



**Department of
Environmental
Sciences and
Policy**

You are cordially invited to a seminar
hosted by the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy on

Post-radiation-disaster tourism as the means of mitigation



Sergii MIRNYI

(*CHORNOBYL TOUR*, Kyiv, Ukraine)

**18 February 2016 (Thursday), at 5:30 p.m.
Budapest, Nádor utca 9, Room 609**

Radiation catastrophes, paradoxically, can be truly called radiation ones only in regard to their trigger cause. For them (and, as a matter of fact, for the majority of other disasters) the main share of damage is caused by secondary and tertiary – societal and psychological – factors.

After the acute, so-called “CNN stage” of the disaster, a need of economic and psychological recovery and revival of the affected area emerges. Tourism to an already famous/notorious accident site seems to be a necessary and inevitable step in this process. The tourism brings investments to the area (both directly and indirectly, stimulating the state and business activities), restores the infrastructure, provides workplaces and de-stigmatization to the local population, symbolically de-traumatizes the site and mitigation workers’ efforts via rendering sense to the previous mitigation stages by manifesting the site’s return to normality.

The above is illustrated with the experience of *CHORNOBYL TOUR* (www-chernobyl-tour.com), which for almost a decade develops a novel comprehensive approach to post-radiation-accident tourism aimed at recovery and education. After the Fukushima mishap, the experience has turned out to be in high demand; in many an aspect it can be regarded a paragon of post-eco-disaster tourism as the means of the mitigation.

Sergii MIRNYI, a CEU EnvSci Dept’s alumnus, is a cofounder of and scientific advisor for *CHORNOBYL-TOUR* (Kyiv, Ukraine). He is an expert in comprehensive mitigation of radiation accidents’ aftermath and an award-winning writer; in the first month of the Chernobyl Disaster, he was an officer of Chernobyl radiation surveillance in the Zone.

Sergii Mirnyi wrote the monograph *Chernobyl liquidators’ health as a psycho-social trauma*, overview *Chernobyl: Catastrophe mitigated – disaster perpetuated*, and generalizing paper *Chernobyl as info-trauma*. His award-winning artistic texts include the fiction novel and screenplay *Chernobyl comedy*, documentary novel *LIVE FORCE (Chernobyl tall-tales)* and novella and screenplay *Worse than radiation*.

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