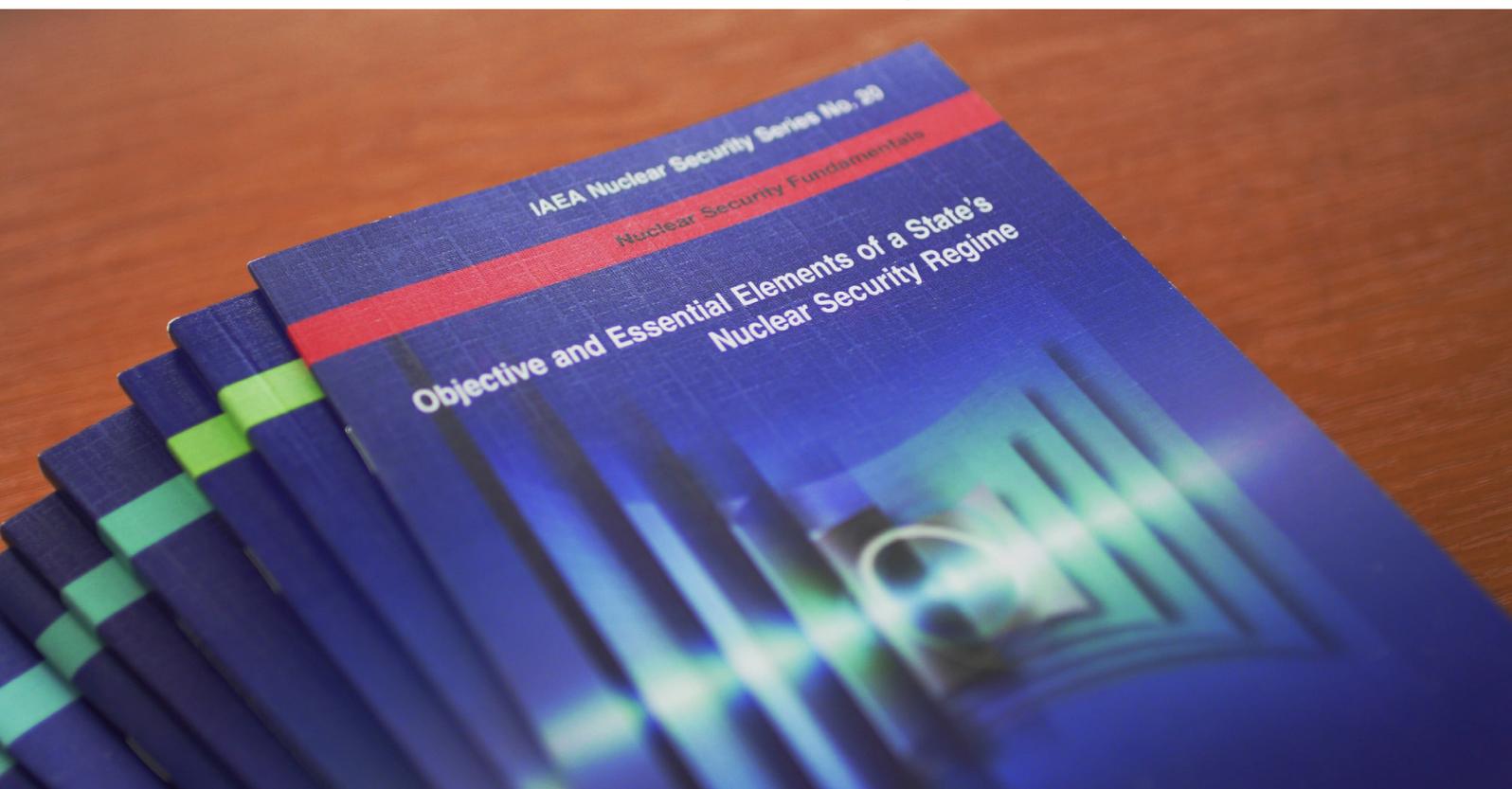




The IAEA Nuclear Security Series

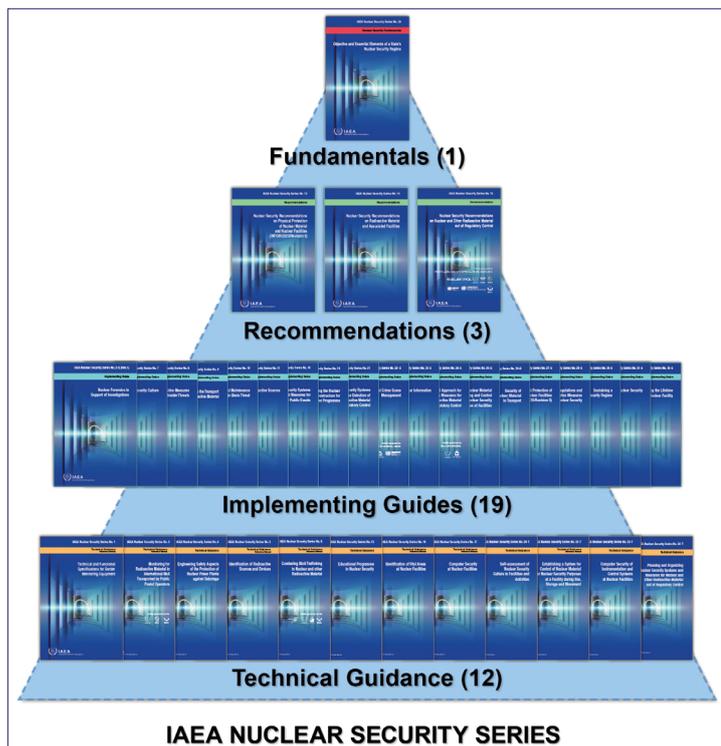


What should I know?

The **IAEA's Nuclear Security Series** provides international consensus guidance on many aspects of nuclear security to support States as they work to fulfil their nuclear security responsibilities. The IAEA establishes and maintains the guidance publications as part of its central coordinating role in nuclear security. Nuclear security, like nuclear safety, aims to protect people, property and the environment from harmful effects of ionizing radiation. Nuclear security issues include the prevention and detection of, and response to, the theft, sabotage, unauthorized access and illegal transfer or other malicious acts involving, nuclear or other radioactive material,

associated facilities and activities. The IAEA Nuclear Security Series publications address these issues.

These publications complement, and are consistent with, international nuclear security instruments such as: the **Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material** and its **Amendment**; the **Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources**; the supplementary **Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources**; the United Nations Security Council resolutions **1373** and **1540**; and the **International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism**.



As such, they focus on how to meet the Recommendations relating to broad areas of nuclear security.

- **Technical Guidance** publications provide guidance on specific technical subjects to supplement the guidance set out in the Implementing Guides. As such, they focus on the details of how to carry out the necessary measures.

These publications cover a wide range of thematic areas pertaining to enhancing nuclear security, including: physical protection of nuclear facilities and of nuclear material in use, storage and transport; security of radioactive material and of associated facilities; detection of and response to nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control; information and computer security; and nuclear security culture.

The IAEA’s nuclear security guidance provides a robust framework of fundamentals, recommendations and guidance on how to ensure nuclear security. It is increasingly used by regulators, operators and other relevant national authorities.

What are the categories in the IAEA Nuclear Security Series?

The Nuclear Security Series was launched in 2006 and is continuously updated by the IAEA in cooperation with experts from Member States. Publications are issued in the following groups:

- **Nuclear Security Fundamentals** specify the objective of a State’s nuclear security regime and the essential elements of such a regime. These provide the basis for the Nuclear Security Recommendations.
- **Nuclear Security Recommendations** set out measures that States should take to achieve and maintain an effective national nuclear security regime consistent with the Fundamentals.
- **Implementing Guides** provide guidance on the means by which States could implement the measures set out in the Recommendations.

What is the Nuclear Security Series Glossary?

The **Nuclear Security Series Glossary** is a compilation of the terms and definitions used in **guidance publications issued to date in the Nuclear Security Series**. At present, its primary purpose is to be a working document for drafters and technical officers preparing publications in this Series, and reviewers considering drafts of such publications, to ensure that terminology and usage is consistent with existing publications. The Glossary is updated as further Nuclear Security Series publications are issued by the IAEA, and it is intended for publication in the near future.

Nuclear Security Series help to enhance national regulations

Nuclear security is the responsibility of the State, and many aspects are delegated to operators, users and national authorities as appropriate, and regional and international bodies play vital supporting roles. As more countries become involved in the nuclear industry, the regulation of nuclear security assumes a greater importance.



The Nuclear Security Series contributes to enhancing countries nuclear security systems and measures. The IAEA assists countries, upon request, with implementation of NSS recommendation and guidance and integration of nuclear security systems and measures in overall security planning for major public events like the World Youth Day hosted by Panama, January 2019. (Photo: D. Calma/IAEA)

The publications' principal users are regulatory bodies and operator organizations for nuclear security and other relevant authorities, such as those involved in law enforcement and forensics, border control and customs, and intelligence gathering.

Other users include international organizations with responsibilities related to nuclear security; organizations that design, manufacture and operate nuclear facilities; and organizations involved in the use of radiation related technologies.

How is the Nuclear Security Series drafted and reviewed?

The preparation and review of Nuclear Security Series publications involves the IAEA Secretariat, experts from Member States who assist the IAEA Secretariat in drafting the publications, and the Nuclear Security Guidance Committee, which reviews and approves draft publications.

Where appropriate, open-ended Technical Meetings are also held during drafting to provide an opportunity for specialists from Member States

and relevant international organizations to review and discuss the draft text. In addition, to ensure a high level of international review and consensus, the Secretariat submits the draft texts to all Member States for a period of 120 days for formal review.

The process for drafting and reviewing publications in the IAEA Nuclear Security Series takes account of confidentiality considerations and recognizes that nuclear security is inseparably linked with general and specific national security concerns. An underlying consideration is that related IAEA safety standards and safeguards activities should be taken into account in the technical content of the publications.

What is the Nuclear Security Guidance Committee?

The Nuclear Security Guidance Committee is a standing body of senior representatives in the area of nuclear security and is open to all IAEA Member States. It was established by the IAEA Director General in 2012 to make recommendations to the Agency on the development and review of the **Nuclear Security Series publications.**



IAEA supports countries to strengthen the physical protection of nuclear and other radioactive material and associated facilities. The IAEA Nuclear Security Series provide in-depth information on key concepts and measures to establish robust nuclear security systems and measures.

(Photo: D. Calma / IAEA)

Its objective is to significantly contribute to greater transparency, consensus, quality, coherence and consistency by engaging more Member States in the development of international publications for nuclear security. The body selection process involves the following:

- All IAEA Member States have been invited to nominate a member of the Nuclear Security Guidance Committee, and members are expected to represent the views of their State.
- Relevant international organizations and relevant non-governmental bodies may be invited to attend the Nuclear Security Guidance Committee meetings as observers.

Safety-Security interface

Nuclear safety and nuclear security are two different areas, each with its own unique characteristics and challenges. Though they share the common objective, they are distinct fields. Both are important components for the sustainability of peaceful nuclear technology. At the same time, nuclear safety and nuclear security do affect each other — this is what we call the interface. Safety measures and security measures for facilities and activities must be designed and implemented in a harmonized manner, so that nuclear security measures do not compromise safety and vice versa. International safety standards and nuclear security guidance provide practical advice to States on how to meet their responsibilities in this regard.

The Safety and Security Series Online User Interface (NSS-OUI) provides direct access to the IAEA's safety standards and nuclear security guidance publications and facilitates the navigation within the series, in particular the identification of the guidance material established to support the implementation of requirements or recommendations (<https://nucleus-apps.iaea.org/nss-oui/>).

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