

## U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

### Американо-российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

April 13, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 13 апреля 2010 года

[http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/project/62/usrussia\\_initiative\\_to\\_prevent\\_nuclear\\_terrorism.html](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/project/62/usrussia_initiative_to_prevent_nuclear_terrorism.html)



ИСКРАН

*The Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism is pleased to present the inaugural issue of its newsletter.*

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#### **GOAL: Contribute to improved joint U.S.-Russian assessment of the threat of nuclear terrorism and concepts, strategy, and actions to prevent a successful nuclear attack by terrorists.**

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This newsletter is a forum for discussing nuclear terrorism and actions to prevent it. The U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism (IPNT) solicits papers, articles and commentary from readers for inclusion in the newsletter and publication on the Initiative's web site.

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#### **NEWS:**

##### **Graham Allison, Mohamed ElBaradei and Ernesto Zedillo on Nuclear Security Summit, NPT**



Director of Harvard's Belfer Center and member of IPNT, Graham Allison co-authored an op-ed, published in the April 10<sup>th</sup> issue of the *International Herald Tribune*, on the agenda of the Nuclear Security Summit and NPT Review Conference. The op-ed, which the Belfer Center director wrote jointly with the ex-director general of the IAEA and the former president of Mexico, argues that "this Nuclear Security Summit focuses on the most urgent dimension of nuclear danger. But this is only one part of a larger, more complex agenda.

The 'New START' arms control agreement between the United States and Russia takes another step on the path to eliminating all nuclear arsenals. Next month, the Nonproliferation Review Conference will provide a further opportunity for international cooperation in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons." "The bottom line by which the summit should be scored is whether as a result of this effort, states take specific actions, including the allocation of resources to make the world safer from a nuclear explosion by an extremist group."

[http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20064/nuclear\\_security.html?breadcrumb=%2Fexperts%2F199%2Fgraham\\_allison](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20064/nuclear_security.html?breadcrumb=%2Fexperts%2F199%2Fgraham_allison)

##### **U.S. and Russia Agree to Revive Disposition of Plutonium**

U.S. and Russia agreed to amend the Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement, which was signed in 2000 to have both sides dispose of 34 tons each and 68 tons in total, which is enough for 17,000 bombs, *The Washington Post* reported on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The implementation has stalled over Moscow's unhappiness and its G-8 partners' failure to come up with the \$2 billion they had promised. According to the new protocol, Russia will pay most of the costs, but the U.S. government will chip in \$400 million. According to the *Post*, it may still take 8 years for the two countries to begin disposing of the plutonium and they may not finish until 2030.

<http://www.defense.gov/NPR/docs/2010%20Nuclear%20Posture%20Review%20Report.pdf>

##### **Nikolai Patrushev: Russia and U.S. Face a "Real Terrorist Threat"**

In an April 8<sup>th</sup> op-ed published by *Politico*, secretary of Russia's Security Council Nikolai Patrushev commended Presidents Dmitry Medvedev and Barack Obama for "usher[ing] in a new era in strategic relations when they sign the New START accord" and noted that "Russia and the West are now united in facing a real terrorist threat that, more than ever,



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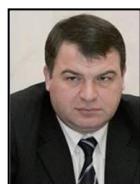
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requires a joint, coordinated and determined effort to defeat.” The veteran of Russia’s national security establishment called for U.S.-Russian cooperation in preventing terrorists from acquiring nuclear weapons. “The New START represents far more than an agreement to reduce arms. It is a demonstration that durable partnerships are in the offing,” Patrushev concluded.

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0410/35521.html>

### Russian Defense Minister Calls for Ratification of New START, Warns of WMD Terrorism



In an April 7<sup>th</sup> *Wall Street Journal* op-ed, Russian Minister of Defense Anatoly Serdyukov urged both the U.S. and Russian legislatures to ratify the New START treaty signed by Presidents Obama and Medvedev on April 8<sup>th</sup>. In the op-ed Serdyukov – who had previously refrained from commenting on the threat of WMD terrorism – argued that “by reducing the number of nuclear weapons we create conditions for their reliable control.” He also cited the suicide bombing attacks in Moscow subway, which killed 40 on March 29<sup>th</sup>, to warn that the terrorists would have wrecked greater havoc if they had acquired weapons of mass destruction.

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303411604575167922823896894.html?KEYWORDS=s](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303411604575167922823896894.html?KEYWORDS=serdyukov)  
[erdyukov](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303411604575167922823896894.html?KEYWORDS=s)

### U.S. Nuclear Posture Review Highlights the Need to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

The first unclassified Nuclear Posture Review, which was released on April 6<sup>th</sup>, warns that “today’s most immediate and extreme danger is nuclear terrorism. Al Qaeda and their extremist allies are seeking nuclear weapons.” The “growing dangers of nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism have altered the hierarchy of our nuclear concerns and strategic objectives,” according to the review.

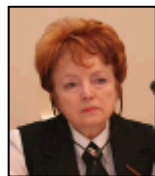
<http://www.defense.gov/npr/docs/2010%20Nuclear%20Posture%20Review%20Report.pdf>

### Russian Ambassador: Moscow Bombings Highlight Need to Secure WMD

Russian Ambassador to the United States Sergei Kislyak said on March 29<sup>th</sup> that the double Moscow subway bombings are a grave warning that keeping nuclear weapons out of the hands of terrorists means eliminating them completely. “We have more than 70 countries working with us in order to prevent this from happening,” Kislyak was quoted by *Fox News* as saying. “I think it’s a good example of what Russia and the United States can do together to address this issue. But it’s not nearly enough. We need to double this effort.”



### Natalya Kalinina Takes Stock of G-8 Non-Proliferation Partnership



IPNT member and senior fellow of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations Natalya Kalinina contributed an op-ed to Russia’s leading defense and security newspaper *Nezavisimoye Voyennoye Obozrenie*. She took stock of the implementation of commitments that G-8 members have made within the framework of the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. In the March 26<sup>th</sup> op-ed Kalinina argues that this partnership has stalled and needs to be

reinvigorated as the G-8 “attaches enormous importance to prevention of nuclear terrorism.” “The number of nuclear states is growing and so are threats of nuclear terrorism,” Kalinina warned. She wrote that Russia should graduate from a recipient into a donor state in this partnership. Russia should disclose how much it spends on nuclear security and safety so its partners fully appreciate Moscow’s contribution and “some countries’ concerns over the state of affairs at Russian nuclear and other facilities are alleviated.”

[http://nvo.ng.ru/armament/2010-03-26/1\\_partnership.html](http://nvo.ng.ru/armament/2010-03-26/1_partnership.html)

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#### Kokoshin Reiterates Terrorists Can Make a Nuclear Bomb

In a March 29<sup>th</sup> interview with Interfax-AVN, Andrei Kokoshin, deputy of the State Duma and former secretary of the Security Council, called for the U.S. and Russia to join their efforts to toughen control over the spread of fissile material. "Preventing the spread of fissile material which can be used both for manufacturing a nuclear warhead and 'a radiological weapon' known as the 'dirty bomb,' should become one of the most important areas of U.S.-Russian cooperation for strengthening international security," Kokoshin told Interfax-AVN. "This is one of the central questions in preventing nuclear terrorism," Kokoshin said. Kokoshin is one of several Russian policymakers who have repeatedly warned that terrorists can make a nuclear bomb if they acquire a sufficient quantity of weapons-grade material.



#### NNSA's Black Touts Success in Nuclear Security Upgrades in Russia

Steven Black, the chief operations officer for nuclear nonproliferation at NNSA, said it has upgraded security at 210 of 229 facilities that contain nuclear materials in Russia. Upgrades also have been done at 73 Russian warhead sites, according to the March 16<sup>th</sup> issue of *The Washington Post*. Russia's Federal Customs Service has agreed to equip all of the country's 350 border crossings by 2011 with radiation-detection devices and to split the cost with the U.S., according to Black.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/15/AR2010031502996.html>

#### IPNT Unveils Official Web Site

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism unveiled the English-language version of its official web site. The site features a news section and selected publications by IPNT members in both English and Russian. The Russian-language version of the web site will be launched later this year.

[http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/project/62/usrussia\\_initiative\\_to\\_prevent\\_nuclear\\_terrorism.html](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/project/62/usrussia_initiative_to_prevent_nuclear_terrorism.html)

#### Rolf Mowatt-Larssen Completes Chronology of Al Qaeda's WMD Efforts



On January 25<sup>th</sup> IPNT member and Belfer Center senior fellow Rolf Mowatt-Larssen's new study on nuclear terrorism was published by the Belfer Center. The paper, which is titled "Al Qaeda Weapons of Mass Destruction Threat: Hype or Reality? A Timeline of Terrorists' Efforts to Acquire WMD," presents a detailed timeline illustrating terrorists' efforts to acquire WMD. The chronology allows the reader to develop a better feel for the threat posed by al Qaeda's interest in WMD, and use it as a basis to help determine whether the WMD terrorism threat is real.

[http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/19852/al\\_qaeda\\_weapons\\_of\\_mass\\_destruction\\_threat.html](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/19852/al_qaeda_weapons_of_mass_destruction_threat.html)

#### Maps of the U.S. and Russian Governments' Response to the Nuclear Terrorism Threat

IPNT staff have completed drawing of organizational maps of the U.S. and Russian governments' response to nuclear terrorism. The maps, which are attached to this newsletter, are evolving pictures of the government organizations in the U.S. and Russia that address the issue of nuclear terrorism. Edits or comments on the maps are appreciated and can be sent to the newsletter contact.

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#### U.S. AND RUSSIAN POLICY MAKERS ON NUCLEAR TERRORISM:

- **U.S. President Barack Obama:** The prospect of nuclear terrorism is "the single biggest threat to U.S. security, both short-term, medium-term and long-term." (*USA Today*, April 11, 2010).

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- **Russian President Dmitry Medvedev** upon signing of the new START Treaty with U.S. President Barack Obama: “We need to analyse in package all issues related to implementing this Treaty, as well as non-proliferation process and the threat of nuclear terrorism.” (Kremlin.ru, April 8, 2010).
- **Secretary of Russia’s Security Council Nikolai Patrushev**: “With international terrorist organizations, radicalism and insurgencies an unfortunately common part of today’s security environment, Moscow and Washington must take the lead by ensuring nuclear weapons do not fall into the wrong hands.” (*Politico*, April 8, 2010).
- **Russian Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov**: “Had the perpetrators of the attacks on our capital, or on London’s Underground in 2005, or on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, had access to weapons of mass destruction, the history of the civilized world would be quite different than it is today.” (*Wall Street Journal*, April 7, 2010).
- **U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton**: “It especially is important for the U.S. and Russia who bear the responsibility to continue the way forward on non-proliferation, and to work as partners in the global effort to secure fissile materials and counter the threat of nuclear terrorism.” (*Voice of America*, March 18, 2010).
- **FBI Director Robert Mueller**: “Al Qaeda’s continued efforts to access chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear material pose a serious threat to the United States.” “The margin of safety is shrinking, not growing.” (www.fbi.gov, March 17, 2010).
- **U.S. Vice President Joe Biden**: “We agree, the worst nightmare is the possession of nuclear weapons or a radiological weapon by Al Qaeda.”: “the reason it’s unlikely is because we have been relentless, absolutely relentless in isolating Al Qaeda.” (*CBS News*, February 14, 2010).
- **Former U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney**: “I think the biggest strategic threat the United States faces today is the possibility of another 9/11 with a nuclear weapon or a biological agent of some kind, and I think Al Qaeda is out there even as we meet trying to figure out how to do that.” (*CBS News*, February 14, 2010).
- **U.S. National Security Advisor James Jones**: “What’s the biggest nightmare scenario?... I can tell you it’s proliferation, the acquisition of WMD by a terrorist organization.... I think [it] is their singular goal, which would be a huge gamechanger.” (*USA Today*, January 25, 2010).
- **Russian President Dmitry Medvedev**: “We want the defence capabilities of a number of countries, including nuclear countries, to be under control, so that they cannot fall hostage to all sorts of radicals and be used to ignite large-scale conflicts or threaten their neighbours. In this sense, we seek contacts with everyone who shares this view on the need to establish control over these kinds of sensitive areas. This concerns all countries, including Iran with its nuclear programme, and also the possibility of other countries making use of nuclear weapons.” (Kremlin.ru, December 7, 2009).

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 12-13, 2010 - U.S. President Barack Obama hosts the Global Nuclear Security Summit. Russian President Dmitry Medvedev is attending.
- April 2010. US and Russian legislators to meet in Washington to discuss ratification of START Follow-on Treaty.
- May 3 -28, 2010 - NPT Review Conference.
- Summer 2010 - Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to visit the United States.
- June 2010 - annual meeting of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.
- June 25-27, 2010 - G-8 and G-20 summits.
- November 2010 - G-20 summit.
- Fall 2010 - NATO summit to adopt a new Strategic Concept.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Call for Joint Paper Proposals.** The IPNT Working Group requests proposals for joint US-Russian papers, articles and commentary on the subject of nuclear terrorism. Submitted items will be considered for publication in the newsletter and on the internet. Contact Kevin Ryan at (phone) 617-495- 1401, (fax) 617-495-8963, or [kevin\\_ryan@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:kevin_ryan@hks.harvard.edu).

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*The Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism includes the following institutions:*

**В рабочей группе по осуществлению Американо-российской инициативы по предотвращению ядерного терроризма состоят следующие организации:**

- *Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University [BG K. Ryan (ret), [Kevin\\_ryan@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:Kevin_ryan@hks.harvard.edu), 1-617-495-1401]*

- **Белферовский центр науки и международных отношений** Института государственного управления имени Джона Ф. Кеннеди Гарвардского университета. [Ген-Майор К. Райан, [Kevin\\_ryan@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:Kevin_ryan@hks.harvard.edu), 617-495-1401]

- *Center for International Security, Institute for World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences [Dr. A.A. Pikaev, [imemoran@imemo.ru](mailto:imemoran@imemo.ru), 7-499-120-52-36]*

- **Центр международной безопасности**, Институт мировой экономики и международных отношений, Российской Академии Наук [Др А.А. Пикаев, [imemoran@imemo.ru](mailto:imemoran@imemo.ru), 7-499-120-52-36]

- *Center for International Security and Cooperation, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University [Dr. S. Hecker, [shecker@stanford.edu](mailto:shecker@stanford.edu), 1-650-725-6468]*

- **Центр международной безопасности и сотрудничества** Института международных дел имени Фримана Сподли Стэнфордского университета. [Доктор З. Хэккер, [shecker@stanford.edu](mailto:shecker@stanford.edu), 1-650-725-6468]

- *PIR Center [Dr. V. Orlov, [orlov@pircenter.org](mailto:orlov@pircenter.org), 7-495-987-1915]*

- **ПИР-Центр** [Доктор В. Орлов, [orlov@pircenter.org](mailto:orlov@pircenter.org), 7-495-987-1915]

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