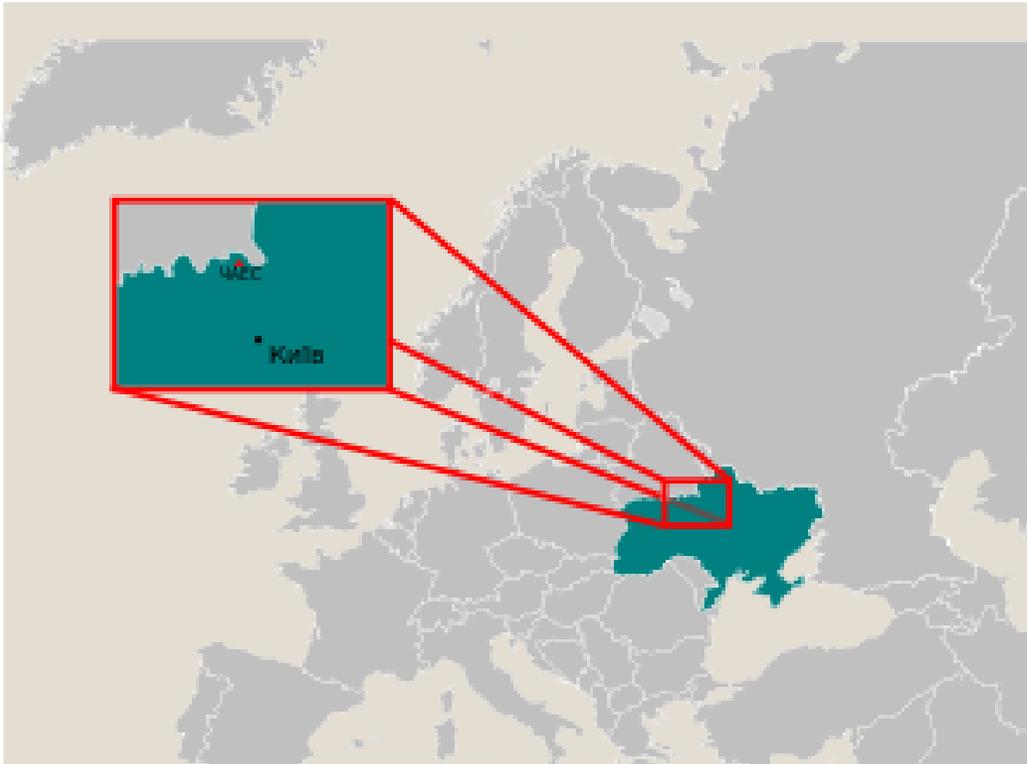


**TRAUMA SIGNALS  
ABOUT CHERNOBYL:  
women's testimonys**



- On April 26, 1986, at Chernobyl nuclear power station near the city of Prypyat, 100 km from Kiev, there was an explosion that destroyed the nuclear reactor.
- The radioactive cloud from the explosion passed over the European part of the USSR, most of Europe, the eastern part of the United States.
- The biggest part of the radioactive substances settled on the territory of Belarus. Ukraine and the European part of the Russian Federation suffered much.
- A 30-kilometer alienation zone was created around ChNPP.



- While foreign journalists were talking about a threat to people's lives, traditional May parades were held in Kyiv and other cities of Ukraine and Belarus.
- The persons responsible for concealing information, subsequently explained their decision to prevent panic among the population. The radiation level in Kyiv at that time exceeded the background several dozen times.





Using the method of oral history, I am engaged in field research, I collect in-depth interviews with people who are witnesses of these events.

Because, the memory of this tragedy should not be limited only as a technological catastrophe – **it is a tragedy of human pain, trauma, life experience.**



“YOU ARE RADIOACTIVE!  
WHAT DO YOU THINK!  
YOU ARE DANGEROUS! “

# BAZIEVA Lyudmila Nikolaevna



1986



2017

"Fear, fear and that's all. Especially children, two children. My daughter is 11 years old and son is 15 years old, and they need to attend school ...".

"We are orphans. That is how they say; we are orphans in an emotional state. "

"And we have *nothing* to dress, *no shoes*, and as it is said, let's say, *neither a spoon nor a fork*, we have *nothing* of our own ... and *nowhere* to take. As it is now, there are such napkins to wipe the table. And we did *not* even have a rag to wipe the table because there was *nothing* to tear off a piece ..."

laboratory technician  
Natalia Tereschenko

"Well, how it was? Like a war.  
Frankly speaking, I had such a  
feeling like I had visited a hot  
spot."



2017



1986

# Glukhovskaya Lidiya Mikhailovna



"I will tell you honestly, I could not even immediately remember the word" Chornobyl ". Well, it's funny right now, huh?"

"Here, I mean, in Kiev, when we went out on Khreshchatyk, we came there by subway from the railway station, the girls took a taxi, because there were microscopes and drove to the dormitory. I decided to walk a little bit around the city, just to settle my nerves, here's what's called. And this is the dissonance here, that there are smartly dressed people, celebrating the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, everything, huh? And there is such a grief. You know, I've got some kind of hysteria, some sort of it. I burst out into tears just because of this, simply, well, it was probably something emotional, this was some sort of such a small nervous breakdown, here.



2017

# Ivanova Maria Petrovna



1986

"Yes, it's painful to look and remember, and this is just horror, that all impressed me most of all, such a situation that nowhere is no one, and no one can hear neither children nor adults ... Darkness, emptiness, everything in the world was terrible there ... It was especially terrible seeing the villages, the village, we were passing through – that was something. It was so, I still have these children's tights hanging on the ropes, as they say, children's things were hanging loosely. This is the very place, which was the most terrible, and somehow in my heart, even the heart began to shrink, to hurt when the children's clothes hung and no children's conversation was heard anywhere."





THANK YOU FOR  
ATTENTION