

# **Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network Overview, Key Activities, and Future Plans**

**Nataliia Klos, BSWN Coordinator**

**INMM & ESARDA Joint Annual Meeting  
May 22, 2023**

# HISTORY OF CREATION



Promoting Nuclear Security and Nonproliferation Education and  
Creating Gender Awareness in Ukraine

National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic  
Institute (KPI)

Kiev, October 15-16, 2019

Idea to create regional  
network raised during  
the discussion  
“Creating Gender  
Awareness in Ukraine  
“Women in Nuclear  
Forum”



The formation of *The Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network* took place during a virtual workshop that was hosted by CNS, in partnership with the Odessa Center for Nonproliferation, from **November 29 to December 3, 2021**. The aim of the workshop was to inaugurate the network, amplify voices of women in nuclear fields, highlight the existing abundance of regional knowledge and experience, share views on gender related issues, and to explore mentorship, training, and networking opportunities for women from the Black Sea region working in nuclear fields.



<https://nonproliferation.org/the-black-sea-women-in-nuclear-network/>





**Black Sea  
Women in Nuclear  
Network**

- Cooperative project on capacity building and promoting women experts in the nuclear security sector in the Black Sea region, announced in the GP meeting in 2021
- Joint effort between U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) Nuclear Security Women Initiative (NSW) and the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) via Los Alamos National Laboratory and with support of the Swedish Radiation Authority
- Goal: Establish and sustain a professional network for women nuclear security experts in the Black Sea region
- Inaugural webinar - **29 November – 3 December 2021** with support from DOE/NNSA and Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM)



**BSWN birthday is 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2021**

# Who we are?



**Black Sea  
Women in Nuclear  
Network**

**Uniting Women  
Leading Change  
Making Waves**

## **VISION**

**Create barrier-free and diverse opportunities for women from the Black Sea region to excel in nuclear fields and increase presence in leadership.**

## **MISSION**

**The Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network's mission is to connect, support, and empower women in nuclear fields.**



# Who we are?

BSWN is a regional professional organization, that unites experts in nuclear fields from **Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Turkey, Ukraine, Moldova**, and other countries.

We are women from the Black Sea countries representing civil society and academia, national governments, and industries. Interdisciplinary by nature, our network brings together women in STEM and policy from national governments, industry, civil society, and academia.

The network is a platform for professionals to promote gender equity and increase women's leadership roles in nuclear fields, as well as offer professional exchanges, mentoring, and professional development opportunities.

## **BSWN focuses its activities in the following areas:**

- Nuclear safety, security and safeguard
- Nuclear non-proliferation
- Advanced Nuclear technology
- CBRN security
- Gender Equity in Nuclear Field



# Registered members



**37**



**10**

# Leadership



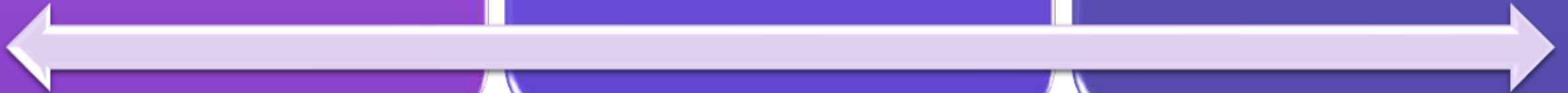
**Nataliia KLOS**  
**BSWN Coordinator**  
(Ukraine)



**Shorena  
LORTKIPANIDZE**  
**BSWN Vice Coordinator**  
(Georgia)



**Mădălina ȘTEFANIC**  
**Head of Mentorship Program**  
(Romania)



# Liaison Officers

Alona SAMSONENKO



Ina GRIGALASHVILI



TBD



Mădălina ȘTEFANIC



Ali ALKIS



Ekaterina BOGOMILOVA





# First Annual meeting, Malta 17-21.10.2022



# First Annual meeting, Malta 17-21.10.2022





**First BSWN Leadership meeting May 8-10 , 2023, Tbilisi  
Georgia**





# BSWN Activity

## CO-ORGANISERS



## Gender parity and nuclear security



30 June 2022, 09:00 to 10:00



Part of Nuclear Security Culture Programme webinars

## Ecological Critical Infrastructure:

BRUSSELS 22 FEBRUARY  
Ukraine-Europe  
UKRAINIAN CIVIL SOCIETY HUB



35th Anniversary  
WIIS  
Black Sea  
GENDER AND NUCLEAR SECURITY POLICY ROUNDTABLE EVENT  
**SAFETY AND SECURITY OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES IN CONFLICT ZONES: THE WAR IN UKRAINE**  
29 APRIL 2022  
9:00 AM (EST) (18:00 CEST)

## Safety and Security of Nuclear Facilities in Conflict Zones: The War in Ukraine

## INITIATIVE: Black Sea Experts NucTalks



## Black Sea Experts NucTalks

29<sup>th</sup> of August at 4 p.m. Vienna time (CEST)

**Moderator:** **Dr. Valeriia GERGIEVA**, Visiting Fellow at the University of Hamburg, Research Fellow at the Odesa Centre for Nonproliferation, Ukraine

**Speakers:** **Dr. Shorena LORTKIPANIDZE**, founder and a board member of the Civil Council on Defense and Security, Tbilisi, Georgia

**Valeriia HESSE**, Non-Resident Fellow at the Odesa Centre for Nonproliferation, Ukraine

**Nomsa Michelle NDONGWE**, Research Associate at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, USA (guest speaker)

## Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network

invites you to participate in the discussion dedicated to the overview of the **Tenth NPT Review Conference** and address new challenges of the non-proliferation regime in connection with the war in Ukraine and the general aggravation of the geopolitical situation

Zoom LINK  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87922904448?pwd=ZXFTandzRjllOzBO NmVJeE54bWY2dz09>

Number: 879 2290 4448  
Access code: 162315



International Conference on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources –  
Accomplishments and Future Endeavours  
20–24 June 2022, Vienna, Austria



**PUBLIC RECOGNITION**



**Black Sea  
Women in Nuclear  
Network**

# BSWN initiative Black Sea Experts NucTalks hold a panel on the INUDECO Conference, April 28, 2023

**VALERIIA GERGIEVA**  
Moderator

Visiting Research Fellow,  
Institute for Peace  
Research and Security  
Policy (IFSH), University of  
Hamburg



**NATALIIA KLOS**  
Moderator

Coordinator, Black Sea  
Woman in Nuclear  
Network



**GOGITA GVEDASHVILI**  
Speaker

Deputy Director, Georgian  
Center for Strategy and  
Development

Russian Malign  
Information Operations –  
Case of Georgia.



**INUDECO**  
СЛАВУТИЧ / УКРАЇНА

Міжнародна конференція  
з розробки шляхів з інструментів  
об'єктивної ядерної енергетики та збереження  
навколишнього середовища

27-28 April, 2023

For registration  
[inudeco.pro](https://inudeco.pro)



**DR. IRYNA  
MAKSYMENKO**  
Speaker

Research Fellow, Odessa  
Center for  
Nonproliferation

Russia's Nuclear  
Narratives: Case of  
Ukraine.



Black Sea  
Woman in Nuclear  
Network



Combining energies  
Uniting women  
Making waves

28 April 2023, Friday, at 9 a.m. Kyiv time

## Black Sea Experts NucTalks

### NUCLEAR DISINFORMATION IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

at the INUDECO International Conference on Nuclear Decommissioning and Environmental Recovery  
with special topic "INUDECO. Nuclear Energy: The Challenges of War"

ONLINE YOUTUBE STREAM: [https://www.youtube.com/@arr\\_slavutych2023](https://www.youtube.com/@arr_slavutych2023)

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://inudeco.pro/en/>

#### MODERATORS:

- Nataliaia KLOS – Coordinator, Black Sea Woman in Nuclear Network (BSWN)
- Valeriia GERGIEVA – Visiting Research Fellow, Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH), University of Hamburg

#### SPEAKERS:

- Dr. Iryna MAKSYMENKO - Research Fellow, Odessa Center for Nonproliferation
- Dr. Denis BOHUSH - Founder and expert, Center for Russian Studies (Kyiv)
- Gogita GVEDASHVILI - Deputy Director, Georgian Center for Strategy and Development
- Desislava SPASSOVA - Lecturer, International and National Legal Framework Regulating Nuclear Security at the University of National and World Economy, Sofia

**DR. DENIS BOHUSH**  
Speaker

Founder and expert,  
Center for Russian  
Studies (Kyiv)

Nuclear blackmail of  
Russia and Countering  
Information Manipulation.



**DEISLAVA SPASSOVA**  
Speaker

Lecturer, International  
and National Legal  
Framework Regulating  
Nuclear Security at the  
University of National and  
World Economy, Sofia

Information Matters:  
The Bulgarian  
Experience.





# BSWN and its Role in Time of Crisis

Statement

by Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network (BSWN) - regional professional network for advancing women working in the nuclear sector

on Russia's Invasion of Ukraine and  
Call Upon Unity for Achieving Peace and Security  
Voices of Ukraine. Peace, safety and security for our world!  
26 March 2022



When several nuclear facilities in the country were severely impacted, Ukrainian members of BSWN quickly organized to provide relevant and reliable input to the IAEA and the international expert community about probable threats to these facilities.

WhatsApp group of more than 40 members, has become a clearinghouse for the Black Sea expert community looking for factual reporting about the war, earthquakes and providing information about humanitarian and charitable resources and other aid available from countries and partners in the region.



# Social Activity



Providing Energy through  
Warmth and Solidarity



<http://www.bswn.org/providing-energy-through-warmth-and-solidarity.html>



<https://www.mriyu.org/en>



Exhibition drawings in European Commission available  
till 10<sup>th</sup> of March

<https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/reportage/P-060361>



# MENTORSHIP: Let us to connect you with the best mentors from the nuclear field from Black Sea region



Uniting Women  
Leading Change  
Making Waves



## MENTORING PROGRAM

Guidance and Program Plan

Prepared by: Madalina Stefanic, Mentoring Program Coordinator

Approved by:

Verified by: Natalia Kios, BSWN Coordinator

Approved by: Margarita Kalinina-Pohj, Sr. Program Manager Research Associate CNS / MIIS

**About 20 mentors**

**Individual Approach**

**1 year duration**

**Launching the program**

**June 2023**

### PROPOSED TOPICS FOR MENTORING PROGRAM, example:

**Ukraine's expertise in establishing nuclear security legislation**

**Russia's nuclear policy and strategic stability / nuclear deterrence.**

**Developing research skills & publications**

**International legal instruments for nuclear security and training in drafting national nuclear law**

**Nuclear security culture and insider threat mitigation**

**HR insights: Succession Plan, Talent Management, Relations Between Competencies, Objectives and Performance Appraisals, Interviews, Different Type of Evaluations etc.**

**Radiological security, Government-NGO partnerships in enhancing nuclear security, Training and other professional development opportunities**

**The Iranian Nuclear Program, the JCPOA negotiations, and the challenges for the nonproliferation regime**

**Global security and Nuclear nonproliferation, Government-NGO partnerships in enhancing nuclear and radiological security**

# BSWN plans for 2023-2024

## SUSTAINING ACTIONS:

- BSWN Strategy Development
- BSWN Communication Strategy Development
- Work on BSWN Statue
- Code of Conduct
- Relaunch of the website
- BSWN Promotion
- Attraction new members (individuals and organizations)



## Network's NEW ACTIVITY:

- Let's do it in person.

**Establish Annual Conference of the BSWN on the Black Sea Experts NukTalks**

- What do you need for your efficiency?

**Professional skills building opportunities**

- We are becoming young

**Youth chapter, children support with important protection knowledge**

- More women in Leadership



# Join us



We are the Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network.



## Follow us:

[www.bswn.org](http://www.bswn.org)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/bswinnuclear/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Black-Sea-Women-in-Nuclear-Network-BSWN>

[https://twitter.com/bsw\\_in\\_nuclear?t=qg3e5satQD6GKKjq5jk8Pw&s=08](https://twitter.com/bsw_in_nuclear?t=qg3e5satQD6GKKjq5jk8Pw&s=08)

## Contact us:

[bswn.org@gmail.com](mailto:bswn.org@gmail.com)

