2015 Review Conference of the Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation
of Nuclear Weapons

Practical Steps of the Russian Federation towards Nuclear Disarmament

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New York, April 27 – May 22, 2015

Address to the Participants and Guests of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

I am glad to greet you on the occasion of the opening of the Conference.

The agenda of the meeting includes a range of issues related to the implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, that has been a cornerstone of the international security system for more than four decades, ensuring strategic parity and global stability.

We are convinced that the equilibrium between three main pillars of the NPT – nonproliferation, disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy – remains a guarantee of its viability in the future. This approach combined with the focus on the universalization of the Treaty prevailed at the 2010 Conference and paved the way for substantive agreements that are still relevant today.

Russia consistently implements all the provisions of the NPT, including Article VI. We have reduced our nuclear arsenal to the lowest level that constitutes

a significant contribution to general and complete disarmament. We intend to continue working in this direction as well as to maintain a balance between mastering of the «peaceful atom» and strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, including the IAEA safeguards system. Russia is ready for close cooperation with all interested parties to establish an up-to-date, sustainable and safe architecture of international cooperation in the field of nuclear energy.

Your current meeting takes place in the year of the 70th anniversary of the end of the World War II. This is a historic milestone that serves as a reminder of our joint responsibility for the well-being of the planet as well as of the need to cherish peace and collectively respond to the threats of today, one of which is the spread of nuclear weapons.

I hope that all the NPT States Parties will reiterate at the Conference their readiness to strictly fulfill their commitments under the Treaty. This will certainly represent an important factor in enhancing peace, security and stability on the entire planet.

I wish you fruitful work and all the best.

The President of the Russian Federation
Vladimir Putin

Russian National Security Strategy to 2020

"Favorable conditions for Russia's long-term development can be achieved by ensuring strategic stability, through measures that include steady progress towards a world free from nuclear weapons, and equal security for all."

"Russia will facilitate the involvement of other states – especially those that possess nuclear weapons, as well as those interested in joint action to ensure shared security – in the process of maintaining strategic stability."

"In the international arena, Russia will pursue a steady course towards participation, together with other states, in strengthening international mechanisms of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related products and technologies, and preventing any use of force in violation of the United Nations Charter. Russia is committed to arms control and the principle of reasonable sufficiency of military capability."

"In order to maintain strategic stability and equal strategic partnership, Russia is ready to continue the discussion of nuclear reductions on a bilateral and multilateral basis. It will strive to put in place the conditions that would make it possible to implement nuclear arms reductions while also making sure not to cause any damage to international security and strategic stability in the process".

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Russian Military Doctrine

[the new edition of the Doctrine
was approved in December 2014]

Defensive Nature of the Russian Military Doctrine
The Doctrine's provisions on the modalities of nuclear weapons' use have not changed. The Russian Federation shall reserve the right to use nuclear weapons in response to the use of nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction against itself and/or its allies and also in the event of aggression against the Russian Federation with the use of conventional weapons when the very existence of the country is in jeopardy.

The use of nuclear weapons can be authorized only by the President of the Russian Federation.

The term of **"non-nuclear deterrence"** is introduced that is defined as a set of foreign policy activities, military, and military technical measures aimed at preventing aggression against the Russian Federation using non-nuclear means.

Security Assurances to Non-nuclear-weapon States

The Russian Federation will not use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon State Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, except in the case of an invasion or any other attack on the Russian Federation, armed forces of the Russian Federation or other troops, its allies, or on a State towards which it has a security commitment, carried out or sustained by a non-nuclear-weapon State in association with or with allied commitments towards a nuclear-weapon State.

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

One of Russia's priorities in maintaining strategic stability and international security is to strengthen the international nuclear weapons nonproliferation regime, the cornerstone of which is the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [NPT].

As a member of the NPT and one of the depositaries of that Treaty, Russia regards the NPT as a document that has passed the test of time and has become one of the main pillars of the international security system.

In the NPT context nuclear disarmament is one of the priorities as stipulated in Article VI of the Treaty. Russia is committed to the ultimate goal of that process, i.e. the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, and it undertakes consistent and practical steps towards that goal.

As a result of the implementation of a series of international agreements and unilateral steps, Russia has substantially reduced its nuclear weapons arsenal, and continues to make progress in that direction. Russia has demonstrated by tangible steps that it fulfills its commitments to implement Article VI of the NPT.

Article VI. Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

The Russian Federation believes that the complete elimination of nuclear weapons can only be achieved through a comprehensive strategy involving the reduction and limitation of nuclear arsenals in a way that promotes international stability, peace and security and based on the principle of undiminished and increased security for all. This principle to nuclear disarmament is enshrined in the Action Plan adopted by the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

Russia fully complies with its international nuclear disarmament obligations.

To date, the Soviet Union and then the Russian Federation have concluded a series of treaties and agreements, which have formed the policy in the field of nuclear disarmament and strengthening strategic stability.

The Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles of December 8, 1987 [entered into force on June 1, 1988]

The first step towards practical nuclear disarmament was the signing on **December 8, 1987** of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles [INF Treaty]

The INF Treaty made it possible to eliminate two classes of nuclear missiles.

In accordance with the INF provisions, the Soviet Union eliminated **1,846** land-based ballistic and cruise missiles of the intermediate range [1,000–5,500 km] and shorter range [500-1,000 km], as well as **825** launchers for these missiles. Overall more than **3,000** nuclear warheads with a combined yield of over **500,000** kilotons were deactivated.

The INF Treaty is still in force. It remains an important factor of international security and strategic stability. Russia fully complies with its commitments under the Treaty.

The main achievement of the INF Treaty's was that it took the nuclear disarmament process from mere declarations of the need to reduce nuclear arsenals to tangible and practical steps to eliminate specific categories of weapon systems.

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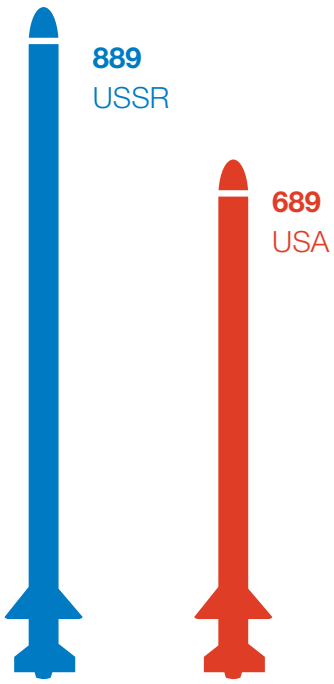
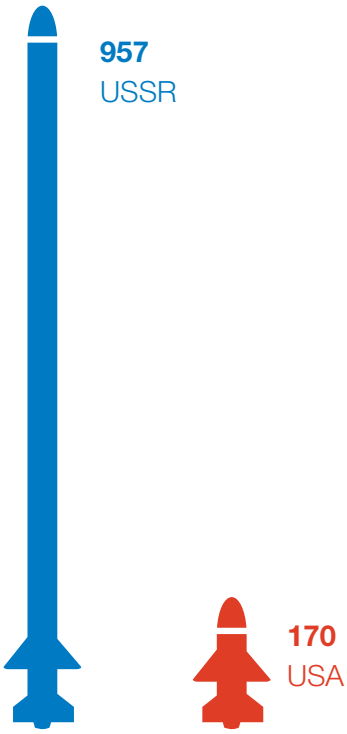
Five types of USSR missiles totaling **1846** missiles and three types of U.S. missiles totaling **859** missiles were eliminated over three years in accordance with the INF Treaty.

Intermediate-range missiles eliminated



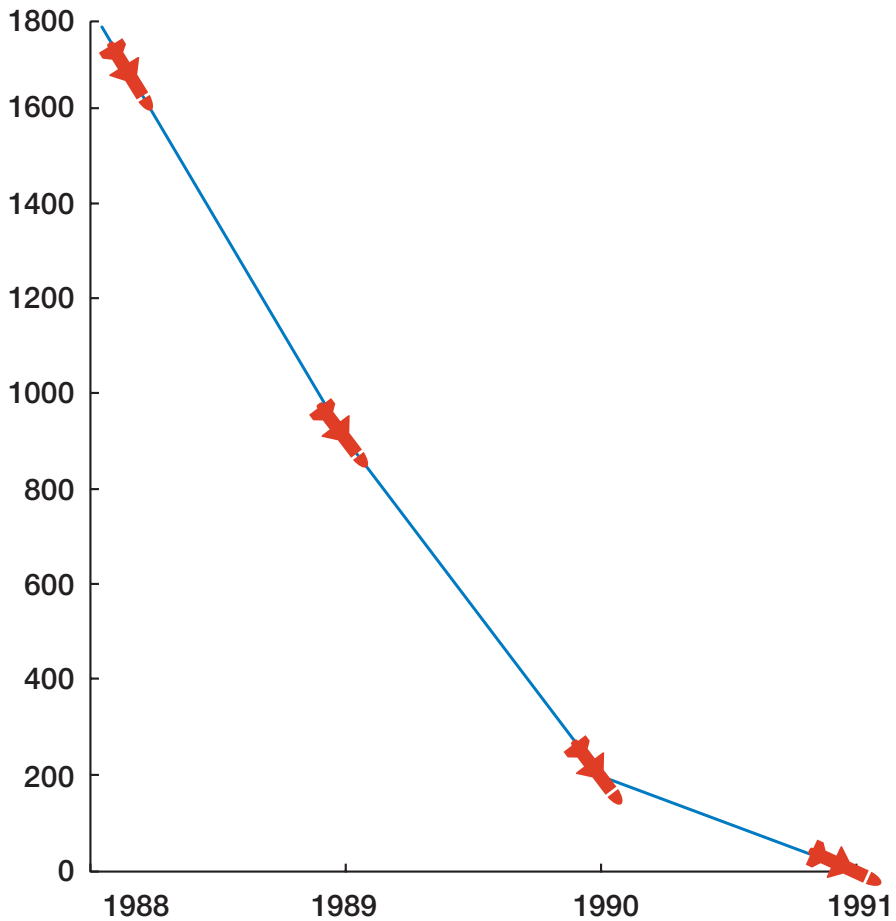
Intermediate range missiles:
1,000 to 5,500 km

Shorter-range missiles eliminated

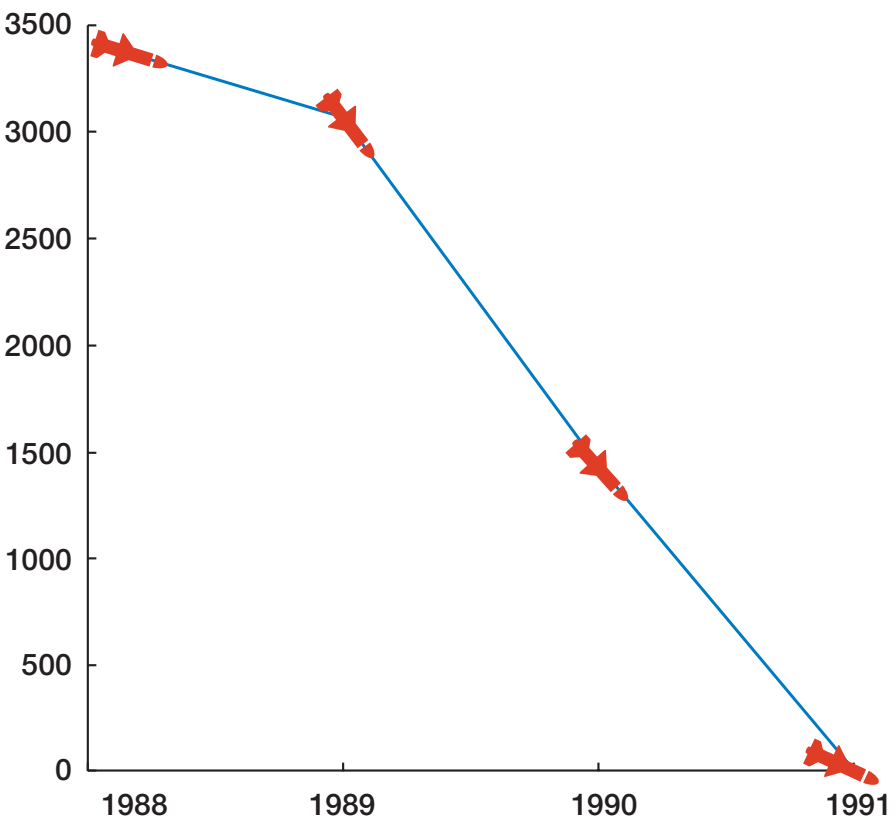


Shorter-range missiles:
500 to 1,000 km

The Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter-range Missiles Under the INF Treaty



The Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter-range Missile Warheads Under the INF Treaty



Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

The signing and implementation of the INF Treaty introduced international norms of transparency and verification, which were unprecedented for that time, and laid the foundation for more rapid progress in other areas of disarmament. This was demonstrated by the subsequent negotiation and signing of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty [START], which entered into force on **December 5, 1994.**

Under the START Treaty, Russia undertook obligations to reduce the number of its strategic delivery systems to:

1600

and the number of warheads assigned to those delivery systems to

6000

These commitments were completely fulfilled ahead of schedule. By the **December 5, 2001** deadline, the total number of deployed strategic delivery systems (ICBMs, SLBMs, and heavy bombers) had been reduced to

1136

and the number of their warheads to

5518

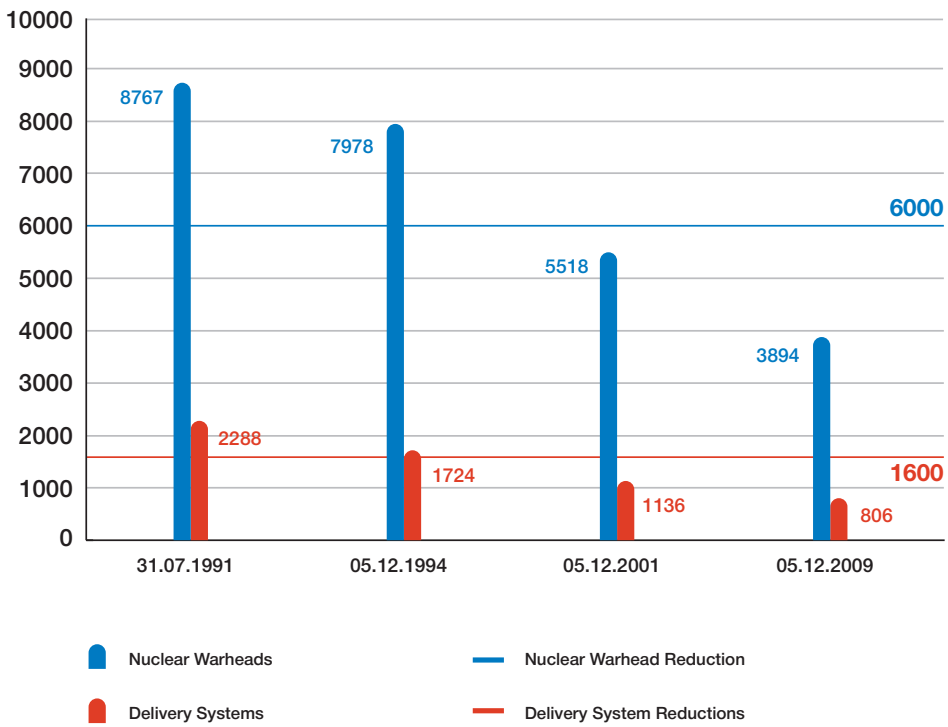
Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty

Another contribution to nuclear disarmament was made when in 2002 in Moscow Russia and the United States signed the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty [SORT].

The SORT Treaty reiterated the commitments Russia and the United States undertook under Article VI of the NPT. In accordance with the provisions of the SORT Treaty, Russia and the USA were to reduce the number of their strategic warheads to **1,700–2,200** each. That represented a two-thirds reduction compared to the limits agreed in the START treaty.

All commitments under the SORT treaty have been fulfilled.

Progress of Reductions of Russian Strategic Delivery Systems and Nuclear Warheads under the START Treaty



The Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms

The signing of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction And Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms [the New START] in Prague on April 8, 2010 became a crucial event in the sphere of nuclear disarmament.

The new Treaty replaced the original START, which had expired on December 4, 2009, as well as the 2002 SORT.

The new limits are about one third lower for warheads and two times lower for the total number of ICBMs, SLBMSs and heavy bombers compared to prior levels.

One of the important political goals of the new Treaty is to support the global nonproliferation efforts and to demonstrate the two countries' commitment to Article VI of the NPT and the ultimate goal of the nuclear arms reduction and limitation process, i.e. nuclear disarmament.

Limits under the New START Treaty

Under the terms of the New START, Russia and the United States agreed to reduce and limit their strategic offensive arms so that seven years after its entry into force and thereafter the aggregate numbers would not exceed:

700

deployed ICBMs, deployed SLBMs,
and deployed heavy bombers

1550

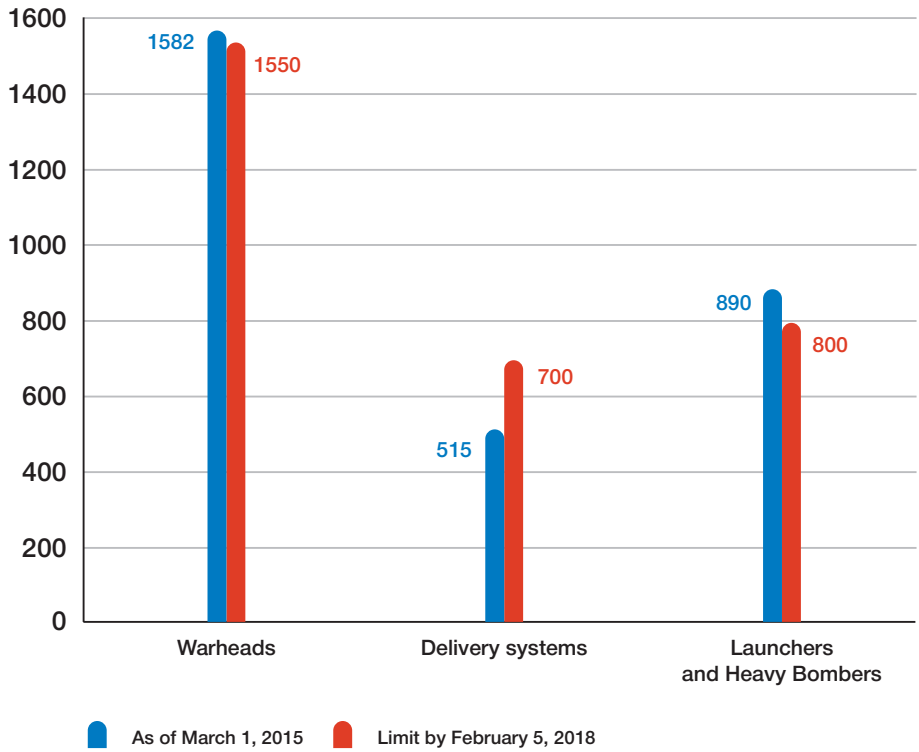
warheads on deployed ICBMs, warheads
on deployed SLBMs, and nuclear warheads
counted for deployed heavy bombers

800

deployed and non-deployed ICBM launchers, deployed
and non-deployed SLBM launchers, deployed and
non-deployed heavy bombers

Aggregate Numbers of Strategic Offensive Arms under the New START Treaty

As of March 1, 2015, Russia had **515** deployed strategic offensive arms delivery systems and **1,582** warheads assigned to those delivery systems under the New START. It had a total of **890** deployed and non-deployed ICBM launchers, SLBM launchers, and heavy bombers.

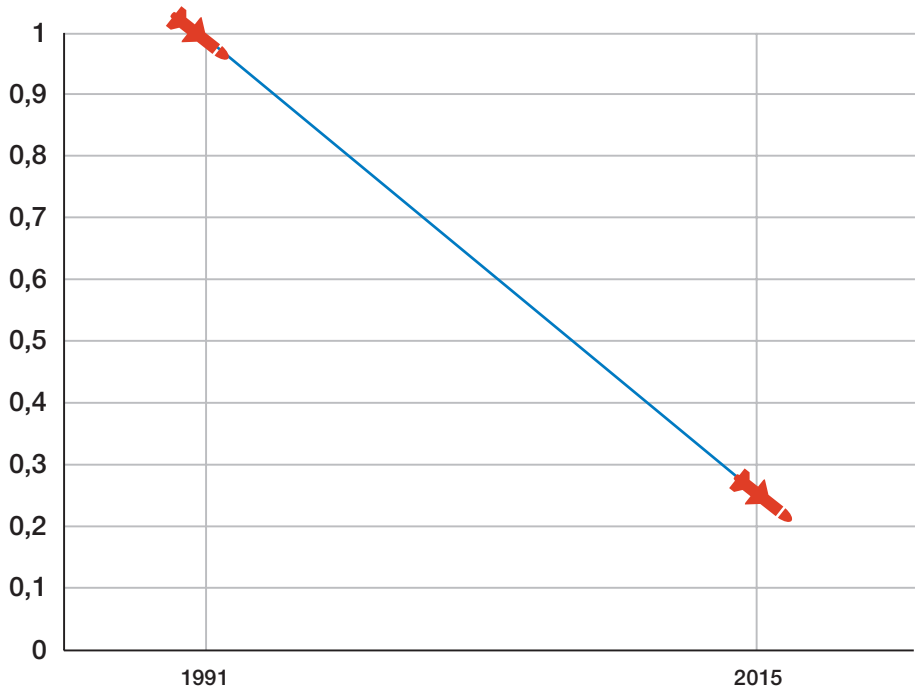


Dynamics of Non-strategic Nuclear Weapon Reductions

In addition to strategic nuclear reductions, Russia has implemented drastic reductions of its non-strategic nuclear weapons.

Russia currently has no more than a quarter of the number of non-strategic nuclear weapons the Soviet Union had in 1991.

All Russian non-strategic nuclear weapons have been moved to the non-deployed category. They are located within the Russian national territory. They are stored in centralized storage depots, with stringent security arrangements to prevent any risk of theft or accidental/unauthorized use.



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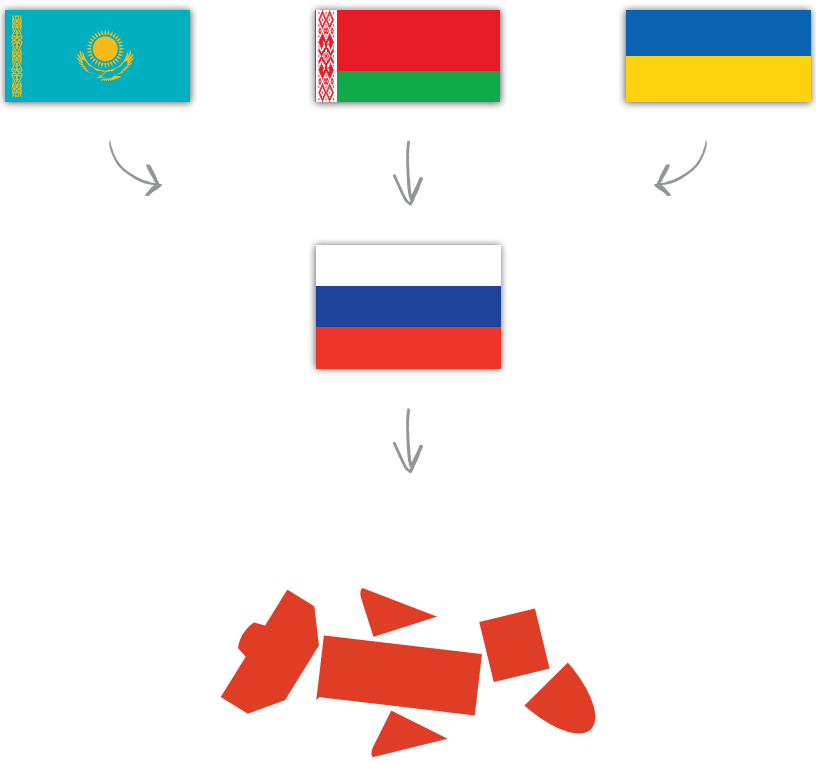
Elimination of Nuclear Weapons of Former Soviet Republics

All nuclear devices of the former USSR have been returned to the Russian Federation for subsequent elimination.



If other countries that possess non-strategic nuclear weapons return them to their own territory, dismantle all infrastructure abroad for their rapid deployment, and stop the use of such weapons with the participation of non-nuclear states, this would contribute to strengthening international security and stability as well as to further nuclear reductions and limitations.

Nuclear Test Ban

In addition to nuclear arms reduction and limitation treaties, the Russian Federation attaches great importance to the issue of implementing a comprehensive nuclear test ban.

Russia has not conducted any nuclear detonations since October 1990. In September 1996, Russia became one of the first countries to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty [CTBT]. In June 2000 it completed the ratification procedure for the Treaty. Russia comprehensively supports the process of the Treaty's entry into force.

In Support of a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban

2016
All Russian Facilities of the IMS Certified and Operational

May 2015
26 Facilities of the Russian IMS System (81%) Certified and Operational

March 2013
Russia Signs Contract with the CTBTO Preparatory Commission on Independent Communication Network

15.12.2006
Russia Ratifies the Facility Agreement with the CTBTO Preparatory Commission

30.06.2000
Russia Ratifies the CTBT

24.09.1996
Russia Signs the CTBT

26.10.1991
Russia Announces Moratorium on all Nuclear Explosions

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

The Russian Federation consistently promotes the entry into force and the universalization of the CTBT.

The Russian Federation strictly abides by the spirit and letter of the CTBT before its entry into force and observes a moratorium on nuclear tests.

Over the years Russia has invariably co-sponsored resolutions in support of the Treaty, approved by the First Committee of the UN General Assembly. It takes part in biennial Conferences on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT and the CTBT Ministerial Meetings.

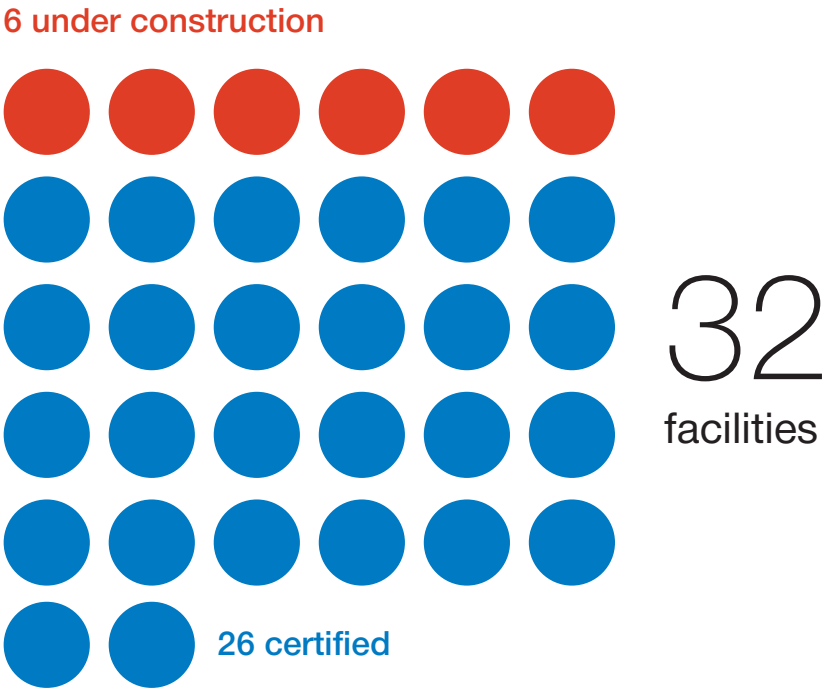
Russia stresses the importance of the Treaty in its bilateral contacts with the Annex 2 States, and other States that are yet to sign and/or ratify the Treaty.

Russia supports the Preparatory Commission for the CTBT Organization in its activities to establish the verification mechanism provided by the Treaty.

Russia contributed to the preparation and conduct of the 2014 Integrated Field Exercise in Jordan. It believes that the success of this exercise is another argument in support of the earliest entry into force of the CTBT.

Current Status of the Russian Segment of the International Monitoring System

Russia territory is to host the second largest segment of the International Monitoring System (IMS), which is to include **6** primary and **13** auxiliary seismic stations, **4** infrasound stations, **8** radionuclide stations, and a radionuclide laboratory. To date, **26** IMS facilities (**81%** of the Russian IMS segment facilities) have been certified and put into operation.

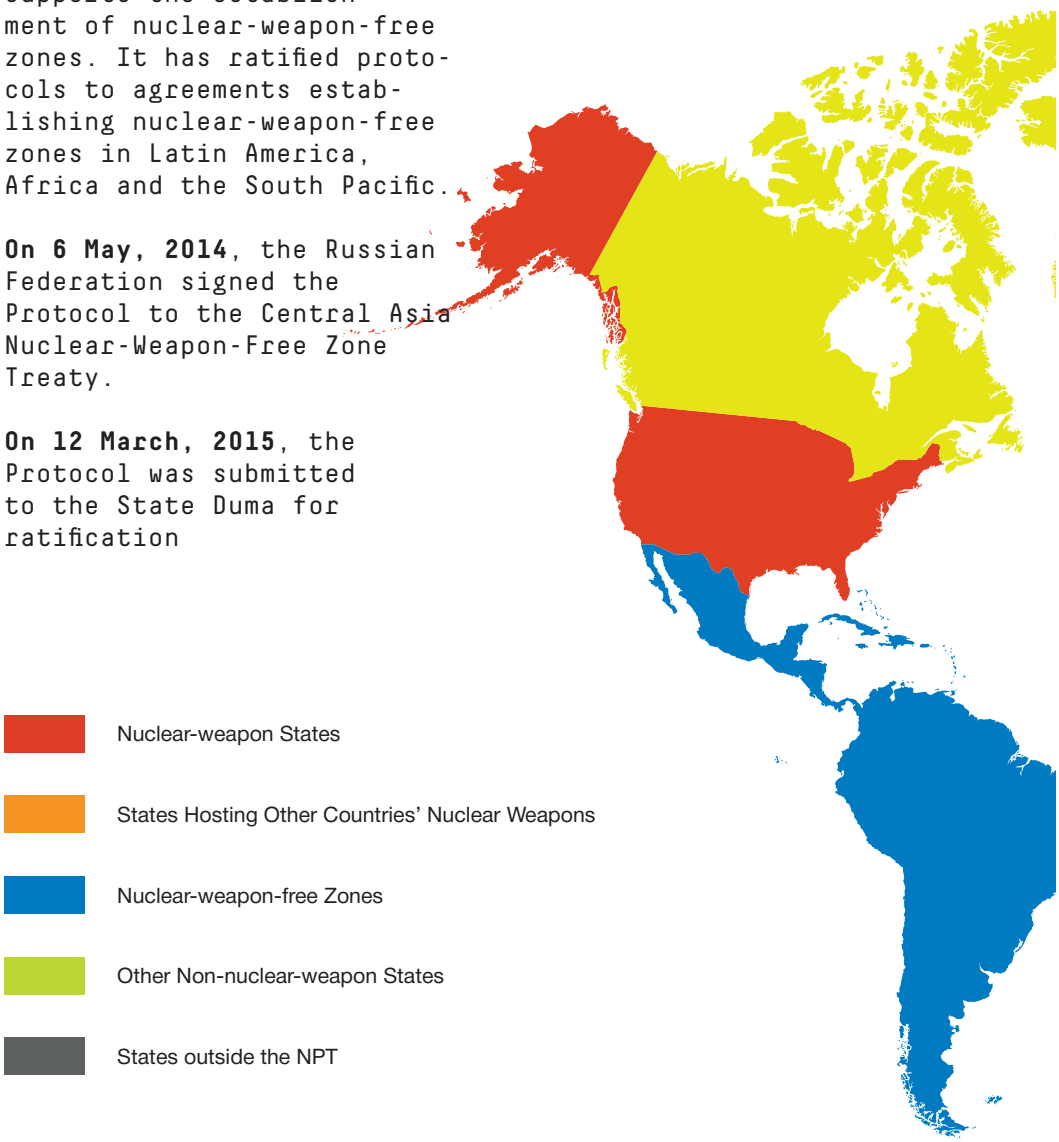


Nuclear-weapon-free Zones

The Russian Federation supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones. It has ratified protocols to agreements establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones in Latin America, Africa and the South Pacific.

On 6 May, 2014, the Russian Federation signed the Protocol to the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

On 12 March, 2015, the Protocol was submitted to the State Duma for ratification



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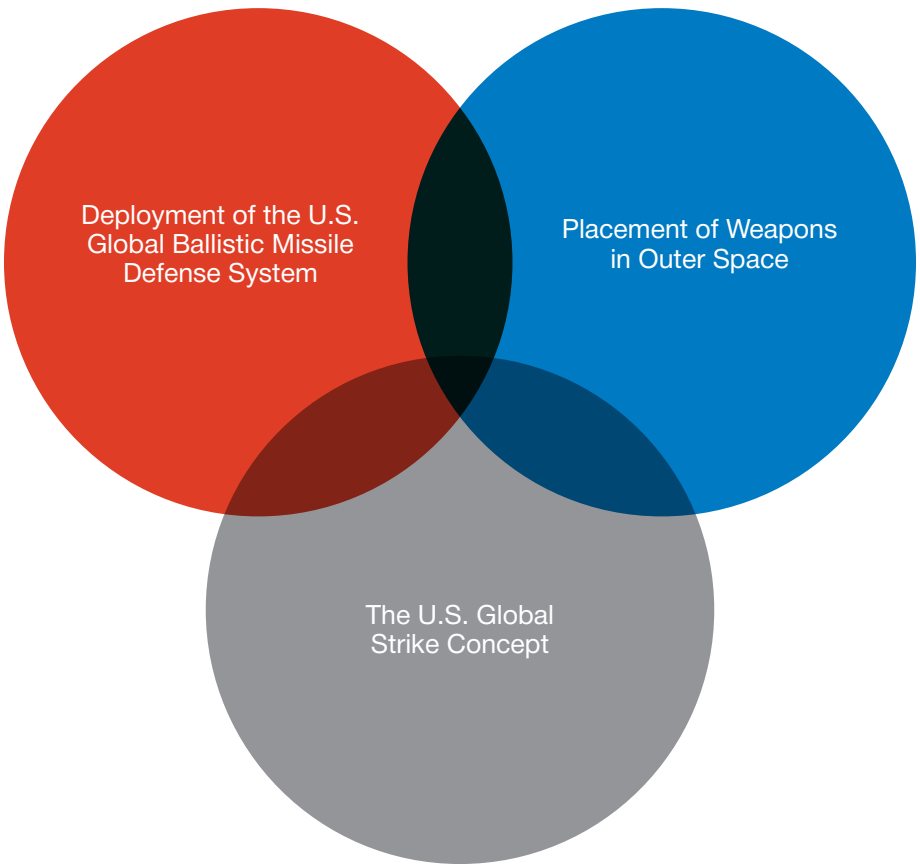
Challenges to Further Nuclear Disarmament



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Preventing the Weaponization of Space

Preventing the weaponization of space is an important part of the disarmament agenda. Russia consistently opposes the placement of any weapon systems in outer space.

The placement of weapon systems in outer space would not only exacerbate military rivalry but take it to a whole new level, with unpredictable consequences for the entire arms control process, strategic stability, and international security. The prevention of placement of weapons in outer space is one of the preconditions for nuclear disarmament.

We need to find a solution for strengthening international security and stability. The Russia-China draft Treaty on Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space is an effective and realistic method of achieving that goal.

Possible Consequences of Placing Weapons in Outer Space

- Arms limitation agreements, primarily on nuclear and missile arms limitation will be undermined;
- Undermined strategic stability and international security;
- The ability to easily disable the other party's outer space systems inflicting irreparable technical damage;
- Strategic facilities whose normal functioning directly affects the process of ensuring the national security of states may come under the direct threat of attack from space;
- The possible impact of space-based weapons on the Earth's biosphere may have negative consequences for humanity in general;
- Space weapons can be considered as a new type of strategic weapons;
- A party possessing space weapons will have a considerable strategic advantage and a capability to monopolize access to outer space;
- Measures that might be taken in response to the placement of weapons in outer space would ruin all disarmament efforts and boost the arms race on the ground as well as in outer space, in nuclear, missile and other spheres, and would give a powerful impetus to the further proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery.

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The U.S. Global Strike Concept

AIM: to deliver a high-precision strike against a target anywhere in the world within an hour after the decision to use conventional weapons has been made.

Provides for the Establishment of a Global Weapon System Comprising:

- strike element (non-nuclear-armed ground-based and sea-based ballistic missiles, advanced hyper-sonic gliders, ground-based and air-launched cruise missiles);

- reconnaissance, surveillance and communications sub-systems, and electronic warfare means.

The U.S. Global Ballistic Missile Defense System

APPROXIMATE BASING (PATROL) AREAS

Sensors

Space Monitoring and EW Radars

AN/TPY-2 Radar

SBX-1 Radar

Space-based BMD Component

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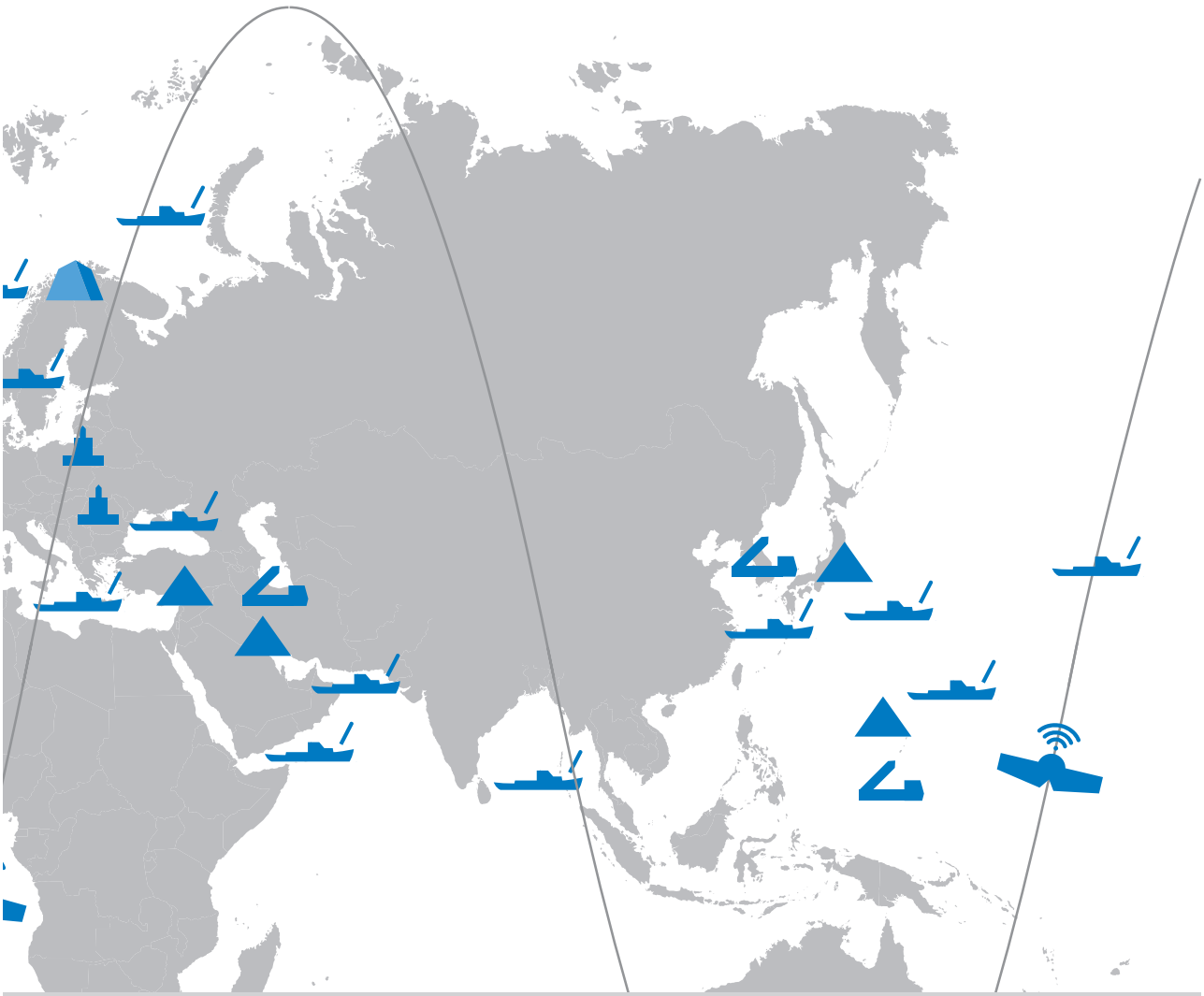

Effectors

Sea-based BMD Component
(SM-3 Interceptors, AN/SPY-1 radars)

Aegis Ashore Interceptors

GBI Interceptors

THAAD Interceptors

Conclusion

The practical steps of the Russian Federation to fulfill its commitments demonstrate its determination to genuinely pursue nuclear weapon reductions.

While recognizing that there has been certain progress towards nuclear disarmament and the fulfillment of commitments under Article VI of the NPT, Russia believes that the ultimate goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons can only be achieved through a step-by-step process, in the framework of a comprehensive approach with the participation of all states with nuclear capabilities in a way that promotes strategic stability and based on the principle of undiminished and increased security for all.

Russia is committed to the common goal of ridding the world of the nuclear threat. We urge other nuclear-weapon states to join this process.

Russia is determined to make a solid contribution to the 2015 NPT Review Conference. It has brought to New York not only declarations of intent, but also tangible achievements in nuclear arms reduction and limitation. The Russian Federation will continue these efforts in the future in order to strengthen the NPT and the existing international nuclear nonproliferation regime based on this Treaty.