ECRs technical visit at the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection (Bundesamt für Strahlenschutz), BfS

In connection with the European Radiation Protection Week (ERPW2026) conference, a technical visit to BfS was organised for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) who also attended the conference. In total, 18 participants attended the visit, which took place on 9 October 2026, from 09:00 to 13:00. The event was advertised via email to the PIANOFORTE ECRs, through the PIANOFORTE ECRs LinkedIn page, and subsequently via the conference application, Whova. The agenda for the visit is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Agenda of the PIANOFORTE ECRs technical visit at BfS.

Time	Activity
09:00 – 09:45	Welcoming and Introduction of BfS (Activities, Structure, History)
09:45 – 10:30	Laboratory Visit
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break & Group Picture
11:00 – 11:45	Laboratory Visit
11:45 – 12:30	Laboratory Visit
12:30 – 12:40	Gather the group
12:40 – 13:00	Q&A, Final remarks

The laboratories that were visited were:

- UR1 – Radon metrology
- UR4 – Water/IMIS
- UR5 – Gamma spectrometry
- In vivo / in vitro measurements

Each participant had the opportunity to visit three of the selected laboratories at the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection (BfS). Throughout the visits, participants demonstrated strong interest in the activities carried out by BfS and gained valuable insights into the operation of specialized laboratories, the equipment used, and the practical implementation of radiation protection measures. The visits also provided an opportunity to exchange knowledge with laboratory experts and gain a better understanding of how research and technical activities contribute to radiation protection.

This partnership has received funding from the European Union's "EURATOM" research and innovation program under the 101061037 grant agreement.

Moreover, the coffee break provided a valuable opportunity for participants to network, exchange experiences, and learn about each other's research areas and professional backgrounds. These informal discussions fostered interaction among early-career researchers, encouraged the exchange of ideas, and helped establish connections that may lead to future collaborations.

The success of the visit was further highlighted by the participants' expressed interest in taking part in future activities, including networking events, technical visits, and training courses. This positive feedback demonstrates the value of such initiatives in strengthening the radiation protection community, promoting knowledge exchange, and supporting the professional development of ECRs.

The applicants would like to express their gratitude to the PIANOFORTE partnership for financing the coffee break associated with this event, with the total amount of 86.66 EUR. This support provided a valuable opportunity for participants to interact in an informal setting, facilitating networking, social interaction, and the exchange of scientific knowledge. The applicants greatly appreciate this contribution to the success of the event and to the promotion of collaboration among ECRs in radiation protection.

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