

Mary Olson is the founder of Gender and Radiation Impact Project (GRIP).

Her work on radiation and radioactive waste policy began in 1991 when she joined the staff of Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS, now in Takoma Park, MD) as Staff Biologist. Olson's portfolio at NIRS included lobbying on Capital Hill; direct engagement with federal rule-making (US Environmental Protection Agency and US Nuclear Regulatory Commission); nuclear licensing processes including pro-se intervention; legislative and political engagement as well as education of elected and appointed officials, technical staff in industry and environmental organizations and people concerned about their health, and the health of our planet.

In 2000, Olson moved to Western North Carolina where she has continued to work, increasingly at the global level, offering information on the disproportionate impact of ionizing radiation on girls and women (compared to boys and men) as primary evidence for the development of the new *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons*.

Olson spoke at the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons in 2014 and again in 2022. She has also contributed to the *Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Review Conference* (2010 and 2015).

Mary has traveled extensively, educating on radiation and its consequences, including a trip to St Petersburg, Russia and Geneva, Switzerland both hosted by the International Committee of the Red Cross; a five-week speaking tour of Japan hosted by civil society networks; and extensive teaching on radiation in US universities and community colleges (by invitation).

Olson has a BA in Evolutionary Biology (1980) and 30 years of experience, beginning with her own radiation accident in a research lab in 1984.