

# Towards a New Arms Race: U.S. Interceptor Missile System Violates U.S.-Russia Missile Pact

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The Chief Designer of the Moscow Institute of Thermal Technology, Yury Solomonov has accused America of violating the 1987 agreement with Russia, on the destruction of medium and short range missiles, by its development of the Gera dummy rocket as part of the construction of the American anti-missile defense system

The 1987 agreement was signed by the former head of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev and former and late U.S President, Ronald Reagan, and it paved the way for the destruction of an entire class of rockets. Now America has that rocket, although it cannot be charged with a direct violation of the agreement since, theoretically, the rocket relates to the earth-air class. Under extreme circumstances, Russia can opt out of the agreement by resorting to a similar type of maneuvering, Solomonov said.

"If there is a will by the government, a strategic rocket can be transformed into a medium range one," Solomonov says.

But Russia should not allow itself to be dragged into a new round of an arms race, but at the same time, it should not relinquish its role of a strategic deterrent force, said Solomonov.

Russia should have such a nuclear potential that will erase any doubt in the mind of an adversary about the country's ability and capability to respond adequately to the action of an aggressor, he says.

According to Solomonov, the Russian army will be fully equipped with the "Topol-M" rocket by 2012, after which the country's strategic force will be receiving only the new PC-24 Yars with separating warheads-which has no equal in the world. In the near future, the Russian navy will get the "Bulava" intercontinental ballistic missile, together with strategic submarine to carry it.

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