

## **Ethical Aspects of Nuclear Power Utilization**

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The ethical arguments raised against nuclear power, on the one hand, relate to the nuclear responsibility for spent fuel management and, on the other hand, to the hazards posed by reactors. I shall deal with these arguments in my paper and show that only the former argument can reasonably be used against nuclear power. In actual fact, solving the problem of repositories and spent fuel management, respectively, in such a way as not to endanger future generations is a public duty. The other argument, that reactors pose acute dangers, is not generally valid. The fact that an accident occurred at Chernobyl cannot be used to derive from it the existence of a general hazard. Conversely, when weighing risks, an objective comparison must be made with other sources of energy. The positive environmental impact of nuclear power must not be neglected in that comparison. After all, what is at stake is a definition of the general technical responsibility implying, among other things, that the greatest possible effort must be made to ensure the safety of nuclear plants worldwide. Opting out of this responsibility would be indefensible.