



ИСКРАН

NEWS:

High-Ranking U.S. Official To Discuss HEU Removal from Ukraine

U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Daniel Russell will visit Ukraine on April 5th-7th to discuss removal of highly enriched uranium (HEU) from the former Soviet republic.

”The aim of the visit is to discuss with representatives of the Ukrainian government issues related to the removal of stocks of HEU from Ukraine's nuclear research institutes,” Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman Oleksandr Dykusharov said on March 29th, according to *Interfax*. Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich pledged to give up the country’s entire HEU stockpile, which totals 90 kilograms, in exchange for technical and financial assistance during the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit. The U.S. promised to give Ukraine \$50 million in such assistance in February, *RIA Novosti* reported. In January, Russia’s TVEL company delivered low-enriched uranium (LEU) to Ukraine under the Russia-US intergovernmental agreement on replacing HEU fuel with LEU fuel at Soviet-designed research reactors, according to *Nuclear Fuel*.

Bunn on Lessons Learned at Fukushima

Matthew Bunn, Associate Professor at the Harvard Kennedy School and member of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism (IPNT), has authored an [op-ed](#) in which he



provides lessons learned during the accident at Japan’s Fukushima nuclear power plant. The op-ed, published in the *Washington Post* on March 24th, notes that “The risk is not just accidents but attacks.” The author recalls that Al-Qaeda has considered sabotaging nuclear facilities and cites a 2006 study that focused on the danger that terrorists might succeed in draining water from a spent-fuel storage pool, the same outcome increasing risks in Japan. The author calls on all countries that have nuclear reactors to ensure that on-site armed guards protect the reactors against attacks and theft attempts: “The task is urgent. While the odds are against another accident occurring tomorrow — more than two decades elapsed between Chernobyl and Fukushima — no one knows when terrorists might choose to strike.” Bunn also touches upon on security lessons of the Fukushima disaster in his March 15th [op-ed](#) in the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Heinonen Proposes Empowering IAEA to Probe Trafficking of Dual Use Items

Olli Heinonen, Senior Fellow at the Belfer Center and member of IPNT, testified before the U.S. House of Representatives’ Foreign Affairs Committee on “The Global Nuclear Revival and U.S. Nonproliferation Policy” on March 17th. Heinonen provided his analysis of challenges posed by the emergence of black markets in nuclear technology. He noted that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), where he had served as deputy director general, has



Goal of the Initiative: 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.

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

February – March 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за февраль – март 2011 года

no existing database for the trafficking of single- or dual-use items. “We should consider mandating the IAEA to investigate and report on all nuclear technology related trafficking cases, including those involving organized crime and trafficking of nuclear material items that have not only succeeded but also those attempts that have failed,” he said.

NATO and Russia Urged to Start Building Security Alliance

Simon Saradzhyan, Research Fellow at the Belfer Center and member of IPNT, has published an



[op-ed](#) in the *Moscow Times* in which he calls on the U.S., its NATO allies, and Russia to sign a founding act on missile defense cooperation. Such cooperation, Saradzhyan argues, could become the first block in building an institutionalized security alliance of Washington, Brussels, and Moscow: “This partnership would meet both NATO’s and Russia’s long-term interests of combating common security threats, which include not only emerging missile threats, but also the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear terrorism and failed states and the threat they pose to regional and global security.”

U.S. and Russia Extend Nuclear Security Deal, Discuss Technology Exchanges

Sergei Kiriyenko, director general of the Russian state nuclear corporation Rosatom, visited the U.S. in March to oversee the extension of a nuclear security program, the signing of a deal to supply uranium to the U.S., and to explore exchanges of nuclear technologies.

During his visit on March 23-24th, Kiriyenko met U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, his deputy Daniel Poneman and a group of American nuclear industry managers. During their meeting, Poneman and Kiriyenko announced a seven-year extension of the 1995 U.S.-Russian nuclear security cooperation agreement. The extension was signed by the National Nuclear



Security Administration (NNSA) and the Federal Environmental, Industrial and Nuclear Supervision Service of Russia (Rostekhnadzor). Under the agreement, U.S. and Russian officials will work to prevent nuclear theft and terrorism by securing material at its source. The agreement is to be implemented by NNSA’s Material Protection, Control &



Accounting (MPC&A) Program. According to NNSA, the MPC&A program’s scope includes 37 Russian nuclear material sites, 73 Russian nuclear warhead sites, and 13 non-Russian nuclear material sites.

Poneman said of the extension: “The United States and Russia remain committed partners in improving global nuclear security, combating weapons proliferation, and preventing dangerous nuclear equipment and materials from falling into the wrong hands. This agreement, and the NNSA’s ongoing work in Russia, is vital to reducing international nuclear threats and implementing President Obama’s ambitious nuclear security agenda.” Rostekhnadzor chairman Nikolay Kutin concurred: “Rostekhnadzor is committed to continuing our open partnership with NNSA to improve worldwide nuclear security,” he said.

Poneman and Kiriyenko also oversaw the signing of a \$2.8 billion long-term contract between Rosatom’s Tekhsnabekspost and U.S. company USEC to provide uranium-enrichment services to the U.S. for 10 years, starting in 2013. The countries are launching detailed talks on plans to

Goal of the Initiative: 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.

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

February – March 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за февраль – март 2011 года

establish a joint venture to build a plant in the U.S. that will enrich uranium using Russian technologies, according to Kiriyeenko.

The Rosatom chief also said Russia is seeking U.S. technologies for dry container storage of spent nuclear fuel in the wake of the nuclear crisis in Japan. Kiriyeenko said response to the nuclear accident in Japan should include stress tests at Russian NPPs in the short-term, development of new requirements for future plants, and development of requirements for the next generation of nuclear technologies in the long-term.

Nuclear Security Summit 2012 To Tackle Threat of Radiological Terrorism

State leaders meeting in South Korea next year for the second Nuclear Security Summit may discuss ways of preventing terrorists from getting hold of radioactive materials that could be used in dirty bombs, *GSN* reported. “Since progress was made at the 2010 summit in securing vulnerable nuclear materials, we could consider including the security of radioactive associates as the next step,” said Sangwook Ham, a counselor in the political section of the South Korean Embassy in Washington.

U.S., Russia Send Specialists to Help Japan Cope with Nuclear Disaster

U.S.’ NNSA and Russia’s Rosatom deployed nuclear specialists to help Japan cope with the nuclear disaster. According to an NNSA report from March 14th, the agency, along with the U.S. Department of Energy, deployed 33 people and more than 17,000 pounds of equipment to Japan. On March 16th, a Ministry of Emergency Situations (MChS) plane delivered members of the ministry’s “Leader” rescue group and specialists from Rosatom to Tokyo.

The MChS also conducted exercises to manage the impact of radiation on Russia’s Far East, while the Russian Ministry of Defense has designed plans to evacuate the population from the coastal areas in the region if needed.

Report: Retired Russian Officer Convicted of Nuclear Espionage

Andrei Khlychev, retired military officer and former Rosatom official, was sentenced to 18 years in prison in March for “state treason in the form of espionage” for passing Russia’s nuclear secrets to the U.S., *Rosbalt* reported on March 6th. Khlychev had served in the Ministry of Defense, Federal Agency of Atomic Energy, and Ministry of Emergency Situations. According to a March 10th report in *Kommersant*, however, Khlychev did not have access to secret information while working at the atomic agency in 2008. Khlychev was arrested, tried and convicted of giving up “Russian agents” who had worked in the U.S. to the U.S. government, according *Kommersant*’s sources in the Russian special services.

A Stricter Disciplinary Code for Russian Nuclear Workers Comes into Force

President Dmitry Medvedev has signed a new disciplinary code for employees of Russia’s nuclear complex into law, *Nuclear.ru* reported on March 3rd. The new code introduces stricter obligations for employees in order to prevent unauthorized use of nuclear materials and radiological sources. The document also introduces penalties for violating the disciplinary code that are stricter than those provided by Russia’s Labor Code.



Goal of the Initiative: 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.

Tobey and Bunn: “Keep Up the Pace of Locking Down the Bomb”

William Tobey, senior fellow at the Belfer Center and director of IPNT, and Matthew Bunn, professor at the Harvard Kennedy School and IPNT member, have co-authored an [op-ed](#), in which they warn of terrorists’ continuing aspirations to acquire nuclear weapons. “Terrorists are still seeking nuclear and radiological materials to carry out appalling acts of terror. The effort to lock down these materials around the world and keep them out of terrorist hands is crucial to U.S. national security and has long had bipartisan support,” they argued in the *Huffington Post* on March 3rd. The authors noted plans floated by a number of U.S. legislators to cut the budgets of programs designed to enhance nuclear security. “Slowing these efforts down by cutting their budgets would be a serious mistake, undermining U.S. national security,” they wrote.



Tobey

Zolotarev and Rogov See Common Interests Bridging East-West Divides

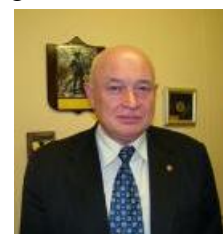
A change of the political generation and common economic interests will help the world get rid of rudiments of the Cold War, according to Pavel Zolotarev, deputy director of the Moscow-based Institute of U.S. and Canada Studies which participates in IPNT. “Due to globalization, the interests of developed states coincide by the main parameter – the prevention of any possibility of war,” Zolotarev told *Itar-Tass* on March 6th. “Common economic interests are a powerful way of deterrence of the use of force.”

The Institute’s director Sergei Rogov also believes economic ties are key to strengthening of the relations between Russia and the U.S. “Our economic relations with the USA are not developed yet and this makes relations still quite fragile and vulnerable to some negative things,” Rogov told *RIA Novosti* on March 1st. “The reset in Russian-American relations is not a slogan, it is reality and in the last two years our relations have undergone very serious changes for the



Rogov

better... In my opinion, it [the reset] has ended in success, but the reset is not the end in itself. We have begun to build our relations from scratch; today the task is to really build lasting footings under Russian-American cooperation. This concerns not only issues of international security but also economic issues,” Rogov said.



Zolotarev

Deputy Head of the 12th GUMO Relieved of Duties

President Dmitry Medvedev has relieved deputy head of the defense ministry’s 12th Main Directorate (12th GUMO) Lt. Gen. Vladimir Chainikov and a number of other senior commanders of their duties, the presidential press service reported on March 2nd. The press service did not give a reason why Chainikov is stepping down. In December 2010 the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian armed forces fired Col. General Vladimr Verkhovtsev from the post of the 12th GUMO chief and appointed Colonel Yuriy Sych to head this directorate, which is responsible for the security of Russia’s nuclear weapons.

Goal of the Initiative: 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.

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

February – March 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за февраль – март 2011 года

Russia Limits Number of Customs Points Allowed to Handle Nuclear ExIm

The Russian government has decreed to limit the number of customs check points that have the right to handle exports and imports of nuclear materials. The February 15th edict limits the number of check points to nine air terminals, five railway terminals, and 12 sea terminals, *Atomic-energy.ru* reported.

Belfer Center's Top Brass Address Symposium at Tufts on Nuclear Dangers

Director the Belfer Center Graham Allison and other Center affiliates and IPNT members, including Olli Heinonen, Rolf Mowatt-Larssen, and Matthew Bunn, addressed the EPIIC [International Symposium](#), “Our Nuclear Age: Peril and Promise,” on ensuring nuclear security and combating nuclear terrorism. Most of the speakers, which included Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller and Special Assistant to the President Gary Samore, agreed the world has reached a nuclear “tipping point” and urged measures to reduce the risk of the global nuclear order’s collapse. The symposium took place at Tufts University on February 24th-27th.



Allison

U.S and Russian Generals Discuss Joint Efforts to Combat Nuclear Terrorism

Russian and U.S. generals will meet in Lisbon in June to discuss cooperation between the two countries in fighting nuclear terrorism, the head of the Russian Military Commanders Club said on Wednesday. The discussion will take place as part of a meeting of the Elbe Group, General of the Army (Retired) Anatoly Kulikov told *RIA Novosti* on February 18th.

Kulikov’s Club of Russian Military Commanders partnered with the Belfer Center to organize the first meeting of the Elbe Group in Istanbul last October. “The purpose of the Elbe Group is to establish an open and continuous channel of communication on sensitive issues that is not hindered by the ups and downs of U.S.-Russian political relations,” according to Kevin Ryan, Belfer Center Executive Director for Research and member of IPNT who created the project. At their first meeting the group considered ways to improve cooperation and develop joint operational measures to track and combat nuclear terror. It was an unprecedented gathering of three- and four- star general officer veterans from U.S. and Russian defense, security and intelligence agencies. Among the five former officers on the U.S. side were Lt. Gen. Mike Maples, former director of the DIA, and Mowatt-Larssen, a retired senior CIA intelligence officer. The Russian side included General of the Army Kulikov, a former interior minister, and General Colonel Anatoliy Safonov, former deputy director of the FSB.



Kulikov



Ryan



Safonov



Maples

Goal of the Initiative: 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.

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

February – March 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за февраль – март 2011 года

NNSA Chief Sees “Wonderful” Expanding Relations with Russia

The U.S. will continue to expand its civilian nuclear cooperation with Russia, including reactor development and security of radioactive materials, said NNSA head Thomas D'Agostino. The two states have been having “wonderful cooperation” on the issue, he said. “Relations with (Rosatom and whole Russian nuclear establishment) have been fantastic,” he said. D'Agostino noted that creation of bilateral commission on different aspects of nuclear energy “has allowed a very active dialog” between Russian and U.S. officials, *RIA Novosti* reported on February 17th.

Mowatt-Larssen on U.S. and Russian Intelligence Cooperation

Rolf Mowatt-Larssen, Senior Fellow at the Belfer Center and member of IPNT, contributed an [op-ed](#) to *Nezavisimoye Voeynnoye Obozrenie*, Russia's leading defense and security weekly, in



which he reviews the record of cooperation between U.S. and Russian secret services and calls for enhancing this cooperation. The retired CIA officer recalls that by the end of 1994, U.S. and Russian special services were in direct contact and were exchanging views and information in a number of areas of vital interest to the national security of both countries. “No matter how elusive and frustrating that building trust between old adversaries might be, our intelligence services must not allow the inevitable bumps in the road to be used as a convenient excuse to abandon the quest for a strategic partnership between our two countries,” he concluded in the piece published on February 18th.

Mowatt-Larssen on Islam and the Bomb

The Belfer Center published Rolf Mowatt-Larssen's detailed study of what role religion plays in aspirations of Islamic state and substate actors to acquire nuclear weapons. The goal of “[Islam and The Bomb](#)” is to present a framework for analyzing key factors that impact the religious justification under Islam for and against nuclear weapons, according to the author. While Mowatt-Larssen has no doubt that substate actors such as Al Qaeda are seeking nuclear weapons, he remains “uncertain about the Iranian leadership's real intentions.” “Is their quest for nuclear energy merely a cunning cover for developing nuclear weapons? Has a decision already been made to build a bomb?”

NOTABLE STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR TERRORISM:

- **Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev:** “I remain concerned over the dangers of terrorist attacks on power reactors and terrorist groups' acquisition of fissile material. While the Chernobyl disaster was accidental, caused by faulty technology and human error, today's disaster could very well be intentional. We especially must pay attention to keeping weapons and materials of mass destruction—in this case, nuclear weapons-grade materials such as high-enriched uranium and plutonium—out of the hands of terrorists and rogue nations. (*Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, March 1, 2011).

Goal of the Initiative: 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.

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

February – March 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за февраль – март 2011 года

- **U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton:** “If we are serious about reducing the possibility that fissile material could fall into terrorists’ hands, we must reduce the amount of such material that is available.” (*Reuters*, February 28, 2011).
- **Speaker of Kazakhstan’s Senate Kasym-Jomart Tokayev:** “Proliferation of nuclear weapons along with the risk of its acquisition and use by terrorist organizations remains one of the most serious threats.” (*Kazwire*, February 28, 2011).
- **U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates:** “Just think about the range of security challenges we face right now beyond Iraq and Afghanistan: terrorism and terrorists in search of weapons of mass destruction, Iran, North Korea, military modernization programs in Russia and China, failed and failing states, revolution in the Middle East, cyber, piracy, proliferation, natural and man-made disasters, and more.” (Transcript of Gates’ speech at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, February 25, 2011.)
- **U.S. Assistant Secretary Of State Rose Gottemoeller:** “The Report of the Obama Administration’s Nuclear Posture Review, or NPR, emphasized that today, our greatest nuclear threat is no longer a large-scale nuclear exchange, but the danger that terrorists could acquire nuclear materials or, worse, a nuclear weapon.” (*Federal News Service*, February 24, 2011).
- **FBI Assistant Director Vahid Majidi:** “The notion of probability of a WMD attack being low or high is a moot point because we know the probability is 100 percent. We’ve seen this in the past, and we will see it in the future. There is going to be an attack using chemical, biological or radiological material.” (*GSN*, February 17, 2011).
- **Head of the IAEA Office of Nuclear Security Anita Nilsson:** “One cannot be complacent on the threat situation that is very clear ... the effort is to tighten the system so that it is more difficult” for militants to obtain nuclear bomb components. (*Reuters*, February 14, 2011).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 12-13, 2011. First anniversary of Nuclear Security Summit.
- April 15, 2011. Meeting of the Russia-NATO Council foreign ministers in Berlin.
- May 2-6, 2011. IAEA board of governors meeting.
- May 26-27, 2011. Obama and Medvedev to hold a bilateral meeting on sidelines of G-8 and G-20 summits in France.
- June 2011. Annual meeting of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.
- June 2011. NATO-Russia Council defense ministers meeting.
- August 6, 2011. Anniversary of Hiroshima.
- August 9, 2011. Anniversary of Nagasaki.
- August 29, 2011. International Day Against Nuclear Tests and 20th anniversary of the closure of Semipalatinsk, main Soviet nuclear test site.
- September 11, 2011. 10th anniversary of attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.
- September 12-16, 2011. IAEA board of governors meeting.
- September 19-23, 2011. IAEA general conference.

Goal of the Initiative: 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.

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

February – March 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за февраль – март 2011 года

- October 11-12, 2011. 25th Anniversary of Reykjavik Summit between President Reagan and Gorbachev on nuclear arms reductions.
 - November 3-4, 2011. Presidents Medvedev and Obama attend G-20 in Cannes, France.
 - November 12-13, 2011. Presidents Medvedev and Obama attend the APEC summit in Honolulu.
 - November 17-18, 2011. IAEA board of governors meeting.
 - December 12, 2011. 20th anniversary of Nunn-Lugar program.
-

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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. Contact Belfer Center fellow Simon Saradzhyan at (phone) +1-617-496-8228, (fax) +1-617-495-8963, or simon_saradzhyan@hks.harvard.edu.

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 [William Tobey, william_tobey@hks.harvard.edu, 1- 617-496-0518]*

- *Белферовский центр науки и международных отношений Института государственного управления имени Джона Ф. Кеннеди Гарвардского университета. [Уильям Тоби, william_tobey@hks.harvard.edu, 1- 617-496-0518]*

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

- *Центр международной безопасности, Институт мировой экономики и международных отношений РАН [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, 1-650-725-6468]*

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

- *USA and Canada Studies Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences [Dr. S. Rogov, pa.to.rogov@rambler.ru, 7-495-691-11-66]*

- *Институт изучения Соединенных Штатов Америки и Канады РАН [Доктор наук С. Рогов, pa.to.rogov@rambler.ru, 7-495-691-11-66]*

Goal of the Initiative: 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.