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Nuclear power has been historically poisoning people and environment, taking out economic resources needed for education and medicine, creating unacceptable risks for all of life on Earth.

It's clear for all the people of good will that this source of energy must not be used anymore and must be phased out forever because it's a dangerous mistake made in the past and not the future.

People in Russia, people in Germany spent a lot of time and energy to fight dangerous nuclear industry. When we united in our struggle - our cooperation becomes most effective.

Back in 2009 we stopped together the export of radioactive waste which were for long time transported to Russia from German Gronau and Dutch Almelo. For 5 years, environmental groups Ecodefense (Russia) and SOFA (Munster, Germany), with support of activists from dozens of cities in Russia and Germany, were protesting this deal and finally won this fight.

Another example was in 2009-2013 - my organization Ecodefense was campaigning against the construction of nuclear power plant near Kaliningrad. And we have won again when in 2013 construction was frozen – this success would be impossible without cooperation with German group Urgewald which helped to stop money for this nuclear plant from European banks.

In 2014 Russian government decided to punish my organization for this campaign. Until today government started 15 court cases against Ecodefense, we were fined many times. Government also did put us on the list of “foreign agents” which is new exotic way to punish civil society groups which protesting the policy of Russian government.

Repression of Russian government did put us on the brink of survival. And again, support from our friends – German environmental and anti-nuclear activists – has been very crucial. It helped Ecodefense to survive in this dark times of repressions and political witch hunt in Russia.

Russian and German activists have long and successful history of cooperation and struggle against nuclear industry. We need to continue standing together, we need to continue fighting nuclear industry. And if we do that, we can achieve nuclear phase-out worldwide. Not in centuries from now, but we need to do this in our lifetime. Faster we phase-out nuclear, better chances we have avoid new Chernobyls and Fukushimas.

German nuclear phase-out is great example for the rest of world and it must be finished as fast as possible. But phasing out nuclear in the rest of the world is of no less importance if we want to make the world safer. Let's cooperate again – this is where our joint effort urgently needed today. We can win and we will win!