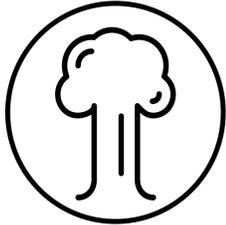


The Biden administration and Congress must reverse Trump's disastrous nuclear weapons policies, which have made us less safe by weakening arms control and fueling a global nuclear arms race.

END POLICIES THAT MAKE NUCLEAR WAR MORE LIKELY

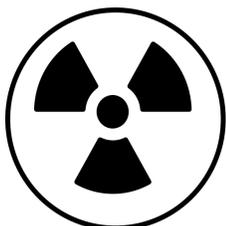
The use of any nuclear weapon would have world-changing impacts and could lead to devastating nuclear war. The Biden administration and Congress must reverse the dangerous direction of Trump's nuclear weapons policies and pursue policies that will lead to a world free of nuclear weapons. Immediate steps should include:



- **End deployment of the W76-2 warheads.** Deployed in Feb. 2020 on nuclear-armed submarines, these nuclear weapons increase the risk of miscalculation and wider nuclear use.
- **Cancel the Ground Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD).** In September 2020, the Air Force awarded a \$13.3 billion contract to develop the GBSD, which is estimated to cost over \$268 billion over its life-cycle. The U.S. already has an intercontinental ballistic missile system that can be life-extended. GBSD is a dangerous and unnecessary program that contributes to nuclear proliferation.
- **Reverse current trends.** Biden should cancel the development of the Trump-proposed submarine-launched cruise missile (SLCM) and the W-93, a new high-yield submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) warhead, and halt Obama-era plans to replace the entire nuclear arsenal on a one-for-one basis, now slated to cost taxpayers \$1.7 trillion over 30 years — or the cost, for example, of 72 million children receiving low-income health care for 10 years.

ARMS CONTROL DECREASES RISK OF NUCLEAR ARMS RACES

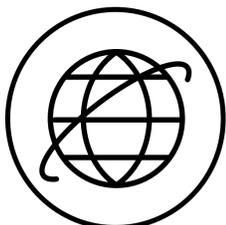
By withdrawing from or refusing to extend nuclear arms control treaties, the Trump administration began dismantling a decades-old system of arms control that has been at the heart of U.S. security since Ronald Reagan was president. This system has successfully constrained growth in U.S. and Russian arsenals, the world's two largest.



- In October 2018, Trump announced the U.S.' withdrawal from the 30-year-old Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, opening the door for the costly and irresponsible development and deployment of intermediate-range weapons, and risking the reintroduction of short-range nuclear weapons into Western Europe.
- Trump refused to extend the New Strategic Arms Control Treaty (New START) — a *critical* treaty that passed the Senate in 2010, and governs information exchanges, and numbers and types of U.S. and Russian nuclear forces. The Biden administration and Russia extended New START for five years, only days before the extension deadline.

STOPPING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND MATERIALS

After decades of U.S.-Russia cooperation to prevent the spread of nuclear materials, Trump's nuclear policies increased their proliferation and the subsequent risk of dangerous fissile material falling into the hands of rogue actors.



- From 2010 to 2016, Obama held four global summits aimed at increasing nuclear materials security in which countries made commitments to secure loose nuclear material and curb dangerous practices.
- By contrast, Trump abdicated U.S. leadership on this issue. Biden must make it clear that decreasing the quantity and spread of nuclear weapons and materials is once again a priority of U.S. nuclear security policy.





POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONGRESS

Members of Congress can take the following actions to oppose Trump's dangerous nuclear policies:



PROTECT AND RENEW NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS

Congress should support continued U.S.-Russia negotiations following the five-year extension of New START, to reach follow-on agreements that further limit nuclear weapons production and deployments. Co-sponsor legislation that supports the "Ban Treaty" – which bans all production, deployment, and use of nuclear weapons – such as H.Res. 302 in the 116th Congress.



BLOCK FUNDING FOR GBSD AND NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS

An entirely new intercontinental ballistic missile system (known as the Ground Based Strategic Deterrent, or GBSD) offers the U.S. no strategic military advantage and only risks greater nuclear proliferation by fueling a global arms race. Do not fund any new systems, including those banned by the INF Treaty.



SUPPORT ADOPTION OF A "NO FIRST- USE" POLICY & END SOLE AUTHORITY

Support bills that declare that the U.S. will never be the first party to use nuclear weapons. Also, support bills that end the president's sole authority to launch nuclear weapons.



BLOCK A 123 AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA

Block the Trump administration's attempts to conclude a U.S.-Saudi nuclear cooperation "123" agreement, as Saudi Arabia is a nuclear proliferation risk.

THE ENORMOUS COSTS OF THE CURRENT NUCLEAR WEAPONS STRATEGY

Developing new nuclear weapons and sustaining existing ones will require additional Pentagon spending and divert resources away from true security needs.

In addition to blocking the development or deployment of new, unnecessary, and dangerous nuclear weapons, Congress must scale back the excessive overhaul of the U.S. nuclear arsenal:

- Spending \$1.7 trillion to invest in nuclear weapons over the next three decades signals that nuclear weapons are more important than investing in our people's healthcare, education, and economic security.
- This massive program will make disarmament harder. It upends the U.S. commitment to reduce its nuclear arsenal, and, in turn, makes it more difficult for the United States to work to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons around the world.
- Investment in new nuclear weapons is already fueling a global arms race with U.S. competitors, making nuclear use more likely.

SELECT PAST LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

- **Dec. 2010:** New START ratified by the Senate 71-26.
- **July 2019:** The House passed several amendments to H.R. 2500, the FY20 NDAA, including on conditioning funding for missiles noncompliant with the INF treaty, expressing support for New START, and requiring a report on nuclear weapons spending.
- **Summer-Winter 2020:** House and Senate FY21 NDAA provisions on nuclear weapons testing effectively canceled each other out. Senate language would have provided \$10 million to carry out explosive nuclear weapons testing if necessary and House language would have banned funding for nuclear weapons testing; both provisions were stripped from the conference report.
- **Feb. 2020:** Biden administration and Russia announce the extension of New START for five years.

For further questions and additional resources:



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