



The extended annotation for "Sociology of Serbia's Nuclear Renaissance: Society, Institutions, Governance (Parts 1–3)"

Today, on the NuclearSerbia portal website, we are publishing a report entitled "Sociology of Serbia's Nuclear Revival: Society, Institutions, and Governance."

The publication of this large-scale study marks an important milestone for the NuclearSerbia digital platform—it is the 100th anniversary document published in the expert "Opinions" section. It is highly symbolic that the completion of this fundamental development coincided with the celebration of May 1st, Labor Day.

The presented interdisciplinary work offers a comprehensive view of the problem of integrating nuclear energy, shifting the focus from purely technical aspects to social and institutional challenges:

Part 1 (In-depth Diagnostics) "Comprehensive analysis of socio-behavioral models and society's reactions to the development of nuclear energy in the Republic of Serbia" explores the complex reaction of Serbian society to the lifting of the moratorium, revealing the mechanisms behind the formation of radiophobia and the protest syndrome of local communities, and proving that without competent public engagement, the project is doomed to social rejection.

Main theses:

- Public rejection of nuclear initiatives is based not on a simple deficit of technical information, but on deep stigmatization of technologies and the mechanisms of the Social Amplification of Risk Framework (SARF), capable of inflating local news events to the scale of a national crisis.
- Overcoming the classic NIMBY ("not in my back yard") syndrome in potential NPP construction areas is impossible without legally secured mechanisms of economic inclusion, where local communities become the main financial beneficiaries of the project.
- A radical departure from dry technocratic rhetoric is required. Dialogue with society must be built through the prism of an "ethics of care" (to overcome the doubts of the female population) and the implementation of "Science, Technology, Society" (STS) programs to transform the existential "nuclear anxiety" of the youth into professional motivation.

Part 2 (Hidden Threats) "Institutional-managerial architecture and behavioral models of stakeholders in the development of nuclear energy" shifts the focus to the state apparatus, exposing the fatal dangers of departmental fragmentation, the loss of competencies by officials, and institutional sabotage, which destroy nuclear megaprojects more often than any street protests.



Main theses:

- The fundamental danger to the development of the national nuclear program stems not from street protests, but from institutional incompetence, interdepartmental fragmentation (the "silo effect"), and the administrative paralysis of the state apparatus.
- The political elite is prone to "symbolic technocratism" and avoiding responsibility, supervisory bodies demonstrate paralyzing risk aversion, and local administrations transition to transactional opportunism. These factors lead to systemic investor blackmail (the Hold-up problem) and catastrophic construction delays.
- A successful program launch requires the depoliticization of the newly established Nuclear Energy Programme Implementing Organization (NEPIO), guarantees of the regulator's cognitive independence, and the introduction of the strictest anti-corruption barriers at all stages of vendor contracting.

Part 3 (Architecture of Interactions) "Integration architecture for managing the nuclear program of the Republic of Serbia: the role of the expert platform NuclearSerbia in overcoming social and bureaucratic barriers" offers concrete solutions, substantiating the role of the NuclearSerbia platform and the consulting structures NUCON and CONSILIO B as an independent integrator and a prototype of a Technical Support Organization (TSO), capable of providing expert control at every stage of the nuclear program's implementation.

Main theses:

- To overcome systemic crises, Serbia objectively needs a structure performing the functions of a Technical Support Organization (TSO). The prototype of such an independent analytical and engineering center is the NuclearSerbia platform and its curating companies NUCON and CONSILIO B.
- The solution to multi-layered tasks is provided by a unique symbiosis: strict engineering control and verification of construction quality (the hard power of NUCON) are combined with public perception management strategies and the "Demystification Strategy" (the soft power of CONSILIO B).
- A critical condition for preserving Serbia's technological and financial sovereignty is the preventive budgeting of "Owner's Costs," including the budgeting of work aimed at securing public acceptance of the nuclear renaissance, neutralizing hidden social and public threats to this program, and achieving public consensus. Ignoring these hidden infrastructural and intellectual costs, which make up 15–30% of the total project cost, inevitably leads to falling into a "price trap" and the loss of control over national security in favor of foreign corporations.

We are forced to state that the lack of attention to our analytics from the relevant state structures of Serbia—agencies that objectively should have shown a keen interest in such systemic expertise—serves as a clear and even ironic illustration of the very bureaucratic fears and managerial paralysis detailed in the second part of our work. Nevertheless, we remain optimistic and express our hope for building productive working relationships with state institutions for the sake of the country's energy future.

We fundamentally and exceptionally positively evaluate the fact that all the documents and strategies we have developed previously are available in the public domain. Transparency of



knowledge is our main tool for enlightenment. However, the symbolism of Labor Day reminds us of one immutable law of implementing infrastructure megaprojects: any highly qualified, complex intellectual labor must be adequately valued. A successful "nuclear renaissance" is impossible without respect for expert resources and the recognition of the value of professional contributions.