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Radon and NORM: Impact on Air Quality

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Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue is to provide an update on recent advances relevant to radiation risk management cycle for radon and NORM exposure situations.

It is well known that radon is one of the most important causes of lung cancer after smoking: the risk connected to radon exposure has become particularly important indoors considering the increase in radon concentration. This aspect has become more important in recent years due to two main factors: the energy efficiency of buildings from the green economy perspective and the increasing time that people have spent at home due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, the need to develop the Radon Action Plan, requested by the EU-BSS, has triggered several activities, mainly in Europe.

On the other hand, the EU-BSS introduced, using the same approach of the ICRP 103, many novelties in the management of NORM residues. Regarding our concerns, NORM residues should be considered as indoor air pollutants when they are added to building materials, serving as source of gamma radiation and radon. Hence, this Special Issue will focus on two distinct topics: indoor radon and the impact of NORM on the atmosphere.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Continued developments in instrumentation and modeling have driven atmospheric science to become increasingly more complex with a deeper understanding of concepts, mechanisms, and interactions. This is the field that innovation built and it has led to a better appreciation for the complexity with atmosphere. Human life is intertwined in this complexity as we strive to better understand our atmosphere. Climate change is constantly stretching the limits of our thinking and forcing new ideas and concepts to be played out. Welcome to the Anthropocene!

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