Security of industrial facilities has recently come to the forefront of the News, particularly as concerns nuclear facilities.

Though poorly known to the public, the assessment of the protection of nuclear facilities against malevolent acts, and indeed the protection itself, has been a matter of concern for competent authorities and the industry for decades. In that period, various approaches for assessing the risks, threats or danger, and to regulate this field of activity, have been developed and implemented.

The principles underlying these approaches are debated in the presentation, at the level of a State and of a facility. The actors of risk assessment are reviewed, together with their responsibilities in the process.

Finally, relevance of these approaches to the situation created by the September 11 attacks is debated.

All along the presentation, the similarities and differences with the nuclear safety field are addressed, and the necessary strong link between safety and security is reaffirmed.