...and the director wasn’t a nuclear expert”

“...my main aim will be to choose and value only experts, qualified... also psychologically, so that they will be able to tolerate the pressure of this work”

“Often fears are the result of ignorance on which policy has an important role...”

“...You can't be surprised if I say that there is more radioactivity in a hospital, or in addition to this, do you know that there is Uranium also in a glass of water?....I'm spending my life against unnecessary fears. We think about the centrals but not about the radiations inside the hospitals. The waste? There will be a common European storage site”

“...alternative sources could be an alternative. From the biomass we can cover the 1-2% of the Italian need, the same from the geothermic source. The wind energy is good, but we have not much wind and we have to think about the landscape and the tourism. And if we filled our country with wind turbines, we would cover the 10-15% of our needs. The sun energy could be good for a family; I'm using it at home. But it is limited to a familiar dimension; it is not good for big industries”

ITALIAN NUCLEAR FORUM

In Italy the nuclear question has recently become one of the main daily themes in the political debates. The actual Government wants to build new nuclear power plants in our country in order to start a new and efficient 'energy policy'. In fact recently it has also been founded an “*Italian Nuclear Forum*” whose aim is to make Italian people aware of nuclear energy and nuclear Italian possible projects for the future, especially showing all the possible advantages that Italy could have with a good nuclear energy production. Inside the website there are a lot of information and interviews, from experts to common people who have different position, against or in favor of nuclear energy. It's an initiative to make Italian people thinking about nuclear choices in our country.



Starting from the previous Christmas period, the *Italian Nuclear Forum* launched a large advertising campaign, involving newspaper and also television. In fact they create a particular short television advertisement that you can see in the link below. The forum is full of interesting interviews and information, but I've decided to show you the Italian television advertising about nuclear which seems to be interesting.... and also quite provocative. The advertisement producer imagines comparing different opinion and position during a chess match, played by twins who have different ideas about nuclear energy. I have translated it in English so that you can understand what they say. The text below refers to the advertisement.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VTKyEj2lYw>

- **1st twin:** “ I'm against nuclear energy because I'm worried for my children”
- **2nd twin :**”I support nuclear energy because within 50 years they won't rely only on fossil fuels”
- **1st twin:** “in fact there are renewable”
- **2nd twin** “..but they won't be enough”
- **1st twin** “ Nuclear power plants produce waste”
- **2nd twin** “ ...but the quantity is less than a pawn per year for each one ”
- **1st twin** “ yes but... the sum of all of us is a big number”
- **2nd twin** “ ...but after being stored they are secure”

- 1st twin “Nuclear is a risky chess move for the country
- 2nd twin “...or maybe is a big move”

End “...And you...do you support nuclear energy?or don't you have a position yet?...we support the nuclear...and you? “