

Jennine Punzalan (48077101)

POLI 364, Jan Luedert

July 24, 2013

The Russian Federation became the second nuclear state, testing its first nuclear weapon in 1949¹, and was the first state to have a nuclear power plant which produced electricity in 1954.² Russia is proud to have been a pioneer in the use of nuclear weapons for the security of the state, while ensuring peaceful accumulation of such weapons through the creation of the SALT, Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, START I and SORT treaties with the United States.³ At the same time, we have also expanded the amount of nuclear reactors used from 1 to 33.⁴ Today, Russia has accumulated a total inventory of 8,800 nuclear weapons (both deployed and non-deployed)⁵, and 16.5% of its electricity is derived from nuclear power.⁶ Such an inventory, as well as our significant historical role, has given the Russian Federation the responsibility of being a primary safeguard of nuclear power used for security, and an innovator of nuclear power for energy. We are proud to have signed and ratified the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty, and to be a major player in the International Atomic Energy Agency which maintains this treaty.

Russia is a strong advocate for nuclear non-proliferation, but also believes that the presence of nuclear weapons in its arsenal is crucial to the maintenance of its security. A large territory like ours requires strong and stable security to maintain its sovereignty. Our 2010 Military Doctrine states that nuclear weapons remain "an important factor in the prevention of nuclear conflicts and military conflicts that use conventional assets (large-scale and regional

¹ Nuclear Threat Initiative, "Russia: Country Profile." <http://www.nti.org/country-profiles/russia/nuclear/>.

² World Nuclear Association, "Nuclear Power in Russia." <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-O-S/Russia--Nuclear-Power/>

³ "Russia: Country Profile." <http://www.nti.org/country-profiles/russia/nuclear/>.

⁴ "Nuclear Power in Russia." <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-O-S/Russia--Nuclear-Power/>

⁵ The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, "Fact Sheet: Global Nuclear Weapons Inventories in 2013." http://armscontrolcenter.org/issues/nuclearweapons/articles/fact_sheet_global_nuclear_weapons_inventories_in_2012/.

⁶ "Nuclear Power in Russia." <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-O-S/Russia--Nuclear-Power/>

wars)." ⁷ We have cooperated with the United States in ensuring the safety of nuclear power while maintaining its role in the security of our nation. As such, we have agreed to gradual weapons reduction through the signing of the New START Treaty in 2010⁸, and we expect this landmark document to be in place for the long term. However, we express concerns over what seems to be hypocrisy on the part of the United States: while both our states work to reduce nuclear weapons, the US has been working on building up a ballistic missile defense system, which obviously undermines the purpose of the treaty. We would like to see an immediate halt on the part of the United States regarding this development; Russia will refuse any further modifications to the New START Treaty as it stands.

The Russian Federation is vehemently opposed to any nuclear arms build-up and is working actively to ensure nuclear non-proliferation; we approach the opening of new nuclear programs with great scrutiny and concern. Due to their lack of cooperation and refusal to abide by IAEA regulations regarding their respective nuclear programs, Russia has voted for UN Security Council-backed sanctions of North Korea and Iran. Through the IAEA, we have opened discussions with both states^{9,10}, urging them to allow the agency access to their nuclear facilities, for only in this way can the IAEA conclude with the most accurate findings, and to truly realize the extent of these new nuclear programs. Through the forum of the IAEA, the end goal of a compromise satisfactory to all parties involved is our aim for the future. Russia commends the work of the IAEA, and recognizes its role in “strengthening the regime of nuclear non-proliferation”.¹¹

Another Russian project in nuclear energy has been done in close cooperation with the

⁷ Nikolai Sokov. "The New, 2010 Russian Military Doctrine: The Nuclear Angle." http://cns.miis.edu/stories/100205_russian_nuclear_doctrine.htm.

⁸ Jackie Calmes. "Obama Asks Russia to Join in Reducing Nuclear Arms." http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/20/world/europe/obama-asks-russia-to-join-in-reducing-nuclear-arms.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0.

⁹ "N. Korea should return to nuclear talks, allow IAEA inspectors - Russian ministry." *Rianovosti*. <http://en.rian.ru/world/20110314/162997054.html>.

¹⁰ "US, Russia Urge Iran to Cooperate with IAEA." *Rianovosti*. <http://en.rian.ru/world/20130605/181522079.html>.

¹¹ "Russia, IAEA closely cooperating in strengthening regime of nuclear non-proliferation." *The Voice of Russia*. http://english.ruvr.ru/news/2013_05_20/Russia-IAEA-closely-cooperating-in-strengthening-regime-of-nuclear-non-proliferation-903/.

IAEA, and that is the world's first ever nuclear bank in Angarsk. With the creation of this nuclear bank, we hope to harvest the power of nuclear energy for purely civilian purposes, and we also hope to create further incentive for states like Iran and North Korea to reduce their nuclear programs. In this way, they foster nuclear capabilities under the watch and the regulations of the IAEA. Russia sees great potential in the economic power of nuclear energy, and believes that all states can share in this resource. Russia itself has prioritized the nuclear power sector in its own economy. Nuclear energy is not always a sinister force: in fact, it can strengthen bilateral relations for the sake of civilian use and benefit. We have fostered relations with fellow nuclear states China and India¹²¹³ in sharing technological knowledge, and we highly encourage more of such relations with other states. Of significance is Russia's role as host of the latest IAEA high-level ministerial conference this past June, in which stakeholders all over the world discussed the role of nuclear power as an alternative to fossil fuels in this new era of climate change.¹⁴ Through these energy initiatives with the IAEA, as well as the aforementioned actions towards non-proliferation, Russia aims to lead the world in the development of nuclear energy and ensuring its safety.

¹² Richard Solash. "Russia, IAEA Agree To Establish World's First Nuclear Fuel Bank." http://www.rferl.org/content/Russia_IAEA_Agree_To_Establish_Worlds_First_Nuclear_Fuel_Bank/1997174.html.

¹³ "Russia, China work on advanced nuclear." *World Nuclear News*. http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP_Russia_China_work_on_advanced_nuclear_0812111.html.

¹⁴ Debjoy Sengupta. "Russia to host high-level ministerial conference of IAEA." http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-25/news/40186784_1_nuclear-power-generation-yukiya-amano-iaea.

Bibliography

"N. Korea should return to nuclear talks, allow IAEA inspectors - Russian ministry." *Rianovosti*, March 14, 2011. <http://en.rian.ru/world/20110314/162997054.html> (accessed July 25, 2013).

"Russia, China work on advanced nuclear." *World Nuclear News*, December 8, 2011. http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP_Russia_China_work_on_advanced_nuclear_0812111.html (accessed July 25, 2013).

"Russia, IAEA closely cooperating in strengthening regime of nuclear non-proliferation." *The Voice of Russia*, May 20, 2013. http://english.ruvr.ru/news/2013_05_20/Russia-IAEA-closely-cooperating-in-strengthening-regime-of-nuclear-non-proliferation-903/ (accessed July 25, 2013).

"US, Russia Urge Iran to Cooperate with IAEA." *Rianovosti*, June 5, 2013. <http://en.rian.ru/world/20130605/181522079.html> (accessed July 25, 2013).

Calmes, Jackie. "Obama Asks Russia to Join in Reducing Nuclear Arms." *The New York Times*, June 19, 2013. http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/20/world/europe/obama-asks-russia-to-join-in-reducing-nuclear-arms.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0 (accessed July 25, 2013).

The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, "Fact Sheet: Global Nuclear Weapons Inventories in 2013." Last modified July 2013. Accessed July 25, 2013. http://armscontrolcenter.org/issues/nuclearweapons/articles/fact_sheet_global_nuclear_weapons_inventories_in_2012/.

Nuclear Threat Initiative, "Russia: Country Profile." Last modified February 2013. Accessed July 25, 2013. <http://www.nti.org/country-profiles/russia/nuclear/>.

Sengupta, Debjoy. "Russia to host high-level ministerial conference of IAEA." *The Economic Times*, June 25, 2013. http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-25/news/40186784_1_nuclear-power-generation-yukiya-amano-iaea (accessed July 25, 2013).

Sokov, Nikolai. James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, "The New, 2010 Russian Military Doctrine: The Nuclear Angle." Last modified February 5, 2010. Accessed July 25, 2013. http://cns.miis.edu/stories/100205_russian_nuclear_doctrine.htm.

Solash, Richard. "Russia, IAEA Agree To Establish World's First Nuclear Fuel Bank." *Radio Free Europe*, March 30, 2010. http://www.rferl.org/content/Russia_IAEA_Agree_To_Establish_Worlds_First_Nuclear_Fuel_Bank/1997174.html (accessed July 25, 2013).

World Nuclear Association, "Nuclear Power in Russia." Last modified July 24, 2013. Accessed July 25, 2013. <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-O-S/Russia--Nuclear-Power/>