



ENEN Vice President's speech at the EMSNE Award Ceremony

Vienna, IAEA Headquarters, September 17th, 2015

Distinguished authorities from different countries, Commissioners, Ambassadors, Colleagues. Laureates, Familiars of laureates.

Congratulations to the Laureates, European Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering. It is a great pleasure for me being in this ceremony for 3 reasons:

- 1.) I consider this ceremony very important for the future of nuclear energy. We are contributing to prepare the human resources of the Nuclear sector.
- 2.) The venue of the IAEA General Conference is a perfect framework, especially for the young nuclear engineers.
- 3.) Because thirteen of you were my students in Barcelona, Spain, I know many of you personally.

One question, that all of you may have at this moment is: What can be our professional future?

The answer to this question is related to the present and the future of nuclear engineering, in your country, in Europe and in the world.

Many people talk about it, in different ways, some people consider that nuclear doesn't have a good future. As an Engineer, I am going to provide you with some numbers in order to answer this question:

Currently (August 2015), there are in the world:

- 436 nuclear reactors operable.
- 62 nuclear reactors under construction.
- 166 nuclear reactors on order or planned
- 322 nuclear reactors proposed.

This is the situation of nuclear sector worldwide and this is your future.

In this context, you can work in a nuclear power plant, an engineering company, a vendor or in an electrical company.



Also at the Regulatory Commission of your country; or here in Vienna in the Agency, dealing with topics related to safety and security.

You also can work in the field of nuclear fusion (ITER) or generation IV in research.

Some of you have to take care of other applications of nuclear (like medical, radiation protection...).

This is the current situation, but you can make a contribution been proactive in nuclear engineering.

I am professor chair in nuclear engineering, as a professor I usually I have to put some homework to the students, so I will do it here to.

It is a great homework for the next 20 years. Please pay attention. The homework for you is the following:

You have to find a job in the nuclear sector in your county or worldwide. It might be difficult but you have to work hard. Later you have to become proactive, in order to increase the contribution of the nuclear energy to the European and World energetic mix. With your contribution in the safety operation of existing nuclear power plants and with the constructions of new nuclear power plants on budget, on schedule paying special attention to safety and security topics.

Many thanks to the International Atomic Energy agency for host this nice ceremony.

Thank you for your attention and Best Congratulations to the new EMSNE Alumni!

Prof. Javier Dies

Vice President

European Nuclear Education Network Association