

Nuclear Agreements

1. Hotline Agreement (1963)

Seeks to reduce the risk of a nuclear exchange stemming from accident, miscalculation, or surprise attack. First used during the Six Day War

2. Limited Test Ban Treaty (1963)

US, USSR, and UK prohibiting tests of nuclear devices in the atmosphere, in outer space, and underwater. Allows nuclear testing to continue underground. The treaty has since been signed by a total of 116 countries.

3. Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (1968)

The United States, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom signed the treaty, which limits the spread of military nuclear technology by the recognized nuclear-weapon states - U.S., U.S.S.R., U.K., France and China - to non-nuclear nations wishing to build or acquire atomic weapons. Non-weapon states agree not to get nuclear arms. It has since been signed by 187 countries. India, Pakistan, Israel and Cuba are the only countries that haven't signed on.

9 countries are accepted to have nuclear weapons: U.S. UK Russia France China India Pakistan Israel and North Korea (possibly South Africa but SA is believed to have dismantled their small arsenal)

4. Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty I (1972)

Interim Agreement between the U.S. and U.S.S.R. of five-year duration which froze the number of strategic ballistic missiles at 1972 levels. Designed to build trust

5. Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty II Treaty (1979)

2,400 aggregate limit on strategic nuclear delivery vehicles (ICBMs, SLBMs, and bombers). Ronald Reagan believed since it was an election year the next POTUS should have the final say on the treaty. Reagan stated that the U.S. would not sign the treaty but would abide by its limitations. In 1986 Reagan stated that the U.S. would no longer be constrained by the proposed treaty but he did not foresee a large increase in our nuclear arsenal.

6. Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty - INF (1987)

Treaty between the U.S. and U.S.S.R., which required the elimination of all missiles with ranges between 300 and 3,500 miles. Resulted in the elimination of 846 U.S. INF missile systems and 1,846 Soviet INF missile systems. The INF treaty is the first nuclear arms control agreement to actually reduce nuclear arms, rather than establish ceilings. "Trust but verify" four yearly visits and two surprise visits. Intermediate range missiles are particularly dangerous because it allows no time to think country must react quickly.

7. Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START I 1991)

Reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms. Entered into force on 5 December 1994. Barred its signatories from deploying more than 6,000 nuclear warheads atop a total of 1,600 inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). Largest arms control treaty in history, and its final implementation in late 2001 resulted in the removal of about 80 percent of all strategic nuclear weapons in existence. Shortly after the signing of this treaty, the U.S.S.R. dissolved. Four former republics, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine, possessed nuclear weapons. At the end of 2001, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine no longer had any strategic nuclear forces.

8. Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START II 1993)

Banned the use of multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle (MIRV) on intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). It never entered into effect. In 2002 Russia withdrew from the treaty in response to U.S. withdrawal from the ABM Treaty.

The U.S. and Russia instead signed the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT 2002). The United States and Russia would be limited to 1,700 to 2,200 strategic nuclear warheads apiece.

9. New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START 2010)

Entered into force on 5 February 2011. It is expected to last at least until 2021.

New START replaced the Treaty of Moscow (SORT), which was due to expire in December 2012. Under terms of the treaty, the number of strategic nuclear missile launchers will be reduced by half. It does not limit the number of operationally inactive stockpiled nuclear warheads that remain in the high thousands in both the Russian and American inventories.