THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES
REPORT IN BRIEF

THE FUTURE OF THE NUCLEAR SECURITY ENVIRONMENT IN 2015

A Joint National Academies' – Russian Academy of Sciences' Project

The U.S. National Academies (NAS) and the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), building on a foundation of years of interacademy cooperation, conducted a joint project to identify U.S. and Russian views on what the international nuclear security environment will be in 2015, what challenges may arise from that environment, and what options the U.S. and Russia have in partnering to address those challenges. The project's discussions were developed and expanded upon during a two-day public workshop held at the International Atomic Energy Agency in November 2007.

A key aspect of that partnership may be cooperation in third countries where both the U.S. and Russia can draw on their experiences over the last decade of non-proliferation cooperation. More broadly, the following issues analyzed over the course of this RAS-NAS project included: safety and security culture, materials protection, control and accounting (MPC&A) best practices, sustainability, nuclear forensics, public-private partnerships, and the expansion of nuclear energy.

The following questions framed the project's public workshop:

- What do U.S. and Russian experts perceive as the main challenges to nuclear security in 2015, and how can they work over the next decade to address these challenges as partners?
- What factors might assist or obstruct the partners as they address those challenges?
- How can new approaches such as a public-private partnership concretely and effectively assist mutual nonproliferation goals in other regions such as Asia and the Middle East, and/or in multi-lateral arrangements such as the provision of international fuel services and broader technology cooperation?
- How can the U.S. and Russia work to sustain the nonproliferation advances gained through more than a decade of MPC&A and other cooperative efforts?
- In addition to sustaining existing efforts, how can new tools of public-private partnerships, strengthened legal structures, and effective management tools be successfully employed to address emerging challenges?

Российская Академия Наук
Russian Academy of Sciences

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Project Implementation

The National Academies and the Russian Academy of Sciences each appointed a committee of experts (see committee lists below). Together these two joint committees held a series of meetings and discussions in Moscow and Washington, followed by an international workshop in fall 2007, with the support of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Workshop participants explored how a U.S.-Russian partnership may be strengthened and expanded in light of commonly-perceived future nuclear security challenges.

Russian Academy of Sciences' Committee

Vice Admiral Ashot Arakelovich Sarkisov, *Co-Chair*, Russian Academy of Sciences' Nuclear Safety Institute
Evgeny Nikolaevich Avrorin, Institute of Technical Physics (ZRFNC-VNIITF), in Snezhinsk (Chelyabinsk-70)
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James Fuller, University of Washington in Seattle
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Cherry Murray, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
M. Teresa Olascoaga, Sandia National Laboratories

Other Related Reports

Strengthening U.S.-Russian Cooperation on Nuclear Nonproliferation: Recommendations for Action, 2005.
Strengthening U.S.-Russian Cooperation on Nuclear Nonproliferation: Recommendations for Action offers the consensus findings and recommendations of a joint committee established by the U.S. National Academies and the Russian Academy of Sciences to identify methods of improving the ongoing cooperation between the two nations in this area. The report finds that the best way to realize the enormous potential of the U.S.-Russian relationship on nuclear nonproliferation is to reinvigorate the relationship between the two governments as a true partnership.

Overcoming Impediments to U.S.-Russian Cooperation on Nuclear Nonproliferation: Report of a Joint Workshop, 2004.
The U.S. National Academies and the Russian Academy of Sciences convened a joint workshop to identify methods of overcoming impediments to cooperation between the United States and Russia on nonproliferation. The workshop emphasized approaches and techniques that have already been shown to work in U.S.-Russian programs and that might be applied in other areas. The workshop was intended to facilitate frank discussion between individuals in the United States and Russia who have some responsibility for cooperative nonproliferation programs in the hope of identifying both the impediments to cooperation and potential methods of addressing them. This report summarizes the discussions at the workshop.

For more information on this project and for copies of the report in Russian and/or English, contact Rita Guenther, Committee on International Security and Arms Control (CISAC), The National Academies, 202-334-2359, rguenther@nas.edu; Tatiana Povetnikova, Russian Academy of Sciences, 011-7-495-955-2320, ts_povet@ibrae.ac.ru; or Yuri Shiyan, Russian Academy of Sciences, 011-7-495-237-7002,yuri_shiyan@mail.ru.