

U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

July 26, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 26 июля 2010 года



ИСКРАН

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.

NEWS:

Russia's Top Nuclear Scientist Discusses Non-Proliferation with Initiative Members

Matthew Bunn, associate professor of public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School hosted a lunch for members of the Initiative on July 9th with Evgeniy Velikhov, one of



Y. Velikhov

Russia's leading nuclear scientists, member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and president of the Russian Research Center Kurchatov Institute. Bunn, who is a member of the Initiative, moderated a discussion, in which Velikhov touched upon various aspects of U.S.-Russian cooperation in the sphere of non-proliferation and nuclear energy.



M. Bunn

Journalists Should Shape Society's Understanding of the Threat of Nuclear Terrorism

Valery Amirov, professor at the Department of Journalism of the Urals State University argued



in a July 2010 op-ed written exclusively for the Initiative's web site that the subject of nuclear terrorism will remain the focus of mass media's attention for many decades to come, until "humanity completes development of comprehensive measures to control nuclear materials and defeats terrorism as phenomena." Therefore, it is important to ensure that nuclear terrorism remains a theoretical topic and never becomes a reality, Amirov wrote.

Initiative Launches Weekly Review of News

On July 9th the Initiative launched "Russia in Review: Weekly Update from U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism." The English-language review is distributed via e-mail and can also be found at the Initiative's [web site](#). Russia in Review is published every Friday as an addition to the Initiative's bi-monthly Newsletter. It covers events that are relevant to prevention of nuclear terrorism and to nuclear security in general, as well as developments related to U.S.-Russia relations, such as arms control, NATO-Russian cooperation, and Russia's domestic political and policy environment.

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

July 26, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 26 июля 2010 года

Nuclear Watchdog Subordinated to Prime Minister

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has subordinated the Federal Service on Environmental, Technological and Nuclear Oversight directly to Premier Vladimir Putin, Interfax reported on July 5th. Previously this watchdog has reported to Minister of Natural Resources Yuri Trutnev.

Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism Meeting in Abu Dhabi

Nations participating in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) sent their representatives to participate in the annual plenary session, which took place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on June 29, 2010. The group welcomed Mexico, Vietnam, the Philippines, Singapore, Argentina and Thailand as the newest partners to the GICNT, which has 82 partner nations and four official observers, according to the [GICNT page](#) on the U.S. State Department's web site. Participants agreed on a number of measures aimed at enhancing implementation of partner nations' commitments, according to the June 29th [statement](#) by GICNT co-chairs. The Russian delegation shared information in a seminar, "Prevention of Radiological Terrorism," which it hosted for law enforcement authorities of the CIS, according to the statement. GICNT will convene its next plenary session in 2011 in Seoul, South Korea.

IPNT Members Weigh in on G-8 Summit's Non-Proliferation Agenda

Graham Allison, director of Harvard's Belfer Center and member of IPNT; William Tobey, Belfer Center senior fellow and director of the Initiative; and Matthew Bunn, associate professor of public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and member of the Initiative; weighed in on the G-8's non-proliferation agenda ahead of the group's summit on June 25-26 in Muskoka, Canada. Allison noted that the G-8 Global Partnership against the spread of weapons of mass destruction has been a valuable complement to the U.S. Nunn-Lugar program. Tobey and Bunn called on G-8 leaders to extend the Global Partnership and make it truly global. The G-8 leaders, however, chose to defer a decision on these issues.



G. Allison

W. Tobey

U.S. and Russian Leaders Meet to Discuss CT Cooperation

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev visited the U.S. on June 23-24. He met with U.S. President



B. Obama

Barack Obama on June 24th to discuss cooperation on arms control and security as well as other spheres. During the summit, the two leaders signed joint statements, including the statement on counterterrorism cooperation, pledging to continue to work on GICNT. The statement also welcomed the decision by the United States to list Doku Umarov of the so-called "Caucasus Emirate" as a specially designated global terrorist.



D. Medvedev

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

July 26, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 26 июля 2010 года

Alexander Pikayev Passes Away at 48

It is with great sadness that we relate the news of Aleksandr Pikayev's death on June 16th. He was a colleague and friend of many members of the Belfer Center and was a key member of the Initiative. Aleksandr was a senior researcher at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. He also headed the department of disarmament and conflict resolution at the Institute's Center for International Security. Aleksandr also previously worked as a scholar-in-residence at the Carnegie Moscow Center. He was a driving force behind a number of important international projects in the field of nonproliferation and regularly led conferences and seminars.



Director of the Initiative Kevin Ryan to Direct Belfer Center Research, William Tobey Takes Leadership of the Initiative

Kevin Ryan, Belfer Center senior fellow and director of the Initiative was selected on May 25th as the Belfer Center's new Executive Director for Research. Ryan is retired brigadier general with extensive experience in political-military affairs, missile defense, intelligence, and U.S.-Russian military relations. Ryan was a senior fellow with the Belfer Center from 2005 to 2008 and was vice president of business development at iRobot Corporation from 2008 to 2009. He returned to the Belfer Center in September 2009 to lead the Initiative. Ryan will remain a member of the Initiative, focusing on the U.S.-Russian relationship. The



Belfer Center announced on June 9th that William Tobey has been selected to replace Ryan as the Initiative's director. Tobey is a senior fellow at the Belfer Center and has been a key part of the Belfer team working on the Initiative since its inception. He is a former Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation at the National Nuclear Security Administration and he has years of experience working with Russian and other foreign counterparts on nuclear issues.

CIS Security Services Coordinate Efforts to Combat Nuclear Terrorism

Chiefs of the Commonwealth of Independent States' security services met in the Urals city of Yekaterinburg on June 2nd to discuss how they could coordinate their work to combat nuclear terrorism. The CIS security chiefs discussed "measures needed to improve cooperation in combating nuclear terrorism" as well as how to jointly counter terrorist groups operating in the former Soviet Union as well as how to fight "smuggling of goods, including military and dual-use products," according to the director of Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) Alexander Bortnikov. They specifically discussed the possibility of terrorists using nuclear components in terrorist acts. CIS security chiefs "are constantly paying attention to this issue," according to Bortnikov. He would not say what terrorist groups might be seeking nuclear material, but he noted that "there will be enough work for us in monitoring this



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

July 26, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 26 июля 2010 года

kind of activities as well as in ensuring that there are no such developments in their terrorist activities.”

Russian-Language Version of the Initiative’s Web Site Launched

The Belfer Center launched a Russian-language version of the Initiative’s web site in June. This version, which can be accessed [here](#), contains the main elements of the English-language version, including newsletters, contacts, and some publications. Publication of missing elements, such as a number of publications, is pending.

“Russia and ‘Global Zero’”



Simon Saradzhyan, Belfer Center fellow and member of the Initiative, argues in his article, published in the May-June issue of *Russia in Global Affairs*, that the negative impact of such events as nuclear terrorism and growth in the number of nuclear weapons states, which one could foresee happening if no action is taken to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear arms, may outweigh whatever “unforeseen future events” the proponents of nuclear weapons want to hedge against. The article concludes that “if Russia, the U.S. and other responsible nations take even some of the initial steps required to progress towards global Zero, the world will become significantly safer—not only for these nations, but for the entire international community.”

Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism is Imperative of Our Times

Stanislav Ivanov, senior researcher at Russia’s Institute of World Economy and International Relations and member of IPNT, believes that “proliferation of nuclear technologies and the increasing threat that these technologies could be used by dictatorial regimes and forces of international terrorism add urgency to the goal of protecting the international community from the pending nuclear catastrophe.” Ivanov’s June 2nd op-ed, which he wrote exclusively for the Initiative, concludes that “only a quick transition to Global Zero could be the path towards salvation of humankind.”



NOTABLE STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR TERRORISM:

Former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn: “We believe the threat of nuclear terrorism remains urgent, fueled by the spread of nuclear weapons, materials and technology around the world. While this is a global issue, there are two countries—the United States and Russia—whose cooperation is absolutely essential in order to successfully deal with current nuclear threats.” (States News Service, July 15, 2010).

U.S. Senate Homeland Security Committee chairman Joe Lieberman: “The threat of nuclear terrorist attack on the United States is growing faster than our ability to prevent a nuclear terrorist attack on our homeland.” (The Hill, June 30, 2010).

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

July 26, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 26 июля 2010 года

CIA Director Leon Panetta: “I think the one I worry about is, again, the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the fact that one of those weapons could fall into the hands of a terrorist. I think that’s one concern.” (ABC News “This Week,” June 27, 2010).

G-8 Muskoka Declaration: “We face a new era of threats from non-state actors, particularly terrorists, who seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction and related technology and materials. The consequences of failing to prevent this could be severe.” (G-8, June 26, 2010).

Russian President’s Foreign Policy Aide Sergei Prikhodko on the June 24th Obama-Medvedev meeting: “Traditionally substantive is the two countries’ interaction in such fields as the fight against the threat of nuclear terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, trans-border crime, sea piracy, and the problems of arms control and nuclear non-proliferation.” (Itar-Tass, June 24, 2010).

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton: The New START treaty “is one part of a broader effort to reduce the threat posed by the deadliest weapons the world has ever known, especially the potential intersection of violent extremism and nuclear proliferation.” (Opening Statement before the Senate Armed Services Committee Hearing on the New START, June 17, 2010).

U.S. Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Michele Flournoy: “The thing that keeps me awake at night is a nexus between terrorism and massive destruction.” (AFP, June 10, 2010).

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Under Secretary for Science and Technology Tara O’Toole: Preventing a WMD attack is “absolutely to be preferred, [but] we do have to start thinking very seriously about what we would actually do the day after an attack.” (GSN, June 10, 2010).

Director of Russia’s Federal Security Service Alexander Bortnikov: “We have information which indicates that terrorists are continuing to try to get access to nuclear materials as well as to biological and chemical components.” Terrorists “are increasingly active in.... their aspirations to acquire newest technologies and to gain access to elements of weapons of mass destruction.” (Itar-Tass, Interfax, June 2, 2010).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 20-24, 2010. Annual general IAEA conference.
- October 2010. Moscow session of the Munich Conference on Security Policy.
- October 28-29. 4th International Conference and Exhibition “AtomEco-2010” in Moscow.
- November 2010. G-20 summit.
- Late November-December 2010. 6th meeting of the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee and State Duma International Affairs Committee.
- Fall 2010. NATO summit to adopt a new Strategic Concept.
- December 2010. NATO annual Conference on WMD, Arms Control, Disarmament, and Nonproliferation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Call for Joint Paper Proposals. The IPNT Working Group requests proposals for joint U.S.-Russian papers, articles and commentary on the subject of nuclear terrorism. Submitted items

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

July 26, 2010 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень 26 июля 2010 года

will be considered for publication in the newsletter and on the internet. Contact Belfer Center fellow Simon Saradzhyan at (phone) +1-617-496-8228, (fax) 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]

- ***PIR Center*** [Dr. V. Orlov, reception@pircenter.org, 7-495-987-1915]

- ***ПИР-Центр*** [Доктор наук В. Орлов, reception@pircenter.org, 7-495-987-1915]

- ***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.