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## **Nuclear Phase-Out and the Energy Turn**

This project focuses on the changes to social, political, and legal perceptions of nuclear energy in the context of the energy turn. In Germany, policy makers are looking for sustainable energy supplies beyond fossil burning and nuclear power. Power saving and renewable energy sources are the main foci. The substitution of nuclear power by renewable energies is central to the envisioned energy turn. After Chernobyl, it took 25 years and another reactor meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station for Germany's nuclear phase-out decision in 2011. The ambivalence of this process, however, is obvious. There is no fast farewell to nuclear residual risk; nuclear power is still an energy option in other European countries. In Germany, nuclear power plants need to be dismantled and nuclear waste to be safely disposed and responsibly handled for centuries.

The proposed research project will examine the nuclear phase-out in four dimensions:

- First, as a dimension of nuclear risk perception focusing on the legal development from Chernobyl over the debates on nuclear terrorism after 9/11 to the reaction to Fukushima.
- Second, as a dimension of nuclear policy investigating mainly the legal development from the "nuclear power consensus" in 2002 to the extension of the nuclear phase-out in 2010 until the "delayed acceleration" of the nuclear phase-out in 2011.
- Third, as a dimension of the understanding of "nuclear property" with emphasis on the legal development reflected in the discussions about compensation for energy companies during the changes of nuclear policy in the last decade.
- Forth, as a dimension of the reflection of urgent problems directly connected with nuclear phase-out, particularly focusing on global climate change, the European future of nuclear power, the domestic dismantling of nuclear power plants, and the disposal of nuclear waste.