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## Proceedings of the first annual PhD event

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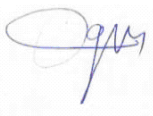
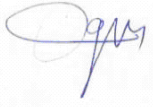
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**ABSTRACT:**

The PETRUS 2015 PhD Conference was the first annual event organized within the PETRUS III project. It brought together 73 students and academics from European universities, as well as some overseas institutions. It was initiated in June 2015 with the help of the PETRUS Consortium and the support of the Université de Lorraine at Nancy, France.

The following proceedings include text of all presentations at the conference.

## Signatures

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Revised by			
Approved by:	Behrooz BAZARGAN SABET		16/11/2015

## Document revision history

Identifier	Date	Short description
<b>Version n°1</b>	16/11/2015	Proceedings of the first annual PhD event
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## Foreword

During the period June 22-26, 2015, Ecole des Mines de Nancy – Université de Lorraine hosted the First PETRUS PhD Conference in Nancy, France. The objective of the conference was to bring PhD students involved in research on different fields of radioactive waste management and disposal together with academics and professionals.

The initial idea for this conference grew out of earlier discussions among PETRUS Consortium during the PETRUS II project (2009-2012) stressing the need for multi-disciplinary training programme to support career and skills development of future young researchers. Indeed, most complex topics in radioactive waste disposal are cross-disciplinary. To enter in this field, researchers must develop transferable and generic skills and competencies exceeding the specific topic of their PhD thesis. Progress in such domain implies that young researchers must be aware of basic rules and synthesize principles from a diverse set of disciplines. Therefore, to address this issue a specific workpackage has been introduced in the frame of PETRUS III project with larger objectives of promoting and developing the scientific research potential by pooling human and material resources and by facilitating PhD students' exchange.

To deepen and diversify the knowledge of the young researchers it was decided to create specific training programme to be delivered in periodic (annual) PhD event. The event organized in conference format should also be a forum for knowledge exchange and collaboration among professionals and PhD students. It must enable PhD students to meet with their peers and to make contact with senior academics and researchers with similar interests, as well as acting as an informal job market whereby students can demonstrate their abilities and attract attention to their prospects.

The duration of the conference has been fixed to a full week. Each day is split into morning and after-noon sessions. During the morning sessions selected PhD Students give an overview of their works through short oral presentation followed by discussion and exchange of ideas with the audience and with a jury composed of 4 senior academics with extensive experience in supervision. The afternoon sessions are dedicated to high quality lectures in various fields of studies on radioactive waste disposal emphasizing the multi-disciplinarily aspect of the topics.

Interest in this first conference was most encouraging with 73 participants from all around Europe. There were a number of extremely interesting papers. In total 15 research works have been selected for oral presentations on the basis of extended abstracts. The quality of discussions with the audience was very high and sometimes very enthusiastic. The jury selected the two best presentations for special prizes awarded in a ceremony organized during the social event.

The following proceedings include text of all presentations at the conference. We would like to thank all of those who contributed to the success of the conference. Based on the continuing development and interest in the subject area, the second conference will be scheduled for June 2016 at Delft Technical University, Nederland.

November 16, 2015

Behrooz BAZARGAN SABET

PETRUS III Project Coordinator

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