

Tohoku University Human Security Program: Open Lecture

Going Fukushima through Chernobyl

◆ **Outline**

Fukushima Nuclear Disaster is one of the severest “manmade” catastrophes in the contemporary world. It starts to alter energy strategies in many countries, questioning the safety even though a country has a highly developed technology. “Going Fukushima through Chernobyl” compares Fukushima disaster with a senior incident happened in Chernobyl twenty six years ago, in human security perspectives. Victims of former disaster lost their “living with dignity,” “freedom from fear” and “freedom from wants,” all the essentials for protection of individuals. An eyewitness of Chernobyl disaster, Dr. Yuri Scherbak will discuss his experiences of Chernobyl, emphasizing the lessons we could learn from Chernobyl for the betterment of Fukushima.

◆ **Date & Time**

Wednesday, December 5, 2012 10:30-12:30

◆ **Venue**

Conference Hall, 6F of Multimedia Education and Research Complex, Kawauchi-kita Campus, Tohoku University (41 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai)

<http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/english/profile/about/10/about1003/index.html>

◆ **Bio of the Presenter – Dr. Yuri Scherbak:**

Dr. Yuri Scherbak graduated from Kyiv Medical University in 1958, and has both Ph.D. and D.Sc. degrees in epidemiology. He is an honorable member of Scientific Studies Institute of Harvard University. He worked at the Kyiv Scientific Research Institute of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases until 1987.

Dr. Yuri Scherbak is an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine and a First Vice-President of the National Academy on Environmental Sciences of Ukraine. He began his political career in 1987 after Chernobyl catastrophe when he became leader of Ukrainian Greens. Dr. Scherbak initiated and led the first parliamentary investigation of the Chernobyl accident and the nuclear catastrophes in Semipalatinsk and in the Urals. He founded and became the leader of the Ukrainian Green Movement (organization which united more than 200 Ukrainian NGOs) in 1988 (it became the Green Party in 1990). Dr. Scherbak later was Ukraine's Ambassador to Israel, the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

An eyewitness to the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Dr. Yuri Scherbak wrote the sensational expose documentary novel Chernobyl. The novel was published in English in 1989. Dr. Scherbak traveled to the dangerous zone around the reactor at Chernobyl, lived there and interviewed firemen, first-aid workers, party and government officials, local media representatives, and foreign visitors. The result is a variety of vivid eyewitness accounts unprecedented in detail and frankness.

As a writer, Dr. Yuri Scherbak is a well-known novelist who has authored 20 books of prose, plays, poetry, and essays and more than 200 publications and interviews on medical, ecological, political and historical issues. He is a member of Ukraine's Writer's Union and Cinematographers' Union, and was on the executive board of the Writers' Union from 1987 to 1989. He was been awarded medals and prizes in literature, medicine, and for his work as a Ukrainian statesman.

◆ **Organizer**

The International Post-Graduate Program in Human Security, Tohoku University
(A joint educational program organized by four graduate schools: Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Graduate School of International Cultural Studies, and Graduate School of Environmental Studies.)

URL: <http://human-security.jp/>

◆ **Language**

English (no Japanese translation)

◆ **Participation & Contact**

Open to public, and free of charge

(For preparation of the lecture handouts, registration in advance will be much appreciated.)

Please send an e-mail to the address below by November 30th with your name and affiliation.)

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