

## Background

An MPE is a national or international event, classified by a State as ‘major’ and requiring the implementation of a security plan. An MPE is characterized by the presence



of a large number of people, for example a political summit, a religious gathering or a sporting contest. Such events present complex security challenges for a host State and have nuclear security implications.

MPEs draw great public interest and receive intense media attention. This makes the events attractive venues for demonstrations, protests or even violence. One particular area of concern relates to organizations or individuals that might wish to use these events to stage criminal acts or acts of terrorism.

Levels of security and surveillance at MPEs have steadily increased in recent years, primarily to protect the public from the threat of criminal or terrorist acts by deterring such acts through an increased presence of visible security and law enforcement personnel, and the implementation of strong monitoring procedures (i.e., metal detectors, x-ray scanners, explosives detectors).

In this context, nuclear security systems and measures need to be applied at MPEs and integrated into the overall security plan.



**Nuclear  
Safety and  
Security**

## ***Nuclear security systems and measures for Major Public Events (MPEs)***



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For additional information,  
[www.iaea.org/topics/public-events-security](http://www.iaea.org/topics/public-events-security)



**Nuclear  
Safety and  
Security**

*The IAEA Nuclear Security Programme for MPEs provides States, upon request, with assistance to plan, prepare and implement nuclear security systems for MPEs. This assistance includes:*

### Training activities

The IAEA organizes and delivers training activities, including national, regional and international workshops on:

- Nuclear Security Measures and Emergency Response Arrangements for Major Public Events;
- Developing and Implementing Nuclear Security Systems and Measures for Major Public Events;
- Nuclear Security Measures for Major Public Events;
- Responding to Nuclear Security Events at Main Venues and Other Strategic Locations Related to Major Public Events;
- Use, Calibration and Maintenance of Radiation Detection Instruments.



### Lending radiation detection instruments

The IAEA facilitates, on request, a loan of radiation detection instruments, including:

- Personal Radiation Detectors (PRDs);
- Radionuclide Identification Devices (RIDs);
- Portable Radiation Scanners (PRSs – backpacks);
- High-purity Germanium Detectors (HpGe); and
- Mobile Portal Monitors.



### Information exchange

IAEA provides nuclear security situational analysis of incidents of nuclear and other radioactive material, specific to the region where an MPE is planned, reported over the last few years to the IAEA's Incident and Trafficking Data Base (ITDB).

### Technical visits

The IAEA facilitates, where possible, the participation of the requesting State in a technical visit to observe the implementation of nuclear security systems and measures at a major public event in another State.

### Expert missions

The IAEA conducts expert missions to advise on the development of the concept of operations for the MPE based on the IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 18 *Nuclear Security Systems and Measures for Major Public Events*, as well as on practical experience with the application of the measures for the prevention, detection and response to nuclear security events at an MPE.

