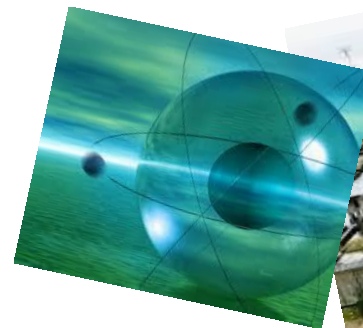


PAST MEETS FUTURE

Media Discourse on Nuclear Energy in
Poland



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„Media discourse as the space for deliberation on the example of shale gas, nuclear energy, and wind farms”

- Press, TV, radio, and Internet analyses in selected periods in 1980's and between 2007 and 2014
- IV 2013-IV 2014 all information in nationwide and local media, 50 most popular websites, social media

Nuclear Energy in Poland

- 1986: Chernobyl, 80/90. resignation of NE plans in Poland
- 2005: „Polish Energy Policy until 2025” coming back to idea of NE in Poland
- Jan 2009: Polish Government chooses GK PGE company as the investor of two first Polish NE power plants
- May 2009: creating the position of the Polish Government's Commissioner for Nuclear Energy
- Jan 2011: Polish Council of Ministers accept the atomic draft
- Nov 2011: GK PGE publishes the short list of possible locations for Nuclear Power Plant
- 2012-2014: educational and promotional campaign conducted by Polish Ministry of Economy
- Jan 2014: Polish Council of Ministers approved the Polish Nuclear Power Program
- May 2014: Novelisation of the Atomic Law

What a past, what a future?

- Communication as a way of creating **PRESENT** for social actors
- Time in the dimension of **MODALITY** (language)
- Main distinction: **BEFORE** and **AFTER**

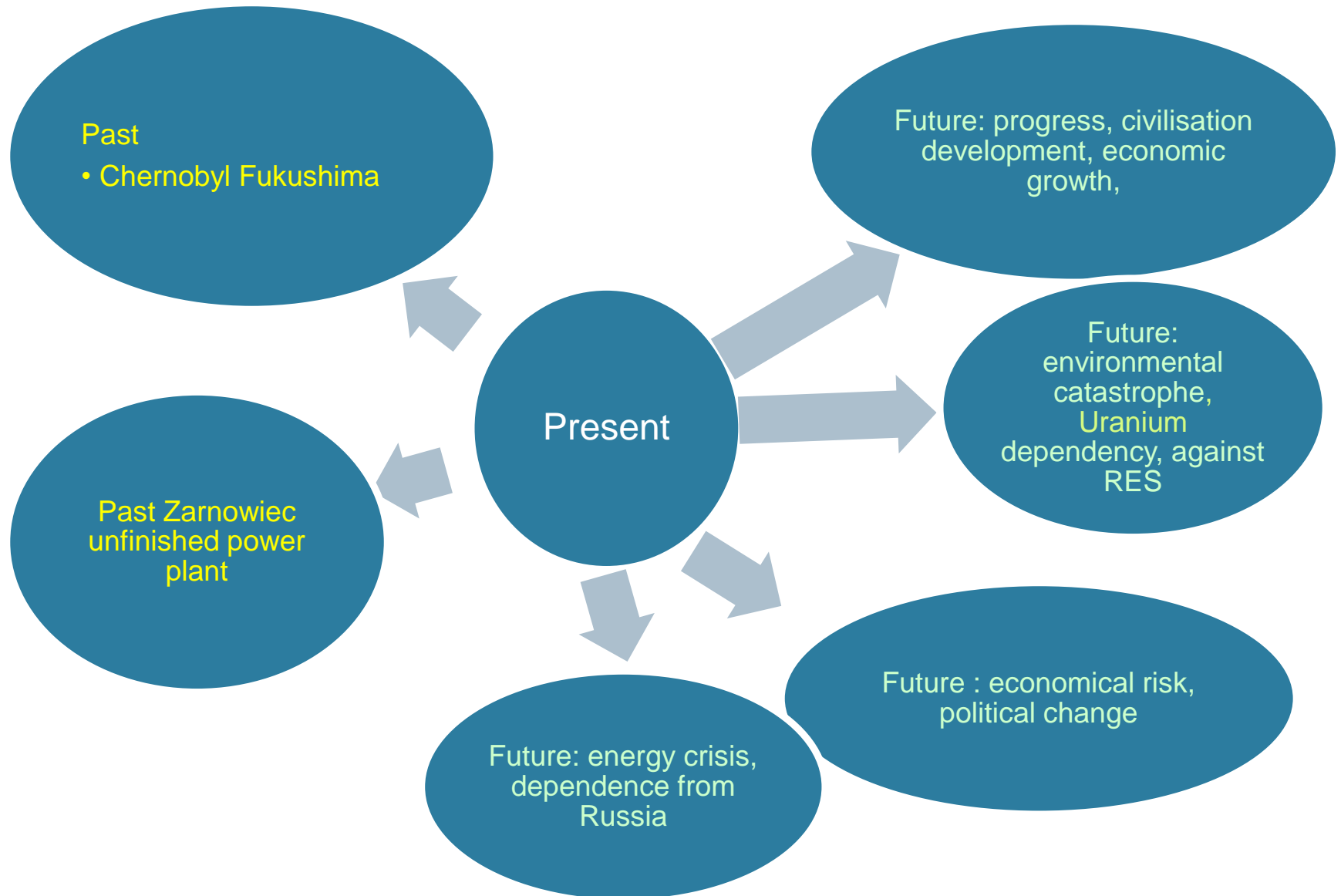


Time in a discourse: modality

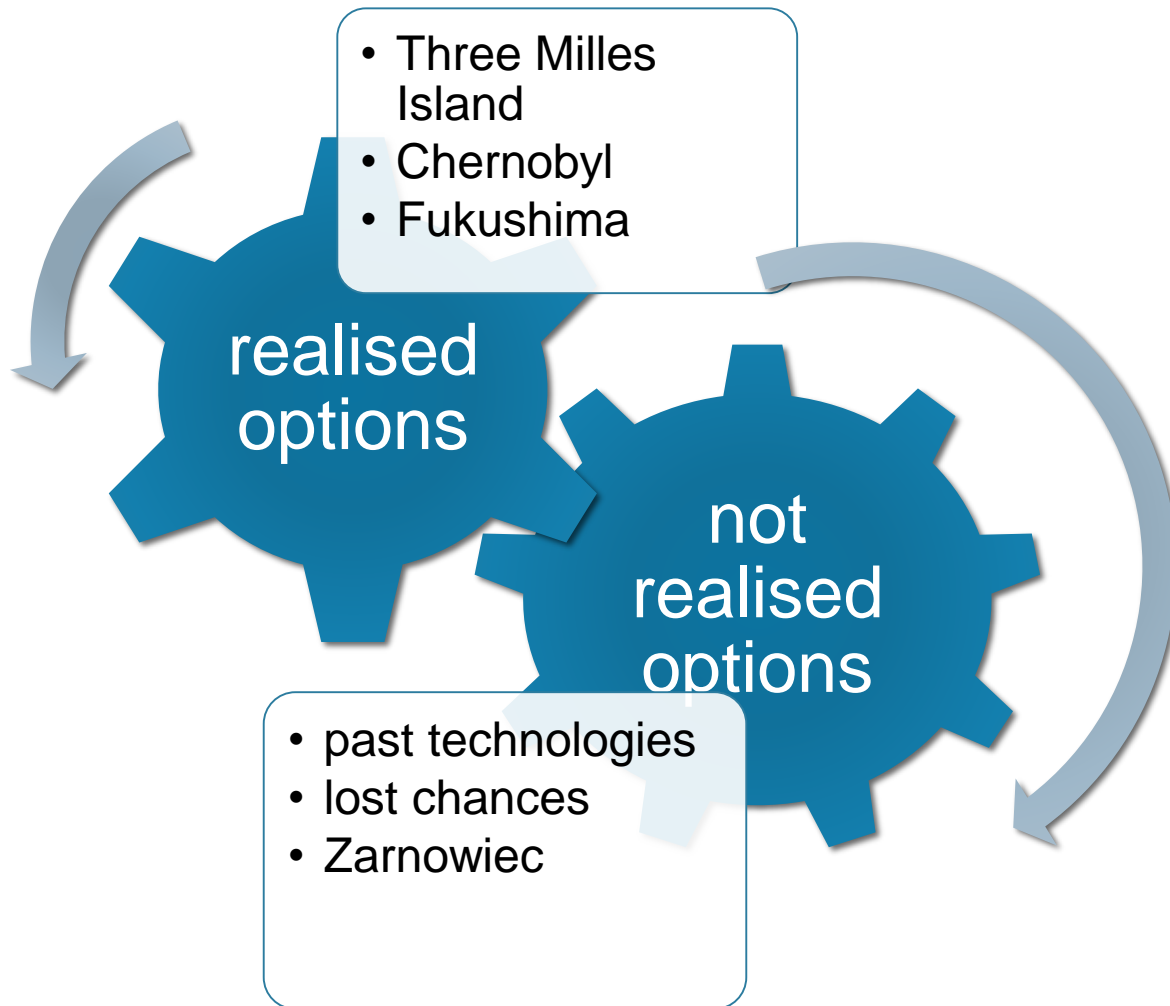
- Action is an event that constitutes PRESENT taking into account PAST and FUTURE horizons
- Memory (referring to the past) is a mechanism of system operation (constructing the past in present)
- **Futurization** is an increasing openness of future (coping with uncertainties, unknown, and unpredictable)
- **Defuturization** is a decreasing openness of the future (planning, statistic calculation and prognosis, risk assessments)

Persuasive power of future vision

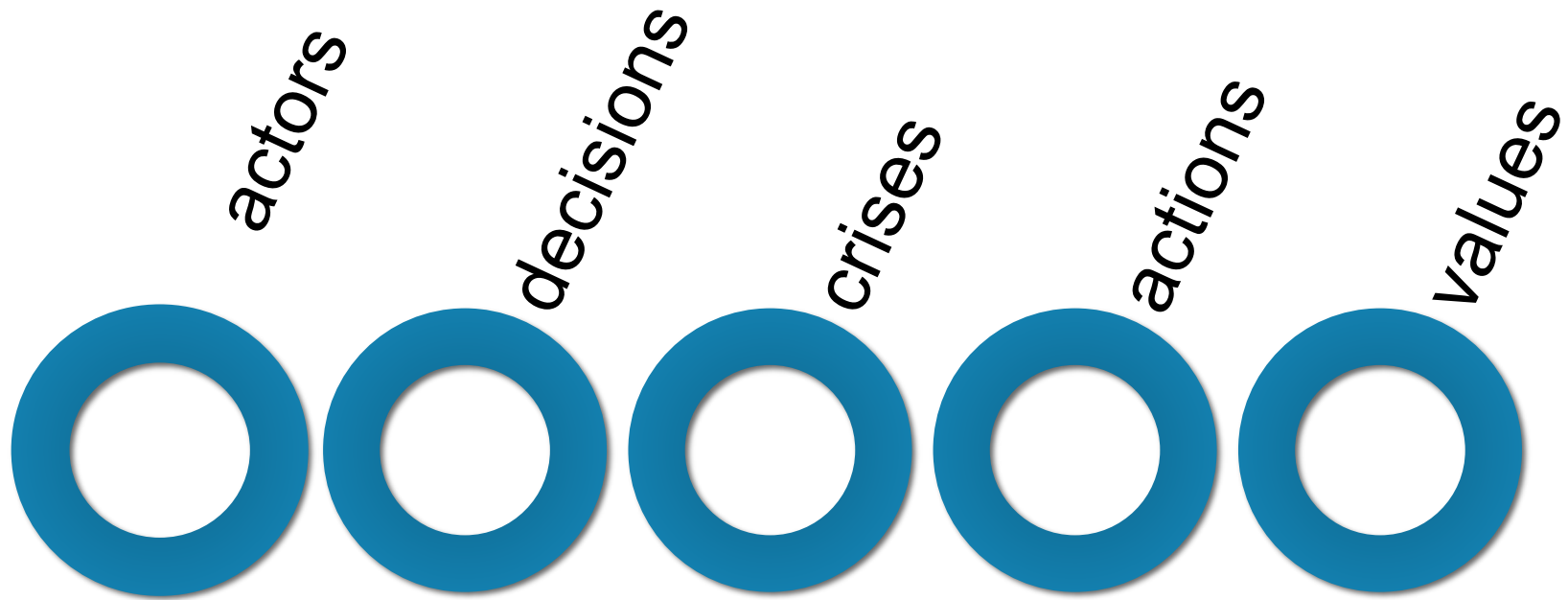
- Future visions can be interpreted as the projection of actual fears and hopes but also..
- Coping with the future is a form of discursive control
- Time integration: changing wishful thinking and fanciful perspectives into more realistic ones by adapting it to the outcome of the **PAST** so far as it was structured in the **PRESENT**



Past

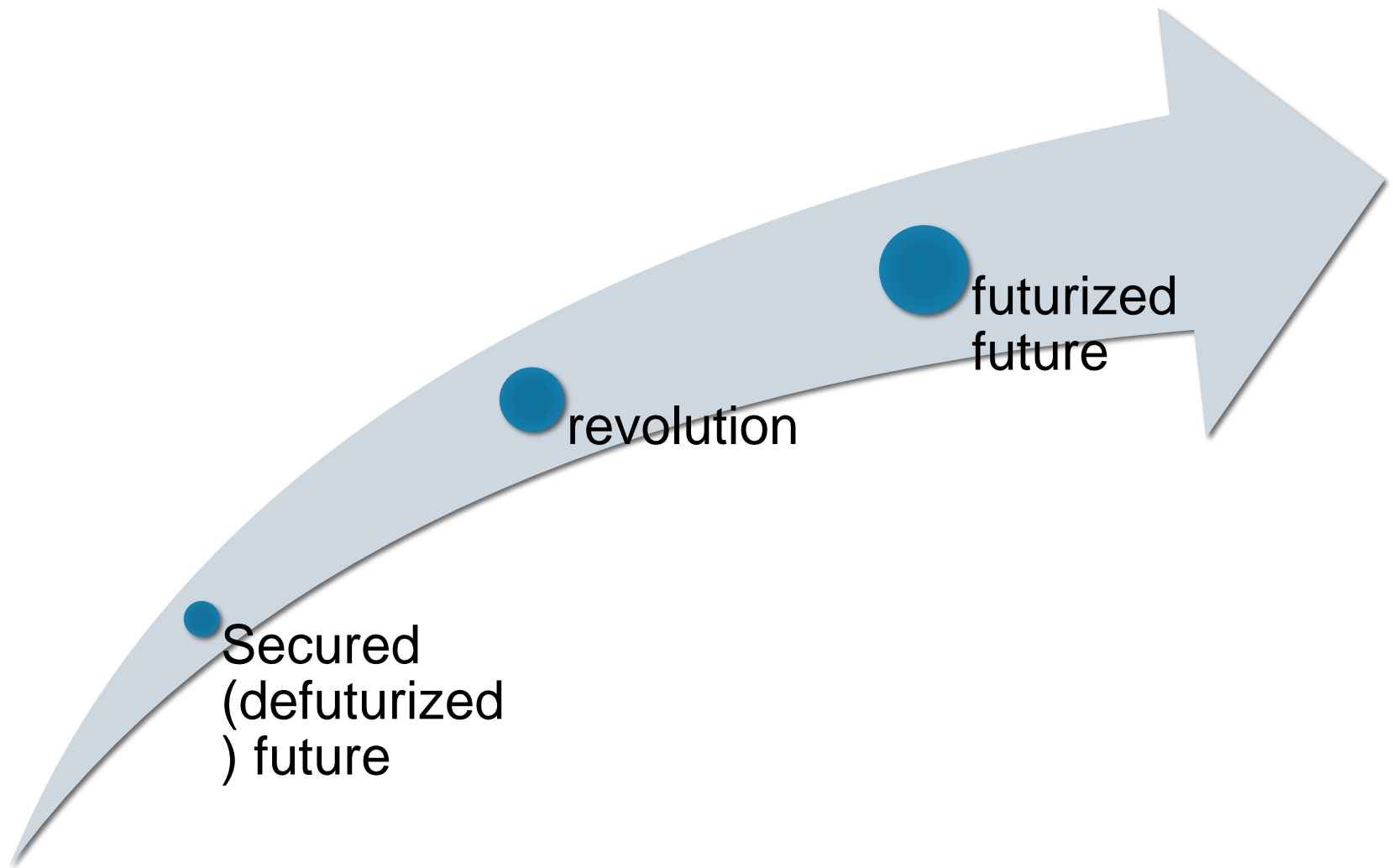


Focus on the present



Social communication – producing the present for social actors.

Future



Future present vs. Open futures

- Risk, uncertainties
- Challenges: to make the possibilities limited
- Secured future: policy planning, insurance, law

Unknown unpredictable

- Strategies of coping with unpredictable:
 - waiting
 - delaying
 - focusing on the planning and preparing decisions
 - wishful thinking

Modality

- **future as an option (futuraization)**

“The price of power coming from the first Polish nuclear power plant can be higher as it was estimated in Polish Nuclear Power Programme—writes Rzeczpospolita – and it can undermine the profitability of the whole project. „„,WWW.CIRE.PL (2014-01-30 00:00:00)

- **or limited options (defuturaization)**

„Poland has to do energy transformation. And there are two ways here: either we start using nuclear energy and then we will have cheap, accessible for all power as it is in France (...) or, unfortunately, our future is coal gasification or transforming coal into butyl and building the new power plants for this kind of fuel”.

Gazeta Olsztyńska 2014-01-31r.

- **future as factual events (defuturaization)**

- ***“Coal is needed now, and it will be needed tomorrow. The demand for the coal will be great for next 50 years. Climate policy will not change it.— said prof. Władysław Mielczarski from Politechnika Łódzka.***

Technology development...

..treats the Present as possible Past for Future present

Polish energy system is based on coal (90%) but it is going to change in next decades. Step by step we will replace coal with other resources. In 2030 nuclear energy will constitute even 11% in energy production. It will give it the third place, after coal (51%) and RES (24%) in total Energy production. However, in order to realize this scenario, the governmental plan (with the first nuclear power plant to start operating in 2024) has to be implemented now.

or Present as the chance of change Future:

Experts agree: in a short time we will face the blackout. The Government confronted this threat and accepted the Polish Programme of Nuclear Energy, according to that, in Poland two nuclear power plants are going to be built.

..treats Past as the outcome for decisions

In three years after the catastrophe in Fukushima Japanese government has understood the important role of nuclear energy in energy mix. The come back of nuclear power plant in Japan is a fact. It will have significant influence on improvement of the trade balance, lower energy price, and energy independence” (2014-01-29 00:00:00) www.cire.pl

Values

values as legitimisation of the technology choice and political decisions:

civilizational progress

economic growth energy independence

energy security

Open futures: scenarios

Dystopia: Vision of the future as projection of actual fears and hopes

Revolution: Opening the public discourses: inclusion of new actors, alternative scenarios and values

Alternative values: Sustainable development, environment protection, limiting the interference into the nature

- Political-economical perspective shows ecological vision as utopian one, wishful thinking, futurology

„Can we use only solar and wind energy? Maybe it is possible in the future, but now we cannot satisfy our energy demands in that way. Trybuna Górnicza 2013-11-28

- Ecologists accused politicians and businessmen to have short-term perspective and lack the future vision:

„When will finally the Polish politicians and managers look into the future? This future is more efficiency of energy resources and being smart in energy use. This future is renewable, decentralised energy sources coming from the small and medium enterprises.” Jan Haverkamp , Gazeta Wyborcza 2013-12-02

No long term vision of energy future but..race against time

“If you do not see- start acting..” Luhmann

„The Polish Government's Commissioner for Nuclear Energy Hanna Trojanowska underlines that accepting the programme means begining the maratón that is expected to be finished when nuclear power plant will start working”

www.cire.pl

„Coal minning 2013: It is very bad , and time is running....

WWW.WNP.PL (2013-11-25)

- **Politicians-**



vision of blackout
recession
dependency from Russia

take decisions!

- **Technologists**

possibilities for further development,
waiting for “green light” from politicians and money from
business,



change “unknown” into “risk”

- **Business**
strategy



possible scenarios : risk limitation

- Uncertain political environment.

**The need of law as framework for action, insurance, state
guarantee**

- **Ecologists**



vision of environment disaster, future
orientation, pointing on the technologies of the future.

Gaps on the discursive map

- The vision of social development in the context of energy (energy poverty, energy justices)
- distribution of risks and benefits for local communities
- Long-term vision of the influence of energy solution on the quality of life for citizens
- The radio waste management long-term solution
- The project of stakeholders participation in nuclear energy policy

Thank you !

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