

Pianoforte Early Career Research Travel Grant Report

ICRP – the International Commission on Radiological Protection’s motto, as we can read on its’ X/twitter account, is “protecting you, animals, and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation since 1928”.

ICRP 2023 – 7th International Symposium on the System of Radiological Protection took place in Tokyo this month, organized by ICRP and QST – the National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology*. The overarching theme this year was *The Evolution of Radiological Protection: Science and Beyond*. Some of more than one dozen topics covered included:

- communication; how experience of the Fukushima Daiichi accident is improving RP – Radiation Protection; the next generation of scientists & professionals; sustainable development and protection of the environment; radiation emergencies; RP in ion beam and targeted alpha therapy; strengthening expertise and raising public awareness.

As a post-doc researcher at CFisUC - the Centre for Physics of the University of Coimbra, carrying out research on radiation risk perception, namely regarding the situation of old uranium mines in the Central region of Portugal, this was the perfect forum to talk about interesting results with the scientific community, delegates, sponsors, and exhibitors from around the world.

As José António de Carvalho Paixão, Director of CFisUC, predicted in his letter of support to my travel grant application, this was also a great opportunity to extend international collaboration networking on such a relevant societal research problem.

With a great view of Tokyo Bay from the Grand-Nikko Tokyo Daiba, the chance to attend ICRP 2023 confirmed what I wrote in my motivation letter that is it enabled me to learn from others, bring back home information vis-à-vis the future of RP and share the experience, namely through X and linked in as in the post at https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ana-rita-melo_about-last-week-realizou-se-o-icrp-2023-activity-7131167536192110593-mdru?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

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* „The National Institute for Quantum Science and Technology (QST) was established in April 2016 to promote quantum science and technology in a comprehensive and integrated manner. The new organization was formed from the merger of the National Institute of Radiological Sciences (NIRS) with certain operations that were previously undertaken by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)“. <https://icrp2023.jp/hosts-and-committees/>

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