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Marie Curie Prize 2009

The Marie Curie Prize, created on the initiative of the World Council of Nuclear Workers (WONUC) and of the Low Radiation International Network (LOWRAD), is intended as a reward for scientific research and work whose goal is the improvement of scientific knowledge concerning the effects of low and very low doses of ionising radiation on human beings and biotopes.

Since the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the vast majority of scientific work undertaken on the subject of ionising radiation has been aimed solely at proving its noxiousness. Regardless of scientific truth, the vast majority of this work has thus been grounded in mistaken dogma; dogma nevertheless that had the advantage of satisfying the advocates of the 'ecologically politically correct', for whom any dose received is noxious, as effects do not fade over time.

This obduracy has consequently precluded all work seeking to highlight the possible beneficial effects of ionising radiation and to analyse the possible adaption and repair mechanisms that it might produce, depriving the scientific community of fundamental knowledge necessary for pursuing the fight against the different forms of cancer. By making the acquisition of this knowledge impossible, these obscurantist pressure groups may be considered responsible for the low success met with hitherto in the fight against cancer.

This absurd representation has fostered the outbreak of massive campaigns denigrating the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which is now recognised as the sole genuine solution to the double challenge of the increasing global demand for energy and the protection of our environment.

Under the iron rule of this revisionist anti-nuclear perspective, it is no longer the most probable theories, supported by carefully conducted experiments, that serve as a basis for scientific research, but rather political dogma. Science has been drafted into the service of the state, or more precisely, of its ideology. Alas! too numerous are the scientists, Lyssenko's spiritual offspring, whose work receives considerable financing to do research conditioned by thinking, pandering to the idea of a ravaged ecology, that is bent on transforming statistical correlations into causal explanations, in apparent obeisance to the famous principle coined by Ivan Vladimirovitch Mitchourine (1855–1935): "Science should be entirely organised solely upon the basis of doctrine."

In courageous opposition to this indefensible position with regard to scientific research, and recalling the lessons of our great forbears, for whom "the poison is in the dose, not in the poison" (Gallien), Edward Calabrese dared to undertake work making it possible to correctly appreciate the relationship between dose and effect in many areas of toxicology and biology, and to highlight numerous examples of the hormesis phenomenon.

The Marie Curie Prize is awarded to him for all his work on the relationship between doses and effects in toxicology.

Previous winners of the Marie Curie Prize:

2007 – Maurice Tubiana (France) for all his work

2008 – Abel Gonzalez (Argentina) for his initiatives in the field of radioprotection.