

THE FUKUSHIMA ACCIDENT THROUGH THE “CORRIERE DELLA SERA” WEBSITE: A MISSED (CULTURAL) OPPORTUNITY

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The “*Corriere della Sera*” is one of the most prominent and relevant Italian newspapers: its long history started in 1876 in Milano, just a few years after Italy’s independence in 1861, and has a current diffusion of 500.000 copies per day.

Its web version (www.corriere.it) is one of the most visited websites in Italy, celebrating its continuous popularity, credibility and success.

CORRIERE DELLA SERA *it*

radiazioni mille volte la norma

La battaglia dei superpompieri con l’incubo di Chernobyl

No balanced information is possible without comprehension, and many newspapers presented explanations of radiation doses, limits, effects of radiation, precautions, etc.

Since the very first day of the FUKUSHIMA accident, when journalists were building, hour after hour, the sequence of events at the crippled nuclear power plant, many popular newspapers strived to present an objective view of the facts, and to structure the continuous flow of information that was publicly made available.

Incubo a Fukushima

Il commissario Ue : «E’ un’apocalisse»

I 300 di Fukushima: «Moriremo tutti»

In most cases, those newspapers strived to explain to the public the (non-trivial) concepts of activity, committed dose, contamination, criticality, dose limits, risk, etc. (and it is in fact remarkable how some popular newspapers –the “New York Times”, for example- succeeded in offering a severe, scientific, while clear and simplified, interpretation of the events to the general public!).

Some newspapers’ websites showed sketches and simulations of the accident in the plant and its possible radiological consequences. Others interviewed experts in nuclear energy or in radiation protection, and presented an overview of projected radiation risks and their possible consequences.

“Non lascio la mia casa”, suicida a 102 anni

COMBUSTIBILE IN EBOLLIZIONE

Fukushima, radioattività fuori controllo
«E’ centomila volte oltre la norma»

During that period, after years of mis-information on radiological and nuclear issues in Italy (historically, a radio-phobic country), an objective and balanced public information could have been appreciated, both from *pro-nuclear* and *against-nuclear* activists, in order to present and clarify to the Italian population the arguments supporting or opposing that choice.

Fukushima, esplosi altri due reattori

In our Radiation Protection community, we agree and discuss more and more on the need to develop a *Radiation Protection Culture*, with the contribution of radiation and environmental experts, of scientific journalists, communicators, artists, etc.

Non si trova midollo per i casi gravi.

per i tecnici lo iodio non basta

L’esposizione allo iodio radioattivo rilasciato in un incidente può causare il cancro alla tiroide.

A balanced presentation of the FUKUSHIMA accident’s cause and consequences may have proved to be an excellent opportunity to develop Italy’s general public’s culture on radiation, radiological risks, natural doses, dose limits, etc.

FUKUSHIMA - Cinquanta uomini per vincere contro il «mostro» atomico. Cento mani e cento occhi per tenerlo a bada mentre il mondo lo guarda e trattiene il fiato. Sono i lavoratori

È ufficiale: Fukushima come Chernobyl

La trappola radioattiva

Studenti, leghisti, fascisti e comunisti, per il vostro bene non disertate il referendum. Ora sarebbe un suicidio

As frequent reader of the “Corriere della Sera” website, looking at some of the news coverage on the FUKUSHIMA accident, I have the feeling that that cultural opportunity was, unfortunately, completely missed.

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