

"Early warning procedures and response mechanisms in case of industrial accidents in Republic of Bulgaria"

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Legislation

- Signed in 1992
- Ratified in 1995
- Bulgaria became Party on the Convention on 12 of May 1995
- Implementation of Convention – through transposition of Seveso II Directive and its amendment into the national legislation
(Environmental Protection Act, Regulation on prevention of major accidents involving dangerous chemicals)

Competent authority

**Ministry of
Environment and
Water**

“Operative control and management of
dangerous substances” Department

Point of contact

**State Agency “Civil
Protection”**

MANAGEMENT

**The State Agency “Civil Protection”
is governed by the Council of
Ministers through the Chairman of
the State Agency**

Basic tasks

- SA “Civil protection” organizes regular training activities on rescue, mutual assistance, early warning procedures and response mechanisms in case of industrial accidents;
- It manages the drafting of the external emergency plans

Basic tasks

It deals with prevention of the emergency situations and measures for reducing the harmful effect during crises;

Basic tasks

- It informs the population and the state authorities about disasters and accidents which have occurred;
- It organizes the preparation and use of the national forces for the carrying out of the rescue, protection and mitigation activities during disasters and accidents;

Basic tasks



It organizes the work of the **Standing Committee** on the protection of the population in the cases of disasters and accidents

Standing Committee

- Under the Council of Ministers a Standing Committee on the protection of the population in the cases of disasters and accidents has been set up.
- The members of the standing committee are designated with an order of the Prime Minister.
- The regions and municipalities have set up standing committees, chairs of the committees are respectively the regional governors and the mayors.

Standing Committee

- **National level – 1 standing committee; representatives of relevant ministries, institutions and agencies; chaired by the Minister of state policy for disasters and accidents.**
- **Regional level – 28 standing committees; representatives of regional structures of the abovementioned authorities; chaired by the regional governors.**
- **Local level - The mayor of each municipality organizes and carries out the activities on the protection of the population in cases of disasters and accidents (c.a.250 municipalities)**

National situation centre

- The National situation centre :
 - Collects, processes, analyzes and classifies the complete information on the occurrence of an emergency situation and informs the government authorities;
 - Organizes the interaction between state agencies and regional structures during liquidation of consequences from disasters, accidents and catastrophes.

Contingency plans

- National contingency plan – available for inspection at central office
- Regional contingency plans – available for inspection at SA “Civil protection” regional offices
- Local contingency plans – available at municipalities

NOTIFICATION OF THE POPULATION



One of the main tasks of SA “Civil protection” is to provide on time and reliable notification of the population, the management bodies and the forces carrying out the rescue operations.

Notification of the population

Carried out by the National situation centre of the agency, the officials on duty in the regional and municipal centres.

Notification of the population

**Communication information
system (CIS) is used.**

Notification of the population

- **CIS includes:**
 - **the technical equipment of the automated notification system;**
 - **the networks of the public telecommunications operators, providing voice services (telephones and the telegraph channels of the Bulgarian Telecommunication Company);**
 - **radio means for operational and emergency communications;**
 - **automated information system, the networks of the national and local operators of radio and TV programmes, and in cases of bigger disasters and accidents - the Bulgarian National Television and the Bulgarian National Radio.**

Notification of the population

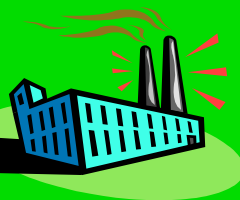
- The notification achieves timely informing of the population in the endangered areas, the bodies of the standing, regional and municipal standing committees for the protection of the population in cases of disasters and accidents, and the forces carrying out activities for the protection of the population and the property.
- Initial information exchange is carried out in emergencies with countries and international organizations with which Bulgaria has contractual relations.

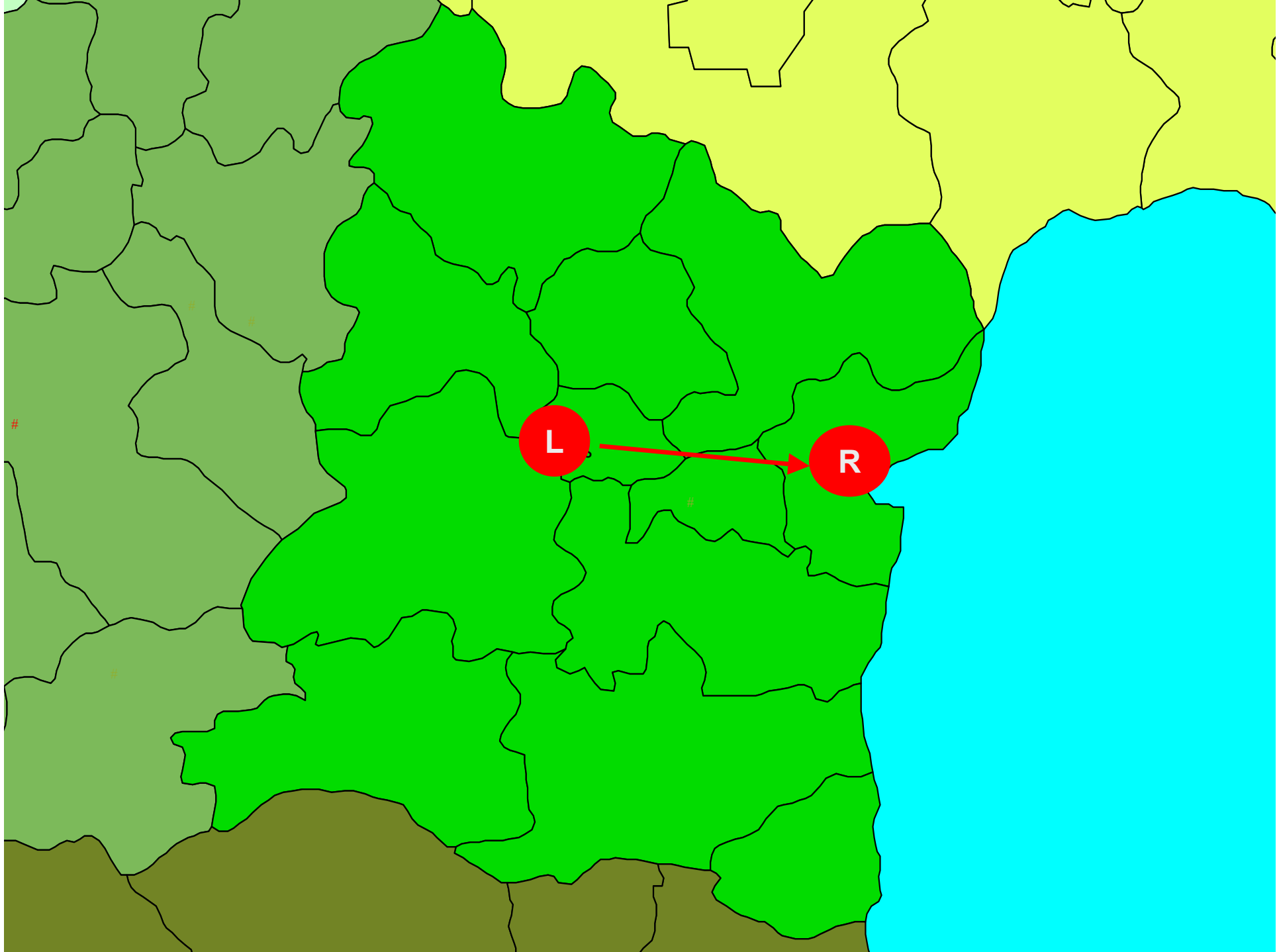
Notification of the population

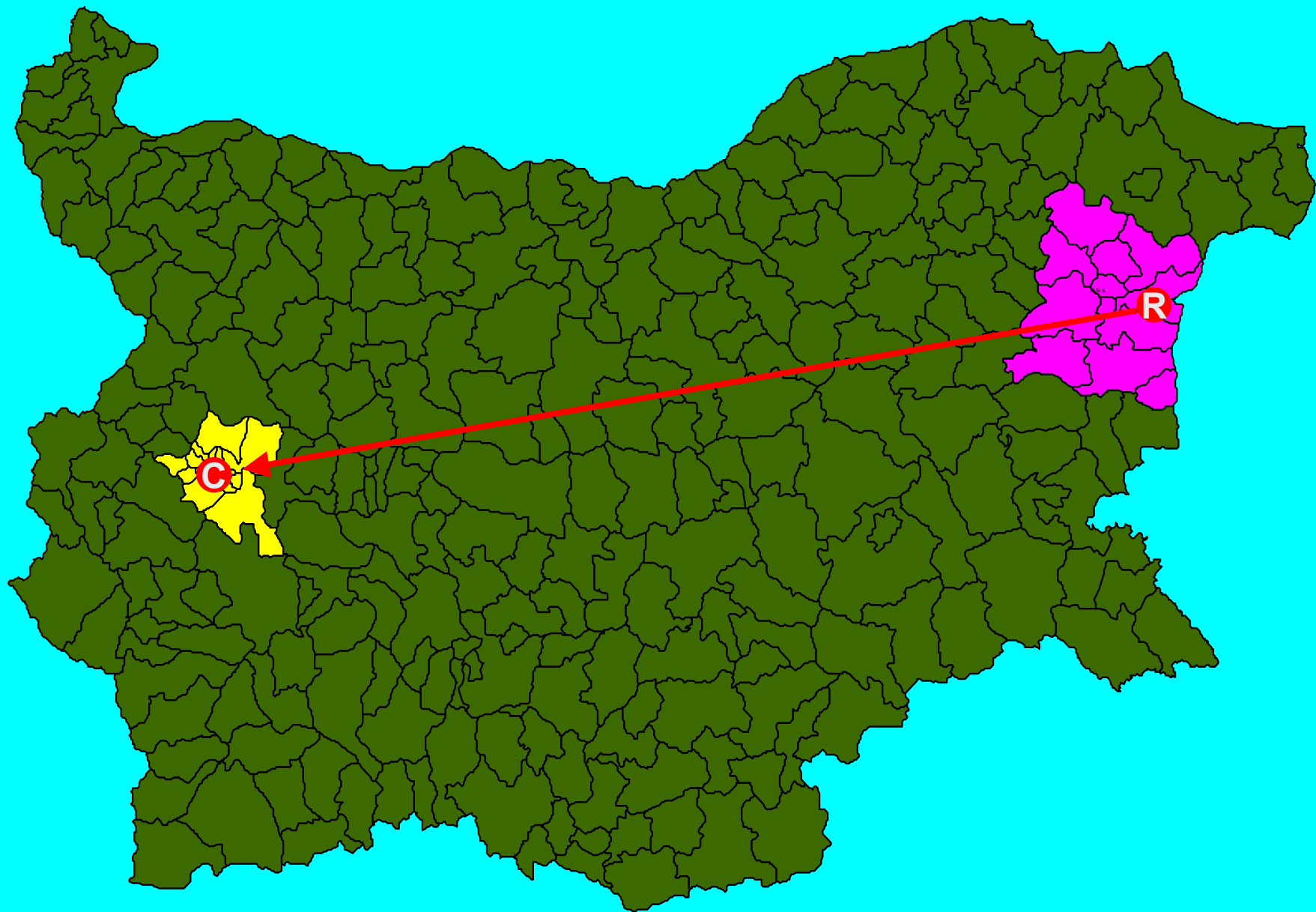
- Rules for conduct after a signal for danger
- The signal is an intermittent (wave-like) siren from the notification system for the duration of three minutes. The sirens are supported by the sound of the industrial sirens, car horns, bells etc.

**The following actions
should be undertaken
calmly and reasonably:**

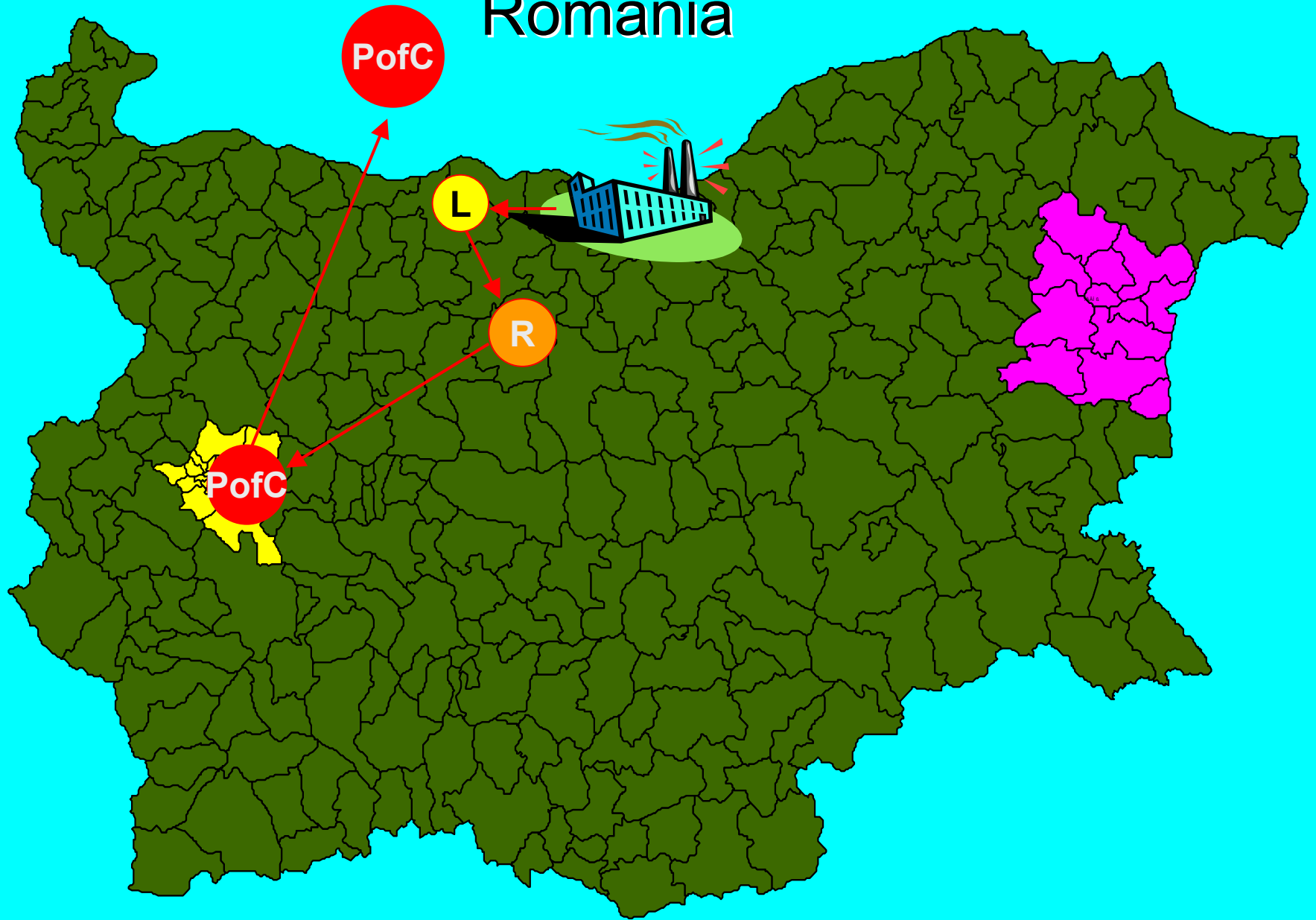
Mayor of the
municipality







Romania



Response mechanisms

- Arriving at the scene of an accident
- Coordination of the activities under the National, regional or local contingency plans – control, intervention and mitigation measures
 - Phase I – Discovery or notification
 - Phase II – Preliminary assessment and initiation of actions
 - Phase III – Containment, countermeasures, cleanup and disposal
 - Phase IV – Documentation and cost recovery



**Initiation of consultations of
Standing Committees, which
appear as decision-making
and coordinating body.**

**Thank you for the
attention**