

# NSFS poster at IRPA-14 in South Africa

At the international IRPA conference in South Africa in May 2016, NSFS presented its history and work in a [poster](#).

This was part of the celebration of IRPA's 50th Anniversary, where all Associate Societies had been given the opportunity to present themselves to share their experiences and challenges and to facilitate cooperation and communication.



## Introduction

The North Society for Radiation Protection was established in 1964 at the initiative of guidance staff in Sweden. It arranged the first meeting, which included present advice in radiation protection in terms of the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden). Already in the same year the society became a member of IRPA (the International Radiation Protection Association) the first general meeting took place in Gothenburg in 1966. NSFS is a viable society, which has been able to arrange regular meetings for over 50 years.

## Good practices

The four Nordic countries all regularly host a wide range of activities and courses for students and professionals working in them. In each country there are voluntary groups that have a possibility to visit and learn under the NSFS. Each country would be successful to carry out multidisciplinary networking and conferences, but the NSFS has been able to provide a forum for this.

The project for translation of the Swedish 'Strålnings- och skyddsutrustning' (The history of radiation, radiation protection and radiological protection) from the Swedish into English has been carried out successfully. This massive work consisted of four books:

- Part 1. Radiation Dos: The book before World War II, 104 pages
- Part 2. The Shield of Uranium: The 1940's, 104 pages
- Part 3. The Labour of Uranium: 1940 - 1950, 110 pages
- Part 4. The Fall of Uranium: 1951 - 1955, 104 pages



— Rolf Siewert, 1964

## The NSFS appointed a Project Committee to initiate and organize the translation and to assist the translators with advice on technical terms, and maintaining quality control throughout. The chair of the Committee is Dr. Gösta M. The translated volumes will be available for most free from education from the web. Hand copy versions will be provided on request through print-on-demand. The funds were provided by the NSFS, Nordic Nuclear Safety Research, the four Nordic regulatory authorities, and IRPA.

## Challenges

The NSFS has been using a web page for delivering information. Nevertheless and potential members could have using social media. Improving communication should be one of the priorities to activate members of the society to enhance opportunities for networking.

The society is not well known among professionals using radiation in medicine. During the next four years the society will be introduced to Nordic and national professional societies on the fields of medical use of radiation.

## Sponsoring for young members of the society should be but not developed so that more young members could participate in the activities as organized by NSFS.

## Contact details

**The board of the NSFS in 2016-2018:**  
Björn By, president of the NSFS, [bjorn@nordisk.org](mailto:bjorn@nordisk.org)  
Birgitta Johansson, secretary of the NSFS, [bjorn@nordisk.org](mailto:bjorn@nordisk.org)  
The NSFS' Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nordisk](https://www.facebook.com/nordisk)

**Denmark:** Inger Holm, Jens Sjøgaard Hansen and Hanne N. Sørensen  
**Finland:** Teija Hämäläinen, Mikko Kolehmainen and Riku Toivola  
**Iceland:** Alína Guðjónsdóttir, Guðbjörg and Sólfríður  
**Norway:** Trude Steen, Marte Solberg and William Stenning  
**Sweden:** Christian Gustafsson, Mats Carlson and Peter Nilsson

**Society's webpage:** [www.nordisk.org](http://www.nordisk.org)